

SPECIAL TOPICS IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Fall/Winter 2015-2016

ANTH 2228F-001 **Topic: *Anthropology through Science Fiction & Fantasy***

Offered: Fall, Tuesdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm **Instructor: Julianna Beaudoin**

Prerequisite – Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 0.5 or 1.0 Essay course

Anthropology is the study of human beings – how we are alike, how we are different, how we lived in the past, how we have evolved, how we interact, etc. – and the consequences of all of these things and more. Science fiction and fantasy genres and works are thus a natural extension of anthropology, pushing us to apply and question what we know about humanity in order to extrapolate how our species reacts to different scenarios and how we may continue to change in the near and distant futures.

This course uses science fiction and fantasy works – including novels, short stories, films, radio, video games, and television – to purposefully engage with all four fields of the anthropological discipline (cultural, biological, archaeology, linguistics). Each week/section will combine academic anthropological literature and concepts with corresponding science fiction/fantasy examples. Students in this course will learn how science fiction and fantasy's anthropological viewpoints often address, implicitly or explicitly, our assumptions, values, aspirations, and/or fears, and how to apply this in their own anthropological perspectives and research.

ANTH 2228G-001 **Topic: *The Anthropology of Music***

Offered: Winter, Thursdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm **Instructor: Karyn Olsen**

Prerequisite – Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 0.5 or 1.0 Essay course

In this course, we will take an anthropological approach towards the study of music as an aspect of culture. Although the anthropology of music and the field of ethnomusicology are considered synonymous, additional material from biological anthropology and archaeology are brought together in this course to form a broader understanding of the material. The behavioural origins of music and the use of music in ancient contexts are explored. In addition, course material focuses on central issues in sociocultural anthropology.

The key theme is *identity* and how music is used to negotiate individual and collective identity in different contexts around the world. Issues include health and wellness, religion and spirituality, gender and sexuality, racial and ethnic boundaries, nationalism and transnationalism, social and political resistance, and globalization. The methods and issues relating to the ethnographic study of music culture/behaviour also form an important aspect of the course material. Lectures, in-class discussions, activities, music media (recordings, film clips, etc.), and student-led seminars will be used to help you develop an anthropological appreciation of social identity.

ANTHROPOLOGY 2293G-650***Topic: The Anthropology of Fashion*****Offered: Winter, Distance Studies (On-Line)****Instructor: Christine Kennedy****Prerequisite** – Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 0.5 or 1.0 Essay course.

In North America the way we dress is often considered as a form of self-expression. However, dressing is not simply an individual endeavor or done solely for practical purposes, but it is shaped by wider cultural, social, and political-economic contexts. This course will focus on the anthropological study of clothing and fashion. We will critically examine the meaning of dress and the role clothing plays in the formation of identities, for example, dress as a marker of gender, ethnicity, culture, and religion. We will further explore the social and political-economic processes that influence clothing production and consumption, including the inequalities between producers, retailers, and consumers. The course will address topics such as: clothing and social identities; the Muslim veil; dress, power, and resistance; ethical and environmental concerns in regards to clothing production and consumption; second-hand clothing; and copyright and appropriation.

ANTHROPOLOGY 2294F-001 ***Topic: Medical Anthropology: On the Social, Cultural and Political Dimensions of Illness and Health*****Offered: Fall, Thursdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm****Instructor: Mark Dolson****Prerequisite** – Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 0.5 or 1.0 Essay course.

This course will introduce students to a broad range of concepts, approaches and methods in medical anthropology. We will examine the specificity of various healing systems (including Western biomedicine) as socio-cultural institutions and sources of knowledge, power and authority. Moving beyond the confines of purely biological categories, we will consider the ways in which suffering, health and healing are firmly embedded in social, cultural, historical, political, and economic processes (the result of which causes health and illness to occur unevenly along fault-lines of inequality). To this end, we will examine how experiences of suffering and illness as well as healing and recovery are produced, interpreted and understood. Topics covered throughout the course will include: the enduring opposition between rationality and belief; Western biomedicine as one among many socio-cultural systems of healing, health and the explanation of illness; traditional healing systems and their relationship with biomedicine; the body as biological fact and socio-cultural construct; illness narratives and the interpretation of sickness and ill-health; the role of postcolonialism in illness and health; social suffering and political violence; global health and citizenship; and, finally, genetics and cultures of risk.

ANTHROPOLOGY 2295G-002

Topic: Archaeology of Beer and Brewing

Offered: Winter, Wednesdays 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Instructor: Matt Beaudoin

Prerequisite – Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 0.5 or 1.0 Essay course

Foodways are incredibly important vehicles of social cohesion and identity formation. The very acts of acquiring, preparing, consuming, and disposing of food and drink have been means to draw people together or differentiate “us from them”. Beer, often referred to as “liquid bread”, is frequently framed only as an intoxicant that has negative impacts on society; however, beer has had important roles as diet/nutrition and as object/catalyst for social and political change, such as playing a significant role in historical events, such as the landing of the Mayflower, the American Revolution, and the agricultural development of Ontario, among many others.

