

ANT2000: General Anthropology, Summer B 2023

Instructor: Emily R. Bartz
Email: emily.bartz@ufl.edu
Office Hours: TBD

Teaching Assistant: TBD

Course Communications:

The instructor and TA can be reached by email and through the messaging “inbox” tool in Canvas. Please use your UF email address and allow 24 for a response (not including weekends or holidays). Course information will be sent as “announcements” on the course Canvas page. The instructor and TA will use email or the Canvas inbox tool to contact students directly about their work. Students are responsible for checking the Canvas page and their official UF email regularly to keep up to date with course information.

Course Description:

Anthropology is the study of human diversity through all time and across all space. Anthropology differs from other fields of social science in its emphasis on comparative or cross cultural perspectives on human biology, society, and culture. Also setting anthropology apart from related disciplines is its holistic, unified perspective on the human condition. In this regard anthropology appears boundless, spanning topics such as social organization, religion, technology, economics, symbolism, gender, reproduction, politics, genetics, biomechanics, subsistence, settlement patterns, migration, warfare, health and disease, growth and development, material culture, art, music, storytelling, and more. You have to open your mind, as famed anthropologist Margaret Mead insisted, to appreciate the breadth of the human condition. Anthropology provides the concepts and perspectives to help you achieve this goal. No matter what walk of life you pursue, anthropology provides relevant guideposts for your journey.

Although the field of anthropology encompasses an immense range of subjects, it is usually divided into four subfields: sociocultural anthropology, physical or biological anthropology, archaeology, and linguistic anthropology. In this course you will be introduced to each of the subfields, gaining an appreciation not only for the breadth of anthropological inquiry, but also for the interrelationships among its diverse perspectives. By focusing on concepts of human culture—the symbolic, material, and energetic means by which humans adapt to their environments—you will learn about the diversity of contemporary human societies in all of their social and biological dimensions; examine the long-term processes and conditions (such as globalization) that contributed to this diversity; and investigate methods for obtaining information about ancient peoples from the mute shreds of material culture they left behind.

We often think of anthropologists as strange, eccentric scientists who sacrifice the comforts of modern life to be among primitive people in exotic places. We might also conjure-up the image of a bearded old man in pith helmet and khakis when contemplating the work of archaeologists.

While these stereotypes indeed describe many of the anthropologists of yesteryear, today's practitioners are usually found in much more familiar, even mundane settings. Contemporary anthropologists have been busy investigating modern topics such as transnationalism, neoliberal reforms, terrorism, climate change, emergent pathogens, multilingual America, sexual and racial discrimination, materials recycling, and world hunger. In this course we will examine many of these contemporary issues to see how an anthropological perspective promotes solutions to human problems that are both methodologically scientific and philosophically humanitarian. As anthropologist Ruth Benedict insinuates in the quote above, greater appreciation for human diversity helps to make the world a better place for all humans.

On a more practical note, ANT 2000 is a *Social Science General Education* course. Moreover, it is one of only six social sciences courses to fulfill the new General Education State Core. Florida State Statue 1007.25 was revised in recent years to improve articulation of General Education with other curriculum. The revised bill applies to students entering the university system in 2015–2016 and thereafter. It mandates that 15 of your 36 required General Education credits be chosen from a set of 23 courses in five categories. ANT 2000 is one of those select courses. In fulfilling core requirements in Social Sciences, “students will demonstrate the ability to examine behavioral, social, and cultural issues from a variety of points of view. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavioral, social, and cultural issues, past and present, local and global” (<https://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/general-education/gen-ed-program/state-gen-ed-core/>). Specific objectives for ANT 2000 follow below.

Course Outcomes:

Through lectures, readings, films, assignments, and discussions, you will develop the basic skills and knowledge to

1. Identify, describe, and explain variation in human biology.
2. Identify, describe, and explain variation in human culture.
3. Identify, describe, and explain the interplay between biology and culture among humans.
4. Identify and describe processes of change among humans and resulting patterns of biological and cultural variation.
5. Identify and describe ethnocentrism in popular perspectives on human variation and identify how the cultural relativism of an anthropological perspective provides alternatives to ethnocentric thinking.
6. Identify and describe anthropological contributions to contemporary issues, such as globalization, health, social justice, migration, warfare, racism, gender, sexuality, and other dimensions of variation among modern societies.

In addition to course outcomes, each of the 12 modules of this course is structured by detailed objectives or outcomes that are specific to the subject of that module. Descriptions of module objectives are published on the Canvas e-learning site for the course.

Course Educational Outcomes:

Content, Communication, and Critical Thinking are the three criteria of outcomes applied to General Education courses. Descriptions for each outcome can be found in the links in Canvas. Your mastery of each of these outcomes is measured from your best performance in exams, quizzes, assignments, and discussion boards. However, point values assigned to outcomes do not factor into your grades for any of the assessments, or your final grade for the course. Outcomes are tracked apart from course grades to enable us to gauge how well this course serves the purpose of General Education. Course Outcomes are also used to track mastery of the objectives specific to ANT 2000. You will see outcomes scored for every graded assessment returned to you, but the set of outcomes for any given assessment will vary depending on what it is we are assessing.

