

COURSE OUTLINE

Anthropology 1020-001

Many Ways of Being Human

Fall/Winter 2018/2019

Lectures: Monday 1:30-3:30pm

Classroom: B&GS-0153

Tutorial: One hour on Wednesdays between 1:30 pm and 5:30pm
See OWL for the room for your specific section.

Credit value: 1.0

Term 1 Instructors:

Archaeology: Dr. Andrew Nelson

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Biological: Dr. Karyn Olsen

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Term 2 Instructors:

Linguistic: Dr. Karen Pennesi

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Sociocultural: Dr. Kinga Pozniak

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Office hours: Please refer to the course site in OWL.

Teaching Assistants: Please refer to the course site in OWL.

Calendar Course Description: An introduction to anthropology (the study of human beings, past and present) co-taught by specialists in biological anthropology, archaeology, linguistic anthropology, and sociocultural anthropology. Students will explore anthropological approaches to and findings concerning: human evolution; variation and adaptation; diverse forms of social, political, and economic organization; culture; ritual; language; communication; identity; gender; health; social inequality; and globalization.

Prerequisites: None.

Antirequisites: the former Anthropology 1020E, Anthropology 1025F/G, Anthropology 1026F/G.

Course Syllabus:

This course introduces students to anthropology, which is the study of human beings and the differences and similarities among groups. The course will be taught by four instructors, each specializing in one of the subfields of anthropology: archaeology, biological anthropology, sociocultural anthropology and linguistic anthropology. This approach will give students both an in-depth and a holistic look at the various ways anthropologists learn about human groups, and the kinds of questions they ask.

Anthropology is the study of human nature, culture and the human past. Culture is the shared pattern of learned behaviors, beliefs and ways of understanding. Anthropology takes a holistic approach by studying all aspects of human life, including biology, culture, language, and the environment. Archaeologists study human cultures of the past by means of the recovery and study of material remains. Biological anthropologists study human adaptation, evolution, and variation by examining human biology, skeletal remains, ancestor species, and non-human primates. Socio-cultural anthropologists study variation in beliefs and behaviors among human cultures. Linguistic anthropologists study the role of language in social life and the creation of culture. The cross-cultural, comparative and deep temporal perspectives are critical underpinnings of this discipline.

The structure of the course includes 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of lab/tutorial each week. The lab/tutorial sessions give the opportunity for in-depth discussion and/or hands-on experience with topics discussed in lecture.

A key objective of this course is to foster a deep understanding cross-cultural variability and how that variability can arise. This is extremely important in our increasingly globalized world. No matter what your major is, if you are interested in people, you will find the course to be of interest.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

General Outcomes:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of the unique holistic and comparative anthropological approach to understanding the past and present social, cultural and linguistic diversity of humans, and our non-human primate relatives, and their biological diversity and evolution.
- Identify the four major subfields of anthropology (archaeology, biological anthropology, sociocultural anthropology and linguistic anthropology) and the types of research questions and methods employed in each
- Demonstrate how anthropological insights foster tolerance for the diversity of human cultures and ways of life and show the value of human diversity
- Complete the basic steps of scholarly research, including locating and critically evaluating scholarly and other information sources relevant to anthropological topics
- Formulate well organized written arguments that are grounded in supporting evidence

Archaeology Outcomes:

- Articulate the contributions archaeology makes to modern society
- Explain both ethical principles adopted by major archaeological associations and competing modern interests related to heritage sites and objects
- Describe the main categories of archaeological evidence, and classify objects into them
- Explain common techniques for recovering archaeological evidence and discuss how archaeologists select appropriate methods
- Illustrate the main questions archaeologists ask about past people and their environments and how archaeologists use multiple lines of evidence to answer those questions
- Identify how archaeological research is influenced by the context (social, political, historical) in which it takes place
- Evaluate the strength of basic archaeological arguments by assessing the quality of the supporting evidence and the link between evidence and interpretation

