



NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Course Syllabus

Course Name: Introduction to Anthropology

Course Number: ANT 2000

Section: 10070

Location: Online

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor Name: Dr. Elizabeth Ritter

Instructor Email: rittere@nwfsc.edu

Course Curriculum

In this course, students will learn the foundations of anthropology as the study of human variation in its biological, social, and cultural dimensions. Students will learn about anthropological concepts, principles, and methodologies to understand and explore past and present human behavior. They will apply the anthropological approach to analyze issues pertaining to past and contemporary cultures, and develop intellectual skills and habits to understand behavioral, social, and cultural issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives.

Course Goals

1. The goal of this course is to provide students with an understanding of anthropology as the systematic study of humanity: our evolutionary origins, our distinctiveness as a species, and our cultural diversity across the world and through time.
2. The goal of this course is to introduce the fundamental principles, concepts, methods, and theories of anthropology as contained in the four subfields of anthropology: biological anthropology, archaeological anthropology (archaeology), linguistic anthropology, and cultural anthropology.
3. The goal of this course is to foster an appreciation of the practical applications of anthropological research.

Course-Level Learning Outcomes

1. Students will explain scientific approaches to the study of human variation and human origins, including primatology, extinct and extant human cultures, language, and ethnicity.
2. Students will explain the origins of anthropology as a foundation discipline in the social sciences that examines the nature and definition of culture.
3. Students will apply anthropological concepts, principles, and methods to the scientific study of past and present human behavior.
4. Students will explain how anthropology incorporates multidisciplinary knowledge and perspectives.

5. Students will describe contemporary anthropological contributions.

Student Expectations of the Course

This is an online course. You will learn that anthropology is a four-field academic discipline. The four subfields of anthