

# Introduction to Anthropology

## Course Description

**Anthropology** is the scientific and humanistic study of human beings. This course will survey the four major subfields that make up anthropology's **holistic** approach: **biological (physical) anthropology**, **archaeology**, **linguistic anthropology**, and **cultural anthropology**. Each subfield has its own concepts, terms, and foci, and each subfield contributes unique approaches to explaining how and why humans have adapted and continue to adapt to physical and social environments.

*This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement in the Social and Behavioral Sciences domain of the core curriculum.*

**ANT 1013.005 (Fall 2013)**

**MWF 9:00 – 9:50 a.m.**

**Location:** FLN (SB) 2.03.12

**Instructor:** Will Robertson

**Contact:** william.robertson@utsa.edu

**Office Location:** MH 4.02.56

**Office Hours:** MWF 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. or by appointment

## Course Goal and Objectives

The main goal of this course is for students to gain an understanding of the basic concepts and tenets of anthropology, including the ideas of evolution and culture, in order to gain a greater appreciation for human diversity.

In order to meet the course goal, students will have an opportunity to:

- Define and discuss basic concepts and terms used in anthropology
- Explain the importance of a holistic, four-field approach in anthropology
- Define and explain biological evolution and its basic mechanisms
- Identify and critique ethnocentric thinking
- Analyze the factors and impacts of biological and cultural change
- Articulate the major points and themes of anthropological readings
- Develop and refine critical, analytical, and reflective thinking skills through course projects

## Course Texts

### REQUIRED:

Marks, Jonathan. 2012. *The Alternative Introduction to Biological Anthropology*. Oxford University Press.

Bahn, Paul. 2012. *Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Oxford University Press.

### RECOMMENDED:

Lavenda, Robert and Emily Schultz. 2012. *Core Concepts in Cultural Anthropology*. 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. McGraw Hill.  
(Previous editions are fine.)

Copies of all three of these books are on reserve in the library for you to check out for 2 hours at a time.

## Course Technology

This course will require you to obtain and register an **i>clicker** or **i>clicker+** remote (**NOT** the iPhone or Android app!). You can purchase or rent a clicker through the bookstore or check one out at the library (free!) for the semester. You must register it online by **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 (second week of class)**. You may be able to purchase one online for cheaper, but make sure you can have it delivered quickly that you can begin using it by September 4.

To register your clicker, go to <http://www.iclicker.com/> and click "Register" at the top of the page. Answer "Yes" to the optional question about Learning Management System, then fill out the required information: First Name and Last Name as they appear on Blackboard, Student ID (use your abc123 username **NOT** your Banner ID), then input your remote ID (located on the back of your clicker). Type in the CAPTCHA image code and click register. You *may* use a previously purchased clicker, but you still must register it because registration resets every summer.

If you have any questions about or problems with registering your i>clicker, get in touch with me ASAP.

***Your continued enrollment in this course is acknowledgement that you are aware of and agree with the course requirements and policies.***

## **Course Requirements**

<b>Assessment Components</b>	
Participation	40%
Projects	40%
Midterm	10%
Final Exam	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **COURSE READINGS** (DUE DATES LISTED ON CALENDAR)

Readings for this course follow college-standard reading guidelines for freshman-level coursework. Specifically, the required readings for this course will *average* about **50 pages per week**. Article readings are available on Blackboard. ***You must print readings out and bring them with you to class.***

### **PARTICIPATION** (40%)

**This course works best when students come to class prepared to engage in conversation.** To this end, students are expected to come to class regularly and participate in discussions and activities. Course participation consists of attendance, reading and lecture quizzes, polls, and in-class assignments.

Attendance, quizzes, and polls are done during **each class meeting** via clicker. You should be prepared to use your clicker throughout class as questions will be posed throughout lecture and discussion. **You must be present in class to earn clicker points. If you do not have your clicker or it is not working, you will not be able to receive any points! NO EXCEPTIONS!**

There will also be in-class discussions and assignments that must be turned in at the end of class to receive credit. This may include answering questions in groups, film guides, worksheets, and other active learning exercises. **NOTE:** I reserve the right to do any or all of these in a single class; I also reserve the right to withhold credit from any person who leaves class early.

Participation points accumulate over the course of the semester. I will drop **20 points** from the max point total at the end of the semester (which is about 3-4 days of class points). Dropping these points is **in lieu of make-ups** for missed class (see make-up policy on page 3). Any points received over the total are kept as extra credit, but only at 25% of their value (e.g., if there are 120 points possible, I will drop 20 for an actual total of 100. If you received all 120 points, you will end up with 105/100, which means you will receive a 42/40% for your participation grade).

