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# Anthropology 101

## INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY

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Lecture MWF 9:35-10:25 (Few Chorale Room) OR 12:50-1:40 (Pierce 102)

Fall Semester, 2003

Instructor: Dr. Wendy Dirks

Office: Seney Hall 214C

Office Hours: MWF 11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment. I will be very flexible in scheduling appointments, so please feel free to come and see me with any concern or question.

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Textbooks: Park MA (2003) *Introducing Anthropology* 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Boston: McGraw Hill.

de Waal FBM (1989) *Peacemaking among Primates*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Fernea EW (1965) *Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village*. New York: Anchor Books.

Thomas DH (2000) *Skull Wars: Kennewick Man, Archaeology, and the Battle for Native American Identity*. New York: Basic Books.

Additional readings listed on the syllabus will be on e-reserve throughout the semester. There will be several in-class video presentations and a movie that will be shown out of class time.

### Internet resources:

<http://www.aaanet.org/> - American Anthropological Association

<http://www.physanth.org/> - The American Association of Physical Anthropologists

<http://www.paleoanth.org/> - The Paleoanthropology Society

<http://www.asp.org> – The American Society of Primatologists

<http://www.primate.wisc.edu/pin/> - The Primate Info Net

<http://www.saa.org/> - Society for American Archaeology

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### Goals of the Course:

Anthropology is the study of human beings as biological and cultural organisms in the past and present. In this course, we will focus on developing a broad understanding of biological anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, and cultural anthropology, anthropology's four sub-disciplines. We will do this using a general textbook and readings designed to complement its discussion of the topics studied by anthropologists. However, because anthropology is such a broad discipline, our main goal in this course will be to learn how anthropologists think about problems and the methods they use in their research. We will read and discuss three supplemental texts that cover specific topics in biological anthropology, cultural anthropology, and archaeology in more detail. Students are expected to achieve the following goals:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of human biology, evolution, and cultural variation in the past and present on quizzes and exams;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how anthropologists study these topics through class discussion and short written assignments to be posted on the class conference on the assigned texts;
3. Develop “anthropological thinking” as we consider how anthropologists do research on particular topic through a paper written as a research proposal on a topic of the student’s choice.

### **Student Requirements for Completing the Course:**

1. There will be a mid-term exam, a final exam, a paper, and assignments to be posted on the LearnLink class conference. The exam format will be short answer, multiple choice, true/false, and short essay. Attendance and active participation in class discussion are expected and will be a significant part of the final grade. Makeup exams will be given only under conditions of a documented severe illness or serious emergency.
2. The two exams and the paper will each be worth 100 points each. There will be sixteen short written assignments on the readings to be posted on the class conference, each 6.25 points, for a total of 100 points. **NO CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR THESE ASSIGNMENTS UNLESS THE STUDENT COMES TO CLASS AFTER POSTING THEIR WRITTEN COMMENTS ON THE DAY THE ASSIGNMENT IS DUE.** There are two drafts due for the paper. Late drafts, both first and second, will be penalized by having five points deducted from the final grade on the paper. The final grade for the course will be an average of the two exams, paper, and the assignment/participation grade. Throughout the course, there will be opportunities to add points to the assignment/participation grade by attending events outside of class that are of anthropological interest and posting comments about them on the LearnLink conference.
3. The grading scale is as follows:
  - A = 90 pts or above
  - B = 80-89 pts
  - C = 70-79 pts
  - D = 60-69 pts
  - F = less than 60 pts

### **Course policies:**

The syllabus is subject to change, except for the final exam time. I want to be flexible in allowing for unexpected or interesting developments that we may want to discuss in class. **All students are expected to be familiar with, and abide by, the Oxford College Honor Code. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be reported immediately to the Honor Council.**

### Class Outline

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Aug 27	Introduction to the course	
Aug 29	Introduction to Anthropology	Park, Chapter 1
Sep 1	LABOR DAY	
Sep 3	Anthropology as Science	Park, Chapter 2
Sep 5	Evolutionary Theory	Park, Chapter 3
Sep 8	Evolutionary Theory	Park, Chapter 3
Sep 10	Evolution and Education	“Teaching Theories” and “Believe It, or Not” (E-reserve), Assignment 1
Sep 12	Primates	Park, Chapter 4
Sep 15	“The New Chimpanzees”	(Video)
Sep 17	Chimpanzees	de Waal, Prologue, Chapters 1 & 2, Assignment 2
Sep 19	Primate and Human Evolution I	Park, Chapter 5
Sep 22	Human Evolution II	Park, Chapter 5 (Video)
Sep 24	Human Evolution III	Park, Chapter 5
Sep 26	Macaques	(Video) de Waal, Chapters 3 & 4, Assignment 3
Sep 29	Reproduction	Park, Chapter 6
Oct 1	Bonobos and Humans	de Waal, Chapters 5 & 6, Assignment 4
Oct 3	Culture and Worldview	Park, Chapter 7
Oct 6	Culture and Worldview	“Loading the Bases” (E-reserve), Assignment 5
Oct 8	Fieldwork	“The Anthropologist in the Field,” and “Tricking and Tripping” (E-reserve), Assignment 6
<b>Oct 10</b>	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	<b>Park, Chapters 1-6, deWaal</b>
Oct 13	FALL BREAK	
Oct 15	Culture and Worldview	Film, “The Fast Runner”
Oct 17	Culture and Worldview	Time and Location TBA
Oct 20	Culture and Worldview	“The Fast Runner,” Assignment 7
Oct 22	Iraq I	Fernea, Part I (Chapters 1-8)
Oct 24	Food	Park, Chapter 8
Oct 27	Iraq II	Fernea, Part II (Chapters 9-14), Assignment 8
Oct 29	Kinship	Park, Chapter 9
Oct 31	Iraq III	Fernea, Parts III-IV (Chapters 15-20), Assignment 9

### Class Outline Continued

Nov 3	Iraq IV	Fernea, Parts V-VI (Chapters 21-26, Postscript), "State and Tribe in Southern Iraq," (E-reserve), Assignment 10
Nov 5	Iraq V	"Baghdad and Al-Nahra" Parts I and II, "The End of Patriarchy," (E-reserve), Assignment 11
Nov 7	Material Culture	Park, Chapter 10
Nov 10	Skull Wars	Thomas Prologue, Forward, Chapters 1-5, Assignment 12
Nov 12	Communication	Park, Chapter 11
Nov 14	Ishi, the Last Yahi	(Video)
Nov 17	Skull Wars	Thomas, Chapters 6-12, Assignment 13
Nov 29	Religion	Park, Chapter 12
Nov 21	Skull Wars	Thomas, Chapters 13-18, Assignment 14
Nov 24	Behavior	Park, Chapter 13
Nov 26	Skull Wars	Thomas, Chapters 19-24, Epilogue, Assignment 15
Nov 28	THANKSGIVING BREAK	Eat
Dec 1	Variation	Park, Chapter 14 – FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER DUE
Dec 3	Culture Change	Park, Chapter 15, "Education is My Husband" (E-reserve), Assignment 16
Dec 5	Peer Review Groups	
Dec 8	Review	FINAL DRAFT OF PAPER DUE
Dec 10	READING DAY	
<b>Dec 12 (Sec 09A)</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>Park, Chapters 7-15, Fernea, Thomas, E-reserve articles</b>
<b>Dec 15 (Sec 12A)</b>		