

OXFORD COLLEGE
Spring Semester 2010

ANTHROPOLOGY 101

Introduction to Anthropology

(ANTH_OX 101 12A)

MWF 12:50 am – 1:40 pm
Language Hall 201

Professor: Dr. Aaron Stutz

Office: Language Hall 102 (Anthro Lab)

e-mail: astutz@emory.edu

phone: 770-784-8349

**Office Hours: *by appointment* – don't be shy, make and appointment
– TIMES AVAILABLE DAILY!!!**

Introduction to Anthropology – a science of humanity

ANTHROPOLOGY IS THE HOLISTIC STUDY OF HUMANITY:

- seen from a biological perspective
- considered in social context

IN THIS COURSE, YOU WILL INQUIRE SERIOUSLY INTO SOME FAIRLY BIG QUESTIONS:

- what is our place in nature?
- why are we such complex social animals?
- why does everything we do take on such meaning?

REQUIRED READINGS

Textbook: *The Tapestry of Culture: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, Ninth Edition (2009), by Abraham Rosman, Paula G. Rubel, and Maxine Weisgrau. Altamira Press, New York.

- [Available at the Oxford College Bookstore](#)

Ethnography: *The Gebusi: Lives Transformed in a Rainforest World*, Second Edition (2010). McGraw Hill, New York.

- [Available at the Oxford College Bookstore](#)

Additional REQUIRED Readings will be posted on Anthro 101's [Blackboard](#) page.

MAKING THE GRADE

Grades are based on participation, occasional short writing assignments, three in-class Midterm Exams, a Take-Home Essay Exam, and a comprehensive Final Exam. The exams and term paper will cover material introduced in class, in powerpoint presentations, in films, and in the readings. For more details about how your course grade is figured, please go to the course website on Blackboard (log in to <http://classes.emory.edu> and click on the Introduction to Anthropology link in your courses).

IMPORTANT: The exams and essay are MANDATORY. A failure to complete any one of these will result in a failing grade for the course.

JUST AS IMPORTANT: Unless you have a valid excuse that you present to me beforehand, *all exam and due dates must be strictly adhered to*. RARE EXCEPTIONS are granted under the following clear conditions: you have a valid, documented medical or family *emergency*. If you require special arrangements through Disability Services, or if you otherwise know ahead of time that you have a major schedule conflict, contact the professor as soon as possible to schedule an alternative exam. Be prepared to provide documentation.

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER:

Midterm #1 -	In class, Mon February 1
Midterm #2 -	In class, Mon February 15
Midterm #3 -	In class, Fri March 5
Take-Home Essay Exam Due -	LANG 102, 4 pm, Mon April 19
Final Exam -	7-10 pm, Tue May 4

ALL IN-CLASS EXAMS TAKE PLACE IN LANGUAGE HALL 201

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE PROFESSOR'S DISCRETION; ANY CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS.

**Anthropology 101
Syllabus**

I. Introduction: Humans are *the* Biocultural Species

Wed January 13 - *Invitation to Anthropology*

Fri January 15 - *The Biocultural Perspective*
TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 1

Mon January 18 - NO CLASS - Martin Luther King, Jr, Day

II. CULTURE IS BETTER UNDERSTOOD THROUGH RELATIVE PERSPECTIVES

Wed January 20 - *What is Culture?*

TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 2

E-COURSEPACK: 1-Derby - The Evil Eye
2-Pyburn - Worthless Women

Fri January 22 - *Case Study: Female Genital Mutilation*

E-COURSEPACK: 3-Schweder - What About FGM?

Mon January 25 - *FGM/C as Cultural Practice*

E-COURSEPACK: 4-Silverman - Male and Female Circumcision in Anthropology
5-Saitoti - Circumcision among the Maasai

Wed January 27 - *FGM/C, Culture, & Individual Rights*

E-COURSEPACK: 6-Tierney - A New Debate About Female Circumcision, Parts I & II
7-Liptak - FGM and Asylum Law in the US

Fri January 29 - *Cultural vs. Ethical Relativism*

E-COURSEPACK: 8-Law - Liberal with a Capital L
9-Law - Different Kinds of Authority
10-Rosaldo - Cultural and Ethical Relativism

Mon February 1 - MIDTERM #1 - covers the biocultural perspective, the definition of culture, cultural relativism, and ethical relativism

III. LANGUAGE LINKS US TO OUR SOCIAL WORLDS - LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT LINKS OUR BIOLOGICAL SIDE TO OUR CULTURAL SIDE

Wed February 3 - *Language, Social Life, and Relevance*

TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 3

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 11-Bohannon - Shakespeare in the Bush

Fri February 5 - *Culture and Language Acquisition*

TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 4

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 12-Ochs & Schieffelin - Language Acquisition

Mon February 8 - *Biology and Culture - Affect Hunger*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 13-Goldschmidt - Chapter 4

Wed February 10 - *Culture and Parenting*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 14-Goldschmidt - Chapter 5

Fri February 12 - *Case Studies from Goldschmidt -
Chapter 5*

Mon February 15 - Midterm #2 - covers language and social relevance, language acquisition in cultural context, the learned response to affect hunger, and the culturally structured response to affect hunger. Synthesizes earlier concepts of culture and cultural relativism.