Bioanthropology Outcomes

- Identify and describe the branches of biological anthropology and its relevant terminology
- Show how the scientific method works to produce knowledge within particular, yet shifting, cultural, political, and historical contexts
- Demonstrate a general understanding of the mechanisms of evolution, and evidence for the evolution of humans and their hominin ancestors
- Outline major trends within non-human primate and human evolution

- Classify and analyze non-human primate fossil and modern human skeletal remains for the purposes of better understanding human evolution, diversity, and reconstructing the lives of past peoples
- Describe the biocultural adaptations of humans throughout time (e.g. to climate, disease)
- Integrate scientific biological data with cultural, political and historic insights in order to comment on contemporary issues (e.g. race, gender, environmental change and sustainability)

Linguistic Anthropology Outcomes:

- Understand language as a system and specify how it differs from other forms of communication.
- Illustrate how language and culture influence each other.
- Articulate the relation between language and identity in social and cultural contexts.
- Explain how language is used to accomplish social goals.
- Identify various areas of social life where concepts and approaches from linguistic anthropology can be applied.

Sociocultural Anthropology Outcomes:

- Appreciate the complexity and breadth of human behaviour around the world.
- Recognize that their own beliefs and ways of living are only some of the possibilities that exist among many equally valid ones.
- Examine critically their own assumptions about how the world works, how people should behave and what they should believe.
- Master key anthropological concepts such as culture, society, community, and kinship.
- Use cross-cultural comparison to analyze cultural commonalities and differences.
- Understand the connectedness among social processes such as: economic practices, political systems, social organization, belief systems, and other elements of social and cultural life.
- Apply anthropological concepts to the analysis of contemporary issues using specific case studies.

Course Materials:

TERM 1:

Muckle, Robert. 2014. *Introducing Archaeology*, Second Edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Lavenda, Robert H., and Emily A. Schultz. 2018. *Anthropology: What Does it Mean to Be Human? Introducing Biological Anthropology*, Custom Course Book for Anth 1020, Western University. New York: Oxford University Press.

TERM 2:

Required readings for Linguistic Anthropology are available on OWL > Course Readings

Robbins, Richard, Sherri Larkin, Maggie Cummings and Karen McGarry. 2014 *Cultural Anthropology – Custom Course Book for ANT 1020 Western University*. Thomson Nelson.

Registered students will be able to access information about additional course readings through the course's on-line OWL site before the first day of class.

Evaluation:

Term 1:

Archaeology Lab Assignments (2 labs worth 2.5% each)	5%
Archaeology Assignment (Due Oct. 25)	5%
Biological Anthropology Lab Assignments (2 labs worth 2.5% each)	5%
Biological Anthropology Assignment (Due Dec. 6)	5%
December Exam (during the exam period)	30%
Total for TERM 1	50%

Linguistic Anthropology Tutorial Quizzes (2 worth 2.5% each)	5%
Linguistic Anthropology Assignment	5%
Sociocultural Anthropology Tutorial Assignments (2 worth 2.5% each)	5%
Sociocultural Anthropology Assignment	5%
April Exam (during the exam period)	30%
Total for TERM 2	50%

The April exam covers all material covered only in the winter term.

Details of, and instructions for, graded labs, assignments and exams will be discussed in lab/tutorials and or in class and they will be posted on OWL.

Website:

We have a website for this class accessible through UWO's [OWL platform](#). This site includes the course outline, study guides, copies of slides used in lecture (for those instructors who post them), class announcements, assignment instructions and a "Grade Book" that contains your marks for each assignment. Check the site at least once a week for announcements.

Videos:

We will see several videos throughout the course. Just like lecture content, material from these videos may appear on the final exam, so be sure to take notes.

Course Specific Statements and Policies:*Statement on Seeking Special Accommodations:*

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Missed lab/tutorials: If you know in advance that you have to miss your scheduled lab or tutorial session, please speak to your instructor who may be able to arrange for you to join one of the other groups. If you miss your scheduled session please contact your instructor as soon as possible. Provided you have a legitimate reason for missing the lab/tutorial, you will be invited to attend the makeup lab session at the end of that portion of the course. These makeup sessions are by invitation only. If you miss both the regularly scheduled lab/tutorial and the makeup lab you will receive a zero unless you can provide your instructor with acceptable documentation for both absences.

