

**California State University, Sacramento**

**2021 Summer Program**

**ANTH 105 Introduction to Anthropology**

**Course Outline**

**Course Code: ANTH 105**

**Instructor: Dr. Margaret E. Stiffler**

**Office Hours: by appointment**

**Home Institution: North Carolina State University**

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**Credit: 3**

**Course Description:**

Derived from Greek, the word anthropos means “human” and “logy” refers to the “study of.” Quite literally, anthropology is the study of humanity. It is the study of everything and anything that makes us human. From cultures, to languages, to material remains and human evolution, anthropologists examine every dimension of humanity by asking compelling questions like: How did we come to be human and who are our ancestors? Why do people look and act so differently throughout the world? What do we all have in common? How have we changed culturally and biologically over time? What factors influence diverse human beliefs and behaviors throughout the world? You may notice that these questions are very broad. Indeed, anthropology is an expansive field of study. It is comprised of four subfields that in the United States include cultural anthropology, archaeology, biological (or physical) anthropology, and linguistic anthropology. Together, the subfields provide a multi-faceted picture of the human condition. Applied anthropology is another area of specialization within or between the anthropological subfields. It aims to solve specific practical problems in collaboration with governmental, non-profit, and community organizations as well as businesses and corporations. We will cover cultural anthropology, archaeology, biological (or physical) anthropology, and linguistic anthropology.

**Course Objectives:**

Identify the four subfields of anthropology and describe the kinds of research projects

associated with each subfield.

Define culture and the six characteristics of culture.

Describe how anthropology developed from early explorations of the world through the professionalization of the discipline in the 19th century.

Discuss ethnocentrism and the role it played in early attempts to understand other cultures.

Explain how the perspectives of holism, cultural relativism, comparison, and fieldwork, as well as both scientific and humanistic tendencies make anthropology a unique discipline.

Evaluate the ways in which anthropology can be used to address current social, political, and economic issues.

### **Required Text:**

*Perspectives: An Open Invitation to Cultural Anthropology*, 2nd Edition, Edited by Katie Nelson and Laura Braff.

<http://perspectives.americananthro.org/>

Students are expected to bring a device (laptop, tablet or phone) to class so they can access a digital copy of the textbook.

### **Course Requirements and Grades:**

Final course grades are based on the following:

***Attendance and Participation:*** Class attendance is required and roll will be taken every day. Regular participation is also required. This is worth 20% of your final grade.

***Chapter Quizzes:*** There will be a quiz for each assigned chapter of the textbook. Quizzes will be administered at various times without necessarily being scheduled for a certain class meeting. Quizzes are worth 20% of the total grade.

***Midterm:*** A short answer and/or multiple-choice examination will be given approximately half way through the course. The test will cover all readings, lectures, and discussion up to the date of the test. It is worth 20% of the total grade.

***Reflection Paper:*** Students will be assigned a 2-page reflection paper based on the viewing of documentary that covers an anthropological topic. Reflection papers are due at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the term. Students may present their papers for extra credit. Reflections Papers are worth 20%.

***Final examination:*** The final examination may include short answer, multiple choice, and short essay questions. The test will cover all readings, lectures, and discussion up to the date of the test, that is, it is cumulative. Administered the last day of class, the final exam is worth 20% of the final grade.

### **Grade Grade Points**

A            4.0

A-           3.7

B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

**Course Policies:**

Attendance is required and will be monitored and roll taken daily. Arriving more than 20 minutes late will count as an absence.

Students are expected to bring a device to access a digital copy of the textbook to all class meetings. Students are required to participate in a consistent manner, being respectful of classmate's opinions and contributions.

Check email frequently; additional readings and perhaps announcements will be distributed through email.

Please use email to tell me of an illness or to set up a time to meet.

**Course Schedule:**

Be prepared for changes in the schedule, depending on how we move through topics/chapters. Changes will be announced in class or, if necessary, by email.

**Week 1:**

An Introduction to Anthropology,  
What is Culture?,  
Field Research and Language (Chapters 1-4),  
Quiz 1

**Week 2:**

Subsistence,  
Economics,  
Political Anthropology,  
Family and Marriage (Chapters 5-8),  
Quiz 2

**Mid-Term Exam**

### **Week 3:**

Race and Ethnicity,  
Gender and Sexuality,  
Religion and Globalization (Chapters 9-12),  
Quiz 4 and Reflection papers due

### **Week 4:**

Culture and sustainability,  
Performance, Media Anthropology and Health and Medicine (Chapters 13-16)

### **Review and Final Examination**

**University Academic Integrity Policy:** The University defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the students' own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another. Scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e. misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or substantially similar papers, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; sabotaging another's work. Within these general definitions, however, Instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties ranging from lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of F for the entire course. When completing an assignment for this course, students are expected to do original work for the assignment and to not reuse work they may have done in previous courses or other settings unless the instructor grants specific prior approval. Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of aid (whether written, oral or otherwise) in order for a student to receive undeserved credit on class work, homework, tests or any other assignment that is his or her own responsibility. Plagiarism violates the central core of educational philosophy. It involves stealing another person's work and claiming it as one's own. It occurs whenever one directly copies another person's intellectual effort and integrates it into his/her class work without giving proper credit to the author. Paraphrasing is defined as "a restatement of a text or passage giving the meaning in another form" (Webster's New Universal Unabridged Dictionary, 1996). When one paraphrases but intentionally omits authorship of the work, this, too, is a serious violation of academic honesty. All students have an individual responsibility to understand what cheating, plagiarism, and paraphrasing are. The student must also be aware that the consequences for cheating and plagiarism or for paraphrasing without proper attribution are severe. Whenever you have doubt about what constitutes cheating, plagiarism, or paraphrasing, contact your instructor.