This course explores beer, and other alcohols, and the social role it has played in different contexts, times, and places. We will deconstruct what beer is, how it is made, and its associated meanings and stereotypes. The goal will be to highlight how anthropological concepts (e.g. identity, socio-economic class, gender) can be explored through beer in archaeological contexts. For each topic covered, there will be a general overview of the anthropological concept, a discussion of how this relates to beer, and examples drawn from archaeological research of how they can be explored. The majority of this course will relate to beer and brewing; however, examples will also be drawn from wine, liquor, and other intoxicant research to supplement the concept when relevant.

ANTHROPOLOGY 3326G-001 ***Topic: Everyday Life in Contemporary Cuba: Living La Revolución***

Offered: Winter, Tuesdays 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Instructor: Prof. Adriana Premat

Prerequisite – Registration in third year in any program.

This course is designed to introduce students to everyday life in socialist Cuba. Through a selection of oral histories, films, novels and academic writings, students are invited to explore the euphoria, hope, uncertainty, fear, and disappointment that have punctuated the lived experience of *la revolución* at different points in time. Particular attention will be given to how differently positioned Cubans have experienced social (in)equality, food (in)security, politics, and transnational (dis)connection from 1959 to the present.

Advanced Special Topics in Anthropology

ANTHROPOLOGY 4493F-001

Topic: Gender and Development: Engaging with Theory, Practice and Advocacy

Offered: Fall, Mondays 10:30 am - 1:30 pm

Instructor: Prof. Bipasha Baruah

Prerequisite: Registration in fourth year in any program.

This course will provide an introduction to the theory and practice of gender and development. Course content is informed by the needs and interests of future scholars and practitioners - i.e. students who hope to engage in research, project design and implementation, policy analysis, monitoring and evaluation, advocacy and/or networking in development or a closely related domain. A few readings and lectures will be devoted to providing students with a historical perspective on the evolution of the theory of gender and development. The rest of the course will focus almost exclusively on key contemporary gender issues in development. The course seeks to provide students with a strong theoretical and conceptual grounding in gender and development as well as applied skills to work as a development professional. Students will study development policy and learn tools and methodologies that will enable them to pursue careers as gender equality practitioners with the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations, development-oriented state agencies, non-profit organizations, bilateral and multi-lateral agencies, and private foundations.

ANTHROPOLOGY 4494F-001

Topic: Problems and Debates in Ontario/Great Lakes Archaeology

Offered: Fall, Wednesdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Instructor: Prof. Chris Ellis

Prerequisite: Registration in fourth year in any program.

Our major focus in this course will be on the archaeology of First Nations peoples in Ontario with the aims of: 1) identifying the major gaps in our knowledge and questions that remain unanswered about that archaeology and 2) critically examining in detail the major interpretative debates that have characterized the history of archaeological research in the area. Our main focus will be on Ontario but to place our discussions in a wider substantive and theoretical context we can and will examine other literature on Great Lakes Archaeology. Also, the course will strive to relate Ontario/Great Lakes archaeology to a wider context of prominent theoretical, methodological and substantive debates of general archaeological/anthropological significance. Some have accused Ontario archaeology of being insular and not really concerned with such broader questions.

ANTHROPOLOGY 4496B-001***Topic: Principles of Applied Archaeology*****Offered: Winter, Wednesdays 1:30 - 4:30 pm****Instructor: Prof. Peter Timmins****Prerequisite:** Registration in fourth year in any program.

This course will examine the principles and concerns that are integral to the practice of applied archaeology in North America, and the role of applied archaeology in heritage management in general. The course will review legislation and professional practices that govern applied archaeologists, and in particular the form of archaeology carried out by consultant archaeologists hired by third parties to undertake archaeological investigations in advance of land development or resource extraction (commonly called Cultural Resource Management - CRM). While the readings will draw on the experience of applied archaeology from across North America and beyond, the course will focus on applied archaeology as currently practiced in Ontario.

ANTHROPOLOGY 4497B-001***Topic: GIS in Anthropology (Geographic Information Systems)*****Offered: Winter, Mondays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm**
Millaire**Instructor: Prof. Jean-Francois****Prerequisite:** Registration in fourth year in any program.

This seminar is an introduction to geographic information systems (GIS) for anthropology students. A geographic information system is a combination of computer hardware, software, data, methods and people which facilitates input, management, retrieval, analysis, and presentation of spatially-referenced information. By linking attribute data to maps, a GIS can reveal relationships not apparent using traditional paper maps and item-reference information systems. GIS technology therefore provides anthropology students with powerful tools for the spatial analysis, mapping, visualization, and communication of information. A combination of lectures and laboratory assignments will introduce the basic concepts of mapping display and spatial analysis. Students will develop their own GIS research project using the skills, concepts, and models examined during the term. This course is open to students in all fields of anthropology.