### **Grading Scale**

A+ = 97-100%
A = 93-96%
A- = 90-92%
B+ = 87-89%
B = 83-86%
B- = 80-82%
C+ = 77-79%
C = 73-76%
C- = 70-72%
D+ = 67-69%
D = 63-66%
D- = 60-62%
F = ≤ 59%

### **PROJECTS** (40%) (DUE DATES ARE LISTED ON CALENDAR)

You will be required to complete a number of projects during the semester. Projects are meant to assess understanding by having students apply various key concepts and issues brought up during the semester. All projects have specific sets of instructions and rubrics that will be made available in class and posted to Blackboard Learn as they are assigned.

### **EXAMS** (20%) (DATES ARE LISTED ON CALENDAR)

There will be one midterm exam and a final exam. The midterm consists of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, matching, and short answers (fill in the blank and listing). There will be no essay questions on the midterm. You will need a PARScore (pink, **NOT** green) form # X-101864 (50 questions on each side). A study guide for the midterm will be made available at least one week before the exam. You may turn in your **completed** (nothing left blank!) study guide **ON THE EXAM DAY** for 5 extra credit points on the exam. Incomplete study guides will not receive any extra credit points.

The final exam is cumulative **insofar as** your knowledge should be building as the semester progresses. This means that I will make assumptions that you have learned the material from previous coursework but won't necessarily ask questions about the minutia of the first half of the course. The final exam has multiple parts including take-home and in-class portions. More details will be provided in the weeks leading up to the final exam.

### **EXTRA CREDIT**

There are **no individual extra credit opportunities** in this course. I reserve the right to assign course-wide extra credit assignments. Extra credit will be announced in class as well as on Blackboard.

***Students must complete all course requirements in order to receive a passing grade in this course. Neither the Anthropology Department staff nor the instructor will report grades by phone, fax, or e-mail. Grades are only reported via Blackboard Learn or in person.***

## Course Policies

### Technology

This course has a **strict no electronics** policy. All laptops, tablets, cell phones, and other similar electronic devices must be powered **OFF** or placed on SILENT (**NOT VIBRATE**). If you have a situation that you need to keep your phone available, *let me know before class begins*.

Students who are caught texting during class will be asked to leave for the day. For each time a student is caught texting, they will be referred to judicial affairs for class disruption and will be subject to a **five point deduction from their final average for each infraction**.

Students wishing to record audio of class lectures and discussions must get prior approval from the course instructor.

### Office Hours

I encourage all students to come by my office during office hours or schedule an appointment to discuss questions or thoughts from the course. I always welcome constructive comments about the course as well. It is a good practice to visit your professors in office hours throughout the semester as it helps them get a sense of who you are and how you're doing in the course, which can be helpful at the end of the semester if you might need that extra bump because your grade fell just short.

### Blackboard Learn

Blackboard Learn is a tool for course-related content. I use BBL to post readings, announcements, and grades. Students should check BBL regularly for announcements and to check accuracy of their grades. The communication areas will remain closed for this course, so if you wish to get notes from your peers, you should exchange contact information.

### Late Work and Make-Ups

Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are due at the beginning of class.

**Participation** – No late work and no make-ups.

**Projects** – No late work or make-ups. Students may make an **in-person** request for an extension on **ONE** project. Extension requests over e-mail will not be accepted or responded to. Extension requests must be made **before** the due date.

**Extra Credit** – Must be turned in on assigned due date. No make-ups and no late work.

**Exams** – **There are no make-ups for exams** unless previous arrangements are made with the instructor. Late work for the take-home component of the final exam is not accepted, no exceptions. If there is an emergency that causes you to miss an exam, you must contact the instructor **within four hours of the exam** to discuss the problem. ***You must have documentation of the emergency in order for me to consider a make-up.***

Students who miss class due to University-sanctioned travel or events will be allowed to make up missed work only with proper supporting documentation. Students who miss class for the observance of a religious holy day must notify the instructor **prior** to the absence.

***\*\*\*It is completely my discretion whether or not and in what manner I will accommodate student requests for make-ups.\*\*\****

### Academic Integrity

There is a **strict** zero-tolerance policy for scholastic dishonesty. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing work will be reported to the Department Chair and to Student Judicial Affairs for proper disciplinary action. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Scholastic dishonesty is defined by the University as including but not limited to *“cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an exam for another person, or any act designed to give unfair*

*advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.”* (<http://www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.html#sd>).

**Scholastic dishonesty is harmful to yourself, your peers, and the University as a whole.** If you have any questions regarding scholastic dishonesty, please do not hesitate to ask.

### Support Services

Students who are registered with the Office of Disability Services and who may require additional support to facilitate success in this course should contact the instructor *as soon as possible* to make arrangements.

### Classroom Behavior

Students will adhere to the University's Nondiscrimination and Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policies (UTSA Handbook of Operating Procedures, Section 9.1).

