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ANTY 101H.02C: Anthro & the Human Experience

Cheyenne L. Laue

University of Montana - Missoula, cheyenne.laue@umontana.edu

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Anthropology and the Human Experience

ANTY 101H | Fall 2018

Class meeting times: Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 – 10:50
Location: MC 122

Instructor: Dr. Cheyenne Laue
Mountain Campus Office: Social Sciences Building 206
Mountain Campus Office Hours: MW 10-12
River Campus Office: MC 451
River Campus Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11 – 12

Course Description

Anthropology is a discipline that studies what it means to be human across time and space. From our biological origins and evolution, to the material record of our past and the languages and cultures of contemporary people, anthropologists attempt to understand as much as they can about the human experience. This course provides a broad perspective on the study of anthropology and covers key topics in biological and cultural anthropology, linguistics, and archaeology.

Course Objectives

- Students will gain an appreciation of the diversity and richness of the human experience.
- Students will acquire an understanding of the history, subject matter, and methods of study in anthropology.
- Students will increase their knowledge of the history of human biological and cultural evolution.
- Students will learn basic anthropological concepts and terms

Required Text

Robert H. Lavenda and Emily Schultz (2016) *Anthropology: What does it mean to be human?*

Supplementary Readings and Course Materials

In addition to the required text supplementary readings will be assigned prior to in-class discussions or in-class exercises. All of these readings can be found on the Moodle supplement to this course under the appropriate week. Please make sure that you can access the Moodle supplement as soon as possible and come to me with any problems.

Academic Integrity

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by The University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/vpesa/documents/Student%20Conduct%20Code%20PDF-%20FINAL%208-27-13.pdf>

Disability Accommodation

Eligible students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course when requested in a timely way. Please contact me after class or in my office. Please be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at <http://www.umt.edu/dss/> or call 406.243.2243 (voice/text).

Cell Phones

If the cell phone is not emergency related, ***turn it off. If the cell phone interferes with the process of the class, you may be asked to leave the class.*** If there is a reason to keep your cell phone active, place on vibrate. If you receive a call, please leave the classroom quietly to take the message. Cell phones, iPads (and other tablets) and pagers must be turned off during exams.

Changes to Syllabi

Instructor reserves the right to modify syllabi and assignments as needed based on faculty, student, and/or environmental circumstances. If changes are made to the syllabus, amended copies will be dated and made available to the class.

Grading and Assessment

Your grade in this course will be based on the following assessments:

In-class discussions and activities will include short in-class exercises, writing assignments, and group discussions of films and readings. In-class exercises will be randomly announced and are designed to encourage regular attendance – these exercises cannot be made up or turned in late. Any additional readings will be announced in the class prior to when you should complete them and they will be available on Moodle as PDFs.

Three exams (two midterms and a final) will each cover approximately one third of the course material. Exams will be multiple choice and true/ false format. Midterm exams will be given during the last 55 minutes of the class period they are scheduled for and the final exam will occur during the day and time scheduled for this course.

In-class discussions and activities: Approximately 12 @ 10 points each = 120

Midterm Exams: 2 @ 100 points each = 200 Points

Final Exam: 100 Points

Course Total = 420 Points

Grade scale:

90 – 100% = A

80 – 89% = B

70 – 79% = C

60 – 69 % = D

< 60 = F

Please note that + and – modifiers may be added to letter grades at the instructors discretion.

Tentative Course Schedule and Topics

Please note that the following topic order may shift slightly due to timing, student interest, and recent developments in the field. Any additional (non-textbook) readings required prior to a class will be announced during the previous class and will be posted on Moodle the same day.

Week One August 27 – 31: What is Anthropology?

T: Introductions

TH: What is Anthropology?

Read Chapter 1

Week Two September 2 – 7: Evolution and Anthropology/ Primatology

T: Evolution and Anthropology

Read Chapter 2

TH: The Study of Primates

Read Chapter 3

Week Three September 10 – 14: The Fossil Record and Human Origins

T: Macroevolution and hominin evolution

TH: Anatomically Modern Humans/ Bio-cultural evolution

Read Chapter 4

Week Four September 17 – 21: Evolutionary Theory and Human Variation/ Archaeology

T: Microevolution, mechanisms of evolution, and human variation

Read Chapter 5

TH: Studying the human past

Read Chapter 6

Week Five September 24 – 28: Archaeology; Why Did Humans Settle Down?

T: How do we know about the human past?

TH: Agriculture, animal domestication, settlement, and complexity

Read Chapter 7

Week Six October 1 – 5: The Concept of Culture

T: The Concept of Culture ***First Midterm Exam***

TH: Studying culture and culture change

Read Chapter 8

Week Seven October 8 – 12: Understanding Language

T: Language and Culture

TH: Language change and revitalization

Read Chapter 9 and Shakespeare in the Bush

Week Eight October 15 – 19: How Do We Make Meaning?

T: Art, Music, Symbols

Read Chapter 10

TH: Myth, Ritual, and Religion
Read Why We Became Religious

Week Nine October 22 – 26: Studying Economy

T: Economic Systems and Subsistence Strategies

Read Chapter 11

TH: Economic Systems and Subsistence Strategies

Read Rich Men Give It All Away

Week Ten October 29 – November 2: Political relations and Inequality

T: Political organization and Social Order

Read Chapter 12

TH: Race, Caste, Class, and Ethnicity

Read Chapter 15

Week Eleven November 5 – 9: Gender, Sex, Sexuality

T: Election Day – No Class

TH: Gender and Human Sexuality ***Second Midterm Exam***

Week Twelve November 12 -16: Gender/ Sexuality; Family, Marriage, and Kinship

T: Gender and Human Sexuality

Read Chapter 13 and Interpreting Gender and Sexuality

TH: Family, Marriage, Kinship

Read Chapter 14

Week Thirteen November 19 – 23: Family, Marriage, and Kinship

T: Family, Marriage, Kinship

Read Arranging a Marriage

TH: Thanksgiving Break – No Class

Week Fourteen November 26 – 30: Life Cycle; Health and Medical Anthropology

T: Birth, Ritual Transitions, Death and Dying

Read Death Be Not Strange and Death Without Weeping

TH: Culture, Health, Healing

Read Chapter 16

Week Fifteen December 3 – 7: Anthropology and Non-humans/ Future of Anthropology

T: Anthropology of Animals and Ecology

Reading TBA

TH: Anthropology and Technology/ Future of Anthropology

Read Virtual Worlds and Futures of Anthropology

Week Sixteen December 10 – 14: Final Exams

Final Exam: Wednesday December 12, 10:10 – 12:10