Content: Students will demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methods, and theories used in Anthropology. Students will acquire a thorough introduction to anthropology, an appreciation of human diversity, a better understanding of the past and how it impacts the present, and an active and more open-minded outlook of our globalized world. Achievement of this learning outcome will be assessed through quizzes, examinations, individual assignments, and group discussion.

Communication: Students will communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline. Achievement of this learning outcome will be assessed through individual assignments and group discussions.

Critical thinking: Students will analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems. Achievement of this learning outcome will be assessed through individual assignments and group discussions.

Required Textbook:

Haviland, William A., Harald E. L. Prins, Dana Walrath, and Bunny McBride
2016 *The Essence of Anthropology*. 4th Edition. Cengage Learning, Boston.

In addition to the textbook, which we will read in its entirety, you have readings and links to other resources that are posted on the e-learning site. The schedule for all readings and assignments is also provided online, as are due dates for all graded assignments, which are repeated in the Course Outline below. Please note that we do not cover the Haviland et al. textbook in the order in which it is presented; consult the e-learning schedule for details.

Assessment and Grading:

We will assess your performance in this course through four measures: exams, quizzes, individual assignments, and participation in discussion boards. You have three **exams**, one at the end of each of three Units. These are objective exams of 40 questions each that you take online. Exams are non-accumulative.

You have a quiz to take for each of the 12 Modules of this course, four for each Unit. **Quizzes** are non-accumulative and will consist of five questions each. Questions for each quiz are drawn from a bank of 20 questions, which are combined for each Unit (four modules each) to construct your exams.

Six **individual assignments**. These are generally short writing assignments in response to additional readings or a video posted on the e-learning site, and occasionally a news item or website that you locate on your own. Grading rubrics for each assignment are posted on the e-learning site.

Finally, you are asked to participate in six online **discussion boards**. For each discussion, you are asked to post one comment of ~100 words and respond to the comments of at least two other posts. Responses do not have a word quota or limit, but they have to be more than simply “I agree,” or “I disagree.” Rules for discussion and all other online activity are provided in the “Netiquette” tab in e-learning.

Grading Scale:

Letter grades are assigned based on the total percent of all assessments according to the following scale:

A 93% or above	C 73-76.99%
A- 90-92.99%	C- 70-72.99%
B+ 87-89.99%	D+ 67-69.99%
B 83-86.99%	D 63-66.99%
B- 80-82.99%	D- 60-62.99%
C+ 77-79.99%	E below 60%

Current grade status is available under the “Grades” section of the e-learning site. For more information see the undergraduate catalogue for grading policies:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Course Outline and Schedule:

ANT 2000 is divided into three **Units** of four **Modules** each. The class is presented to you in the Canvas platform of e-learning, which lists all requirements and deadlines. Canvas is your interface for downloading material, taking quizzes and exams, holding group discussions, uploading assignments, directing questions to your instructor and TA, and checking your grades. The instructor and TAs will also be available during office hours over Zoom to answer any questions regarding the course assignments, grades, or expectations.

For each Module you have lectures to watch, textbook chapters to read, and a quiz to take. For six of the 12 Modules you also have discussion boards to contribute to, both an original post and responses to the posts of at least two students in your discussion group. For all but four Modules

you also have additional readings to read, a video to watch, and occasionally a research assignment that requires you to locate some other material, such as a news item or website.

We have 12 Modules to cover in six weeks, so we cover two Modules per week. Unless otherwise indicated, due dates and other relevant dates for each Module are scaled to a three-day period during the week, with one day of overlap, which will be Wednesdays. Thus, the first Module for a given week will open at midnight on Monday (that is, Sunday night at 12:00 am EST), and all assessments for that Module will be due on the following Wednesday at 11:59 pm. The second Module for that given week will open at midnight on Wednesday (that is, Tuesday night at 12:00 am EST), and all assessments for that Module will be due on the following Friday at 11:59 pm.

Discussion Boards require that you make your original post no later than second day of the Module (Tuesday or Thursday) at 11:59 pm for that week and post your responses to at least two students in your group by the end of that Module (Wednesday or Friday at 11:59 pm).

The first two exams are scheduled to open at midnight on the respective Thursday (that is, Wednesday night at 12:00 am EST) and closes on Sunday at 11:59 pm. The third one will open at midnight on the last Tuesday of classes and closes on the last Friday of classes at 11:59pm. You have a full four days to schedule each of the three exams.

Specific dates and times for all assessments follow in the schedule below and in the Canvas platform online. I will also provide reminders of due dates and assignments during lecture.

NOTE: Comprehension of the syllabus and class policies is essential. An online syllabus/course policies quiz will be made available during the first and second weeks of the semester. This quiz does not count towards your grade, but you will not be able to proceed with the course until you pass this quiz. The quiz can be taken repeatedly until you have passed.

“Attendance” and Make-Up Policy:

Although this is an online course, you are expected to review all material posted on the course e-learning site (i.e., lectures, articles, videos, etc.), as scheduled, and to read your textbook in the order posted. You are also expected to complete all quizzes, individual assignments, discussion posts, and exams as scheduled above.