We will be discussing topics and ideas in this course that are sensitive and deeply personal to many people. As anthropologically minded persons, we should strive to listen to others with an open mind. We should all confront our biases during this course, and we should be able to discuss them freely and openly without fear or ridicule. I encourage all people to speak their minds in class, but do so with decorum and maturity.

I maintain an **extremely strict** zero-tolerance policy for any disruptive language or behavior, including (but not limited to) violent, belligerent, or insulting remarks; racism, sexism; homophobia; transphobia; ableism; anti-ethnic slurs; bigotry; and any other inflammatory language (spoken or written) founded on ignorance or hate. ***This class is a safe space for all people to be free of harassment and prejudice.*** You do not have the right to disrespect or intimidate people. Any disruptions that interfere with the safe learning environment of this classroom will be reported to Judicial Affairs.

With this in mind, I expect all students to help maintain an open and respectful environment during class periods. In order to do this, please:

- Refrain from personal conversations during class.
- Be respectful during discussions—no personal attacks! If you disagree with someone, explain why without attacking them personally.
- Keep discussions on topic.
- Arrive to class on time.
- Do not consistently leave in the middle of class.
- Wait until class is dismissed before packing up your belongings.

If there are any issues in class that I am unaware of, please do not hesitate to bring them to my attention. If you wish to do so anonymously, you may leave a note in my mailbox in the Department of Anthropology (MH 4.03.38).

Any student who violates classroom behavior etiquette will be asked to leave class for the day and may be referred to Judicial Affairs. For every violation afterwards, students will lose **five points from their final grade average**.

### Instructor Responsibilities

Students can expect that the instructor will adhere to the following expectations:

- Be on time and prepared for each class
- Help all students understand course material, including answering questions during and after class and in office hours
- Be respectful of all students and treat students equally without preferential treatment by adhering to the terms laid out in this syllabus

**DISCLAIMER:** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes will be announced in class and a revised syllabus will be made available on Blackboard Learn.

# The University of Texas at San Antonio

## UTSA'S MISSION

The University of Texas at San Antonio is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge through research and discovery, teaching and learning, community engagement and public service. As an institution of access and excellence, UTSA embraces multicultural traditions and serves as a center for intellectual and creative resources as well as a catalyst for socioeconomic development and the commercialization of intellectual property – for Texas, the nation and the world.

## UTSA'S VISION

To be a premier public research university, providing access to educational excellence and preparing citizen leaders for the global environment.

## UTSA'S CORE VALUES

We encourage an environment of dialogue and discovery, where integrity, excellence, inclusiveness, respect, collaboration and innovation are fostered.

The University of Texas at San Antonio is a community of scholars where integrity, excellence, inclusiveness, respect, collaboration, and innovation are fostered.

## As a Roadrunner,

I will:

- Uphold the highest standards of academic and personal integrity by practicing and expecting fair and ethical conduct;
- Respect and accept individual differences, recognizing the inherent dignity of each person;
- Contribute to campus life and the larger community through my active engagement; and
- Support the fearless exploration of dreams and ideas in the advancement of ingenuity, creativity, and discovery.

Guided by these principles now and forever, I am a Roadrunner!

## Course Calendar

ANT 1013.005 – MWF 9:00 – 9:50 a.m.