IV. BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY SCIENTIFICALLY EXPLORES OUR PLACE IN THE NATURAL WORLD

Wed February 17 - *The Biological Legacy*

E-COURSEPACK: 15-Mayr - Darwin's Legacy
16-Langdon - Evolution and Adaptation

Fri February 19 - *Our Place in Nature*

E-COURSEPACK: 17-Relethford - Our Place in Nature

Mon February 22 - *Meet Our Evolutionary Cousins*

E-COURSEPACK: 18-Small - What's Love Got To Do With It?
19-Small - Aping Culture

Wed February 24 - *Walking Upright*

E-COURSEPACK: 20-Rosenberg and Trevathan - Birth and Bipedalism

Fri February 26 - *Technology: Handy and Meaningful*

E-COURSEPACK: 23-Schick & Toth - Chapter 5

Mon March 1 - *Neandertals and Us*

E-COURSEPACK: 21-Wong - Meet the Neandertals

Wed March 3 - **DISCUSSION: BIOLOGY AND RACE**

On the Web: <http://www.understandingrace.org>

E-COURSEPACK: 22-Kahn - Race and BiDil

Fri March 5 - MIDTERM #3 - covers Darwin's scientific legacy, DNA analysis and our place in nature, the evolution of bipedalism, the evolution of stone-tool-making ability, the evolution of Neandertals, the biology of human variation, and race.

March 8, 10, 12 SPRING BREAK

V. ARCHAEOLOGY EXPLORES HOW THE MATERIAL TRACES OF HUMAN ACTIVITY IN THE PAST PROVIDE A LINK TO HUMAN DIVERSITY IN THE PAST - ARCHAEOLOGY IS OUR ONLY WAY TO ACCESS THE PREHISTORIC PAST AS A SOURCE OF INSIGHT INTO HUMAN DIVERSITY

Mon March 15 - *The Origins of Agriculture, PART I*

Wed March 17 - *The Origins of Agriculture, PART I*
E-COURSEPACK: 23-Hodder - Men and Women at Catalhuyuk
24-Molleson - The Bones of Abu Hureyra

Fri March 19 - *Biocultural Insights, Archaeological Perspectives*

RESPONSE PAPER DUE in class

VI. SYMBOLS ARE THE BASIS OF HUMAN DISCOURSE - DISCOURSE IS STRUCTURED BY MYTH AND RITUAL - MYTHS AND RITUALS ARE EVOKED AND ALLUDED TO, VIA SYMBOLS, IN MANY DIVERSE CONTEXTS

Mon March 22 - *Symbols and Society*
E-COURSEPACK: 25-Introducing Lévi-Strauss

Wed March 24 - *Case Studies: Myth and the Structure of Culture*

Fri March 26 - *Myth in Action*
TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 11
E-COURSEPACK: 26-Biesele - Women Like Meat
27-Beidelman - Hyena and Rabbit

Mon March 29 - *Symbols, Society, and Politics*

TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 5

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 1

Wed March 31 - *Life in the Rainforest*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 2

Text: Rosman et al. - Chapter 8

Fri April 2 - *Low-Tech Economics*

E-COURSEPACK: 28-Lee - Eating Christmas in the Kalahari

Mon April 5 - *Surrounded by Death*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 3

Wed April 7 - *Kinship and Community Justice*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 4

Text: Rosman et al. - Chapters 6

Fri April 9 - *Gebusi Gendered Culture - Male Domination*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapters 5 & 6

TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 7

Mon April 12 - *The Structure of Ritual*

E-COURSEPACK: 29-Crocker - Canela Helping Hands

TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 10

Wed April 14 - *Marriage as a Rite of Passage*

E-COURSEPACK: 30-Howard & Rensel - Marriage on Rotuma

Text: review Rosman et al. - Chapters 6-7

Fri April 16 - *Rites of Passage and Other Identities*

E-COURSEPACK: 31-Nanda - Hijras of India - Chapter 2

32-Nanda - Hijras of India - Chapter 3

Mon April 19 - *Understanding Culture through Rites of Passage*

TEXT: review Rosman et al. - Chapter 10

TAKE HOME MIDTERM ESSAY EXAM due in class

Wed April 21 - *Return to the Gebusi*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 7 & 8

Fri April 23 - *Change and Tension - AND EVALUATIONS*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 9 & 10

Text: Rosman et al. - Chapter 13

Mon April 26 - *Globalization at the Edge of the World*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 11, 12, & Conclusion

TEXT: Rosman et al. - Chapter 14

LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Week 17 HOME STRETCH - Final Exam

Tue May 4 - FINAL EXAM: 7 - 10 pm, LANG 201