Missed Exams: University policy states that students who fail to appear for an examination at the time set in the timetable will not be allowed to write the examination they missed. Students missing an exam must report it immediately to the office of their Dean. Students may, with the approval of the relevant Department Chair petition their Dean for permission to write a Special Examination.

Policy on Laptops and Cellphones in Class: Laptops are permitted for note-taking in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites, they will be asked to close the laptop and will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cellphones are turned off at the beginning of class.

Institutional Statements and Policies

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined, with links to the full policies, [here](#) on the [Anthropology website](#).

Support Services: A range of student services is available through:

[Student Center](#):

[Student Development Centre](#):

[Health and Wellness](#):

Weekly Breakdown of Topics and Readings – Section 001

Dr. Olsen

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	Sept 10 (2 hour)	Welcome to the course! What is Anthropology? Why does <i>Biological Anthropology</i> Matter?	
	Sept 12 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : Keys to Success in the Course	
2	Sept 17 (2 hour)	How Do Anthropologists Use Evolutionary Theory?	Lavenda & Schultz (2018) - Chapter 1 (including Module 1) - Chapter 2 (pp. 34-46)
	Sept 19 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : Human Skeletal Anatomy Introducing the Biological Anthropology Assignment	
3	Sept 24 (2 hour)	Why Do We Study Non-Human Primates?	Lavenda & Schultz (2018) - Chapter 3 (pp. 64-79)
	Sept 26 (1 hour)	<u>Lab #1</u> : Our Closest Kin: Non-Human Primates	
4	Oct 1 (2 hour)	When and Where Did Our Species Originate?	Lavenda & Schultz (2018) - Chapter 4
	Oct 3 (1 hour)	<u>Lab #2</u> : The Fossil Record: Human Ancestors	
		Study Break (October 8-12)	
5	Oct 15 (2 hour)	Bioarchaeology: Can the Dead Speak?	Kelly & Thomas (2017), pp. 198-218 Dupras et al. (2016), pp. 286-304 (both posted in OWL)
	Oct 17 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : Bioarchaeology I	
6	Oct 22 (2 hour)	What Do We Mean by Human Variation?	Lavenda & Schultz (2018) - Chapter 5 (pp. 147, 155, 158-165)
	Oct 24 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : Bioarchaeology II Biological Anthropology Assignment Due	

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7	Oct 29 (2 hour)	Why does <i>Archaeology</i> matter? Major events of the Human Journey. Who owns the past? What can this tell us about people?	Muckle pp. 63-66; Chapter 4; pp. 102-107; 114-122; plus links on Week 7 page on OWL.
	Oct 31 (1 hour)	<u>Lab #3</u> : Artifact Analysis	
8	Nov 5 (2 hour)	Why Do Archaeologists Collect Old Bones and Seeds?	Muckle pp. 122-124; 157-161; 166-173
	Nov 7 (1 hour)	<u>Lab #4</u> : Zooarchaeology	
9	Nov 12 (2 hour)	Why Do Archaeologists Make Maps?	Muckle pp. 95-102; 161-166
	Nov 14 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : Preparing for the Archaeology Assignment	
10	Nov 19 (2 hour)	How do Archaeologists study social organization? How has feminism affected Archaeology?	Muckle pp. 175-186; 199-202
	Nov 21 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : What This Awl Means	Spector 1991
11	Nov 26 (2 hour)	Mortuary Archaeology - Can the dead speak? Major events of the human journey - Redux	Muckle pp. 186-189; Chapter 10
	Nov 28 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : Time Team	
12	Dec 3 (2 hour)	Midterm Review and Prep	
	Dec 5 (1 hour)	<u>Tutorial</u> : "Pub Quiz" Review Archaeology Assignment Due	