\*Calendar subject to change at instructor's discretion. Changes will be announced and posted to Blackboard.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings (BB = Blackboard Learn) [#] = page count	Projects Due*
1	W 8/29	Introductions		
	F 8/30	What is Anthropology?	BB: What is Anthropology? (AAA) [2 pp] BB: Code of Ethics (AAA) [13 pp]	
2	M 9/2	<b>LABOR DAY NO CLASS</b>		
	W 9/4	Science & Methods	Marks Ch. 1 [18 pp] <b>i&gt;clicker registration deadline</b>	
	F 9/6	History of Bio Anthro	Marks Ch. 2 [19 pp] BB: Why Should Students Learn Evolution? (Alters & Alter) [3 pp]	
3	M 9/9	Evolution	Marks Ch. 3 – 4 [39 pp] BB: 15 Answers to Creationist Nonsense (Rennie) [6 pp]	
	W 9/11	Evolution	Marks Ch. 5 – 6 [41 pp]	
	F 9/13	The Order Primates <i>Guest Lecture</i>	Marks Ch. 7 [20 pp] BB: Are we in Anthropodenial? (de Waal) [3 pp]	
4	M 9/16	The Order Primates	Marks Ch. 8 [21 pp] BB: A Telling Difference (Anderson) [4 pp]	
	W 9/18	Human Ancestors	Marks Ch. 9 – 10 [37 pp]	
	F 9/20	Human Ancestors	Marks Ch. 11 [12 pp] BB: Made in Savannahstan (Kohn) [3 pp]	
5	M 9/23	Early Humans	Marks Ch. 12 [21 pp] BB: Ancient DNA Reveals Secrets of Human History (Callaway) [2 pp]	
	W 9/25	The Archaeological Record	Bahn Intro & Ch. 1 [16 pp] Archaeology: The Next 50 Years (Fagan) [4 pp]	
	F 9/27	Archaeological Methods	Bahn Ch. 2 [7 pp] The Awful Truth about Archaeology (Sebastian) [2 pp]	
6	M 9/30	Artifacts and Analysis	Bahn Ch. 3 [7 pp] Modern Humans Made Their Point (Gibbons) [2 pp]	5, 6, 7, 8
	W 10/1	Subsistence Patterns	Bahn Ch. 4 [13 pp] New Women of the Ice Age (Pringle) [6 pp]	
	F 10/3	Origins of Agriculture	Bahn Ch. 5 [14 pp] The Worst Mistake in Human History (Diamond) [4 pp]	
7	M 10/7	Domestication & Settled Life	Disease and Death (Goodman & Armelagos) [5 pp]	
	W 10/9	The Rise of the State/Complex Society	Bahn Ch. 6 [11 pp]	
	F 10/11	Archaeological Ethics	Bahn Ch. 8 & 10 [20 pp] BB: Battle of the Bones (Bonnichsen & Schneider) [6 pp] BB: The Past as Propaganda (Arnold) [4 pp]	
8	M 10/14	<b>MIDTERM</b>		
	W 10/16	What is Culture?	BB: The Concept of Culture (Ember & Ember) [18 pp]	
	F 10/18	Cultural Relativism	BB: We Aren't The World (Watters) [9 pp] BB: Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving? (Abu-Lughod) [7 pp]	
9	M 10/21	Emic vs. Etic	BB: Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight (Geertz) [11 pp]	
	W 10/23	Sociolinguistics	BB: Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis [13 pp]	
	F 10/25	Structure & Agency	BB: Agency in Borderland Discourses (Blackburn) [25 pp]	
10	M 10/28	Structure & Agency	Blackburn continued.	9, 10, 11, 12, 13
	W 10/30	Proxemics	BB: Cowboy Proxemics [4 pp] BB: The Edge and the Center (Low) [15 pp]	
	F 11/1	Language Revitalization	BB: LSA Pamphlet [2 pp] BB: Can Minority Languages Be Saved? (Garland) [6 pp]	Proposals

\* Numbers in this column correspond to the list of assessment projects available on Blackboard.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings (BB = Blackboard Learn)	Projects Due
11	M 11/4	Race & Ethnicity	Marks Ch. 13 [18 pp] BB: How Race Becomes Biology (Gravlee) [11 pp]	
	W 11/6	Sex, Gender, and Sexuality <i>Guest Lecture</i>	BB: How to Build a Man (Fausto-Sterling) [4 pp] BB: The Social Construction of Gender (Lorber) [7 pp]	
	F 11/8	Sex, Gender, and Sexuality	BB: The Egg and the Sperm (Martin) [18 pp]	
12	M 11/11	Kinship	BB: Surrogate Motherhood and American Kinship (Ragoné) [16 pp]	14, 15, 16, 17
	W 11/13	Marriage	BB: The Deinstitutionalization of American Marriage (Cherlin) [14 pp]	
	F 11/15	Kinship & Marriage	None (catch up day)	
13	M 11/18	Religion	BB: Religion (Geertz) [21 pp]	
	W 11/20	Religion	Geertz continued	
	F 11/22	Ritual & Rites of Passage	BB: Territorial Passage and the Classification of Rites (van Gennep) [6 pp] BB: Liminality and Communitas (Turner) [9 pp]	
14	M 11/25	Ritual & Rites of Passage	BB: Introducing Alternative Rites of Passage (Prazak) [24 pp]	
	W 11/27	Final Exam Discussion	None – Double Attendance Points!	2, 4, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27
	F 11/29	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>		
15	M 12/2	Colonialism	BB: Why Can't People Feed Themselves? (Lappe & Collins) [5 pp]	
	W 12/4	Globalization	BB: The Price of Progress (Bodley) [9 pp]	
	F 12/6	Advocacy and Activism	BB: At the Crossroads (Speed) [11 pp]	1, 3, 18, 19, 20
<b>FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, 12/17 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</b>				

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES:**

**9/13** – Census Date. Last day to drop class without grade and receive a refund.

**10/14** - Midterm Grades Due by 2:00 p.m. Students who stopped attending or never attended class and who receive financial aid *will be required by federal law to repay funds for classes not attended.*

**12/4** – Last day to drop class and receive “W” grade.

**12/9 & 12/10** – Student study days, no classes.

**12/20** – Final grades due by 2:00 p.m.