This is an introduction to the foundations of anthropology that offers an overview of key concepts and methods in the discipline. The course focuses especially on certain key debates in the discipline – an approach that allows us to consider different perspectives on topics of common concern, and that demonstrates how the "foundations" of anthropology are continually being revisited, questioned and renegotiated in ways that are essential to maintaining anthropology’s vitality and relevance.

Course Information

Mode of delivery: In person
Credit value: 0.5
Antirequisites: None
Prerequisites: None

Course Instructor

Dan Jorgensen
Office Hours: M 1:30 – 2:30; Th 9:30 – 11:30, or by appointment
dwj@uwo.ca

Marking Breakdown

20% -- Reading Quizzes (10 quizzes @ 2% each)
  • At the start of 10 classes (i.e., taking place within our weekly timeslot), students will be given a short quiz concerning assigned readings. Will take no more than 5 minutes.

20% -- Midterm (in class on February 14)
  • To be completed in class. Short answer and short essay format.

25% -- Essay (due in class on March 27)
  • Details to be discussed in class.

35% -- Final Exam (During Exam Period)
  • Date to be determined. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU SHOULD NOT PLAN TO BE AWAY FROM CAMPUS DURING THE EXAM PERIOD.
Learning Outcomes

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

- Identify key debates relevant to the historical and ongoing development of anthropological thinking.
- Appreciate the role that debate plays in anthropological (and all scholarly) thinking and practice.
- Effectively evaluate and communicate alternative approaches to key topics in the field of anthropology.

Course Policies (please read carefully)

1. Students are responsible for ALL assigned readings unless notified otherwise by the instructor.
2. Attendance of classes is expected. Students should keep in mind that they may be tested on ALL material that is covered in class (including videos and research presentations). This will generally include a good deal of material that is not covered in course readings. If students are unable to attend a class, they are expected to obtain notes from a classmate.
3. Students are allowed to use laptop computers in class, but only for purposes related to the course. The instructor will ask students using laptops or other technology for non-course related purposes to leave the class.
4. Assignments and essays are due on the dates listed in this outline. Any late assignments or essays will be penalized at a rate of 5% / working day late.
5. Students should retain copies of all material handed in. Please note that the instructor does not accept primary responsibility for assignments or essays submitted outside of class time or office hours. In all cases, copies of material submitted should be retained by the student.
6. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detections software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted 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.
7. All term assignments must be submitted prior to the beginning of the exam period. Any work that is outstanding at this point will receive a grade of 0.
8. ANY ACTS OF PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN A GRADE OF 0 ON THE RELEVANT ASSIGNMENT/ESSAY AND AN F IN THE COURSE.

Required Book

*What is Anthropology?* by Thomas Hylland Eriksen

Available in the bookstore. Students are required to source additional weekly readings (below) online. All additional readings are required and are freely available through a Western-networked computer.
## CLASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS

### Week 1 – January 10 – Introductions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The structure and logic</td>
<td>Read this syllabus</td>
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<td>of the course</td>
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### Week 2 – January 17 – Foundations

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethnography and theory</td>
<td><em>What is Anthropology?</em> pp.19-79.</td>
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### Week 3 – January 24 – Making Connections

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Human worlds</td>
<td><em>What is Anthropology?</em> pp.117-151.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identities</td>
<td><em>What is Anthropology?</em> pp.152-165.</td>
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### Week 4 – January 31 – Invented Traditions?

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### Week 5 – February 7 – Reconsidering culture

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### Week 7 – February 28 – Local culture and Christianity

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### Week 8 – March 6 – Indigeneity and the Environment (I)


### Week 9 – March 13 – Indigeneity and the Environment (II)


### Week 10 – March 20 – Gendered Voices

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### Week 11 – March 27 – Dark Anthropology (ESSAY DUE IN CLASS THIS DATE)

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### Week 12 – April 3 – Summing Up

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