

**ANTHROPOLOGY 4401F-001**

**Anthropological Thinking and Practice**

**Department of Anthropology**

**BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE**

**Fall 2021**

Class time and location: Tuesdays 1:30-4:30 pm, SSC-3102

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Walsh (he/him)

Email: [awalsh33@uwo.ca](mailto:awalsh33@uwo.ca)

Office and hours: SSC-3402, hours tba

**Requisites**

Antirequisites: the former Anthropology 4400E.

Prerequisites: Anthropology 3350F (or the former Anthropology 3301E) and registration in Year 4 in any anthropology module.

*Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.*

**Course Description**

This course is intended to serve as a “capstone” course – meaning that it is intended to (1) encourage students to reflect on and draw from what they have learned through several years of studying anthropology while (2) giving them the opportunity to engage in original “anthropological practice” at an advanced level and in ways that are directed toward a variety of possible futures.

Please note that this course is open to students with interests in any subfield of anthropology. Although I am a sociocultural anthropologist I promise I will give you opportunities to pursue your interests in any area of the discipline. In fact, I will be encouraging you to do so!

See the course OWL site for more information on how the course will work week to week.

*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

- reflect critically on the learning outcomes of the anthropology modules in which they are enrolled, and demonstrate how they have achieved these outcomes.
- communicate the importance of anthropology and the value of their own anthropological training to various audiences.

- evaluate the possibilities and limitations of “group work”, and plan and carry out effective collaborations.
- effectively communicate their own anthropological passions to various audiences.
- better apply anthropological approaches and insights to a range of topics and experiences.

### **Course Materials**

Registered students will be able to access course readings through the course site in OWL before the first day of class.

### **Evaluation**

Individual Reflection on Group Work – 5%

Learning Outcomes Assignment – 5%

Who Needs Anthropology? Assignment – 15%

Personal Statements Assignment – 5%\*

“Anthropology 4401 Reads” Presentation – 5%\*

Breadth of Anthropology Assignment – 20%

Written Assignment – 35% (plan due in class worth 5%\*, preliminary presentation of revision in class worth 5%\*, final assignment worth 35% total)

Class Engagement – 10%

\*Work marked with an asterisk is required but will not be graded. Instead, students who complete this work will receive a percentage grade on this work that is equivalent to the total grade attributed to their evaluated work in the course/project. For example, a student who receives a final grade on evaluated work of 80% will receive a 4/5 on their “Personal Statement Assignment”. I will explain this in class.

### **Academic and Accommodation Policies**

#### ***Statement on Plagiarism***

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

In order to pass an essay course, the student must exhibit some minimal level of competence in essay writing and the appropriate level of knowledge of the content of the course.

### ***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.

### ***Accommodation Policies***

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

### ***Academic Consideration for Student Absence***

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

and the [form for the Student Medical Certificate \(SMC\)](#).

### ***Religious Accommodation***

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if

their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

***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 in Western's academic policies by clicking on this link: [Western's academic policies](#)

**END**