ANTHROPOLOGY 101

Introduction to Anthropology

(Class # 3762 ANTH_OX 101 09A)

MWF 9:35 am – 10:25 am
Language Hall 201

Professor: Dr. Aaron Stutz
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Office Hours: MW 2:00 – 4:00 pm and by appointment

Introduction to Anthropology: a science of humanity

ANTHROPOLOGY IS THE HOLISTIC STUDY OF HUMANITY:

• seen from a biological perspective

• considered in social context

ANTHROPOLOGY INQUIRES INTO SOME FAIRLY BIG QUESTIONS:

• what is our place in nature?

• why are we such complex social animals?

• why does everything we do take on such meaning?
REQUIRED TEXTS:

*Culture and Communication: The Logic by Which Symbols are Connected* (1976), by Edmund Leach. Cambridge University Press.
- Available at the Oxford College Bookstore (current order subject to delay – limited copies available now, more available in early February)

- Available at the Oxford College Bookstore

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RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT:

- Available at the Oxford College Bookstore

REQUIRED E-COURSE PACK

Additional REQUIRED Readings will be posted on Oxford Library’s E-Reserves and on Anthro 101’s Blackboard page.

To access the Blackboard course packs:

- go to [http://classes.emory.edu](http://classes.emory.edu)
- log in and select *Introduction to Anthropology* in your course links
- click on the *Course Documents* button on the upper left
- open or right-click on the zipped E-Coursepack folder to download
- the articles are included as PDF files, numbered to correspond with the coursepack readings listed in the syllabus
Attendance: In this course, I don’t always keep formal attendance, but I pay attention to who’s in class and who’s not. No pressure, but it’s a practical fact that the class is easier when you show up. Please let me help you come along for the ride.

Disabilities Services: Oxford College provides students with disabilities all reasonable accommodation for participating in educational programs, activities, or services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodation for any activities or requirements in Anthro 201 must register and consult with Emory University’s Office of Disability Services. Please contact Karen Martucci, Director of Academic Services at Oxford College, for further information and assistance. REMINDER: It is your responsibility to provide official documentation of your right to disabilities related accommodation for class participation. We will work out any accommodations that are specific to the course. But we must do so as early in the semester as possible.

Religious Holidays: Your rather agnostic professor has full respect for religious practice and the personal, family, and community obligations that go with it. Please be prepared to share with me if you are going to miss any scheduled class activity due to observance of a religious holiday. And please let me know as soon as possible in the semester if any scheduled exam or other due date conflicts with a religious holiday that you observe. This way, we can make alternative arrangements early!
COURSE GRADES

The exams and assignments will be weighted as follows:

Short Response Papers: 20%
Midterm Exam: 10-20% (sliding scale)*
Final Exam: 20-40% (sliding scale)*
Term Paper: 30%
In Class Participation: 10%

* The sliding scale for the exam weights means that if you do better on the final, then it will weigh a more, and vice versa for the midterm.

The professor reserves the right to assign final course grades according to a scale that reflects the overall performance of the class. However, if everyone in the course performs at an excellent level, then everyone will receive an A.

IMPORTANT: The exams and essay are MANDATORY. A failure to complete any one of these will result in a failing grade for the course.

JUST AS IMPORTANT: Unless you have a valid excuse that you present to me beforehand, all exam and due dates must be strictly adhered to. RARE EXCEPTIONS are granted under the following clear conditions: you have a valid, documented medical or family emergency. If you require special arrangements through Disability Services, or if you otherwise know ahead of time that you have a major schedule conflict, contact the professor as soon as possible to schedule an alternative exam. Be prepared to provide documentation.

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER:

MIDTERM EXAM - In class, Wed February 27
Essay First Draft Due - In class, Mon March 31
Essay Final Draft Due - LANG102, Tue April 29
Final Exam - LANG201, 2-5 pm, Fri May 2

ALL EXAMS TAKE PLACE IN LANG201
Anthropology 101
Spring 2008
Syllabus

Week 1  Introduction

Wed January 16  Invitation to Anthropology

Fri January 18  Female Genital Mutilation/Circumcision
PART I  Small Group Discussion
E-COURSEPACK:  1-Schweder  What About FGM?

Week 2  Our Cultures, Ourselves

Mon January 21  NO CLASS  Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday Holiday

Wed January 23  FGM/C PART II  Small Group Discussions, Cont.
E-COURSEPACK:  2-Tierney  A New Debate About Female Circumcision, Parts I & II
3-Saitoti  Maasai Male Circumcision

Fri January 25  FGM/C PART III  Class Discussion
E-COURSEPACK:  4-Liptak  FGM and Asylum Law in the US

DUE:  1st response paper IN CLASS
Week 3  The Biocultural Animal

Mon January 28 – The Biocultural Niche: Ritual, Language, Material Life
E-Reserves: 5-Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 1

Wed January 30 – The Biocultural Species
E-Reserves: 6-Goldschmidt - Chapter 4

Fri February 1 – Growing Up Cultural
E-Reserves: 7-Goldschmidt - Chapter 5

Week 4  The Biological Continuum

Mon February 4 – DISCUSSION: Culture, Biology, Personality
DUE: 2nd response paper IN CLASS