Students unable to complete assignments due to documented, excused absences or extenuating circumstances must contact the course instructor no less than 48 hours before a planned absence (e.g., university event, religious holiday) and no more than 48 hours after an unplanned absence (e.g., illness). Make-up opportunities will be offered for absences for which documentation is provided.

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

University Honesty Policy:

Plagiarism and cheating in any form are subject to university policy as outlined by the Dean of Students (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>). UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, *“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”*

The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. You are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with your instructor or TA for this course.

Student Accommodations:

Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>), who will then provide the necessary documentation for the course instructor. Please do this no later than one week after the first day of class.

If you are experiencing personal problems that are interfering with your studies, you are encouraged to take advantage of the available university resources:

- UF Counseling and Wellness Center: 3190 Radio Road, (352)392-1575
- Student Mental Health: Student Health Care Center, (352)392-1171
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services: Student Health Care Center, (352)392-1161
- Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

Course Evaluations:

Student feedback is greatly appreciated and taken seriously. Course evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester. You will be notified via email when the online evaluation page is open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

UNIT 1

*****NOTE**: Summer courses are fast paced, this is an accelerated version of the Fall and Spring course. We are essentially covering two weeks' worth of material each week. It is imperative that you remain organized and cognizant of due dates.

Module 1, July 3 - 5: What is Anthropology? What is Culture?

(No class for the July 4th holiday)

Due Dates: **Discussion Post 1:** Wednesday*, July 3, 11:59 pm
 Responses to Classmates Posts: Wednesday, July 5, 11:59 pm
 Quiz 1: Wednesday, July 5, 11:59 pm

* Please note that the first discussion post is due Wednesday, in order to accommodate for the drop/add period. Moving forward, all discussion posts will be due on Tuesday or Thursday.

Module 2, July 5 – 7: Biological Basis for Human Variation/Living Primates

Due Dates: **Individual Assignment 1:** Friday, July 7, 11:59 pm
 Quiz 2: Friday, July 7, 11:59 pm

Module 3, July 10 – 12: Human Evolution

Due Dates: **Individual Assignment 2:** Wednesday, July 12, 11:59 pm
 Quiz 3: Wednesday, July 12, 11:59 pm

Module 4, July 12 - 14: Hunter-Gatherers and the Origins of Agriculture

Due Dates: **Discussion Post 2:** Thursday, July 13, 11:59 pm
 Responses to Classmates Posts: Friday, July 14, 11:59 pm
 Quiz 4: Friday, July 14, 11:59 pm

Unit 1 Exam: Modules 1 – 4

Opens: Thursday, July 14, 12:00 am

Closes: Sunday, July 16, 11:59 pm

UNIT 2

Module 5, July 17 – 19: Cities, States, and Civilization

Due Dates: **Discussion Post 4:** Tuesday, July 18, 11:59 pm
 Responses to Classmates Posts: Wednesday, July 19, 11:59 pm
 Quiz 5: Wednesday, July 19, 11:59 pm

Module 6, July 19 – 21: Modern Human Diversity and Race

Due Dates: **Individual Assignment 4:** Friday, July 21, 11:59 pm

Quiz 6: Friday, July 21, 11:59 pm

Module 7, July 24 – 26: Gender, Marriage, and Family

Due Dates: **Discussion Post 6:** Tuesday, July 25, 11:59 pm
Responses to Classmates Posts: Wednesday, July 26, 11:59 pm
Quiz 7: Wednesday, July 26, 11:59 pm

Module 8, July 26 – 28: Kinship and Non-Kin Groups

Due Dates: **Individual Assignment 5:** Friday, July 28, 11:59 pm
Quiz 8: Friday, July 28, 11:59 pm

Unit 2 Exam: Modules 5 – 8

Opens: Thursday, July 27, 12:00 am
Closes: Sunday, July 30, 11:59 pm

UNIT 3

Module 9, July 31 – August 2: Nonwestern Economics, Politics, and Warfare

Due Dates: **Individual Assignment 6:** Wednesday, August 2, 11:59 pm
Quiz 9: Wednesday, August 2, 11:59 pm

Module 10, August 2 - 4: religion, Secularism, and Magic

Due Dates: **Discussion Post 8:** Thursday, August 3, 11:59 pm
Responses to Classmates Posts: Friday, August 4, 11:59 pm
Quiz 10: Friday, August 4, 11:59 pm

Module 11, August 7 – 9: Language and Culture

Due Dates: **Discussion Post 9:** Tuesday, August 8, 11:59 pm
Responses to Classmates Posts: Wednesday, August 9, 11:59 pm
Quiz 11: Wednesday, August 9, 11:59 pm

Module 12, August 9 – 11: Applied Anthropology

Due Dates: **Individual Assignment 8:** Friday, August 11, 11:59 pm
Quiz 12: Friday, August 11, 11:59 pm

Unit 3 Exam: Modules 9 – 12

Opens: Tuesday, August 8, 12:00 am
Closes: Friday, August 11, 11:59 pm