Wed February 6 – The Biological Legacy
E-Reserves: 8-Mayr – Darwin’s Legacy
9-Langdon – Evolution and Adaptation

Fri February 8 – Our Place in Nature
E-Reserves: 10-Relethford – Our Place in Nature

Week 5  Human Evolution

Mon February 11 – Meet Our Evolutionary Cousins
E-Reserves: 11-Small – What’s Love Got To Do With It?
12-Small – Aping Culture

Wed February 13 – Walking Upright
E-Reserves: 13-Rosenberg & Trevathan – Human Birth

Fri February 15 – Neandertals and Us
E-Reserves: 14-Wong-Who Were the Neandertals?
Week 6  The Material Life of Human Beings

Mon February 18 – DISCUSSION ABOUT RACE
On the Web:  http://www.understandingrace.org
E-Reserves:  15-Kahn – Race and BiDil
DUE:  3rd response paper IN CLASS

Wed February 20 – Technology: Handy and Meaningful
E-Reserves:  16-Schick&Toth – Chapter 5
            17-Wong – The Caveman’s New Clothes

Fri February 22 – The Origins of Agriculture
E-Reserves:  18-Molleson – The Bones of Abu Hureyra
            19-Hodder – Men and Women at Catalhuyuk

Week 7  MIDTERM EXAM

Mon February 25 – REVIEW FOR MIDTERM EXAM

Wed February 27 – MIDTERM EXAM – IN CLASS

Fri February 29 – Culture and Meaning
E-Reserves:  20-Bohannon – Shakespeare in the Bush

Week 8  Culture and Language, Symbols and Meaning

Mon March 3 – The Logic of Culture
E-Reserves:  21-Introducing Lévi-Strauss

Wed March 5 – The Structure and Economics of Meaning
TEXT: Leach, Sections 1 & 2

Fri March 7 – The Arbitrariness of Language
TEXT: Leach, Sections 3-5

Week 9  SPRING BREAK
Mon March 10 – Fri March 14 – NO CLASSES
Week 10  The Structure of Symbols, The System of Culture

Mon March 17 – Symbols in Action
Text: Leach, Sections 6-12

Wed March 19 – The Relations Among Symbols
Text: Leach, Sections 13-16

Fri March 21 – Symbols and Ritualization
Text: Leach, Sections 17 & 18
DUE: 4th Response Paper IN CLASS

Week 11  Ritual and Culture
(NOTE: Prof. Stutz will be away all week at professional conferences – a schedule of films and online reviews will be announced)

Mon March 24 – The Rite of Passage and Coming of Age
E-Reserves: 22-Crocker – Canela Helping Hands

Wed March 26 – The Rite of Passage and Marriage
E-Reserves: 23-Howard & Rensel – A Rotuman Wedding

Fri March 28 – The Rite of Passage and Gender Relations
E-Reserves: 24-Nanda – The Hijras of India

Week 12  Introduction to Nisa

Mon March 31 – Rites of Passage and Identity
DUE: ESSAY FIRST DRAFT

Wed April 2 – Introduction to Nisa
Ethnography: Shostak, Nisa, Introduction

Fri April 4 – Life in the Bush
Text: Shostak, Nisa, Chapter 3
E-Reserves: 25-Lee – Eating Christmas in the Kalahari
Week 13  Family and Gender in Ju Huansi Society

Mon April 7 – Ju Huansi Coming of Age and Sexuality
Ethnography:  Shostak, *Nisa*: Chs. 1,2,4-6

Wed April 9 – Ju Huansi Family Politics
Ethnography:  Shostak, *Nisa*: Chs. 7-9,11-12,14-15

Fri April 11 – Ju Huansi Ritual
Ethnography:  Shostak, *Nisa*: Chs. 13,10, Epilogue

Week 14  The Gebusi, 1980-82

Mon April 14 – Journey to the Gebusi

Wed April 16 – Death and the Living in Gebusi Society
Ethnography:  Knauft – *The Gebusi*: Chs. 3-4

Fri April 18 – Gebusi Sexuality and Gender
Ethnography:  Knauft – *The Gebusi*: Ch. 5

Week 15  The Gebusi, 1998

Mon April 21 – Gebusi Ritual and Community
Ethnography:  Knauft – *The Gebusi*: Ch. 6

Wed April 23 – Modernity and Gebusi Social Change
Ethnography:  Knauft – *The Gebusi*: Chapters 7-9

Fri April 25 – An Anthropologist in the Midst of Change
Ethnography:  Knauft – *The Gebusi*: Chapters 10-11
Week 16  REVIEW AND FINAL EXAM

Mon April 28 – REVIEW AND EVALUATION
Ethnography:  Kauft – The Gebusi: Chapter 12, Conclusion, & Farewell

Tue April 29 – ESSAY FINAL DRAFT DUE

Fri May 2 – FINAL EXAM: 2–5 pm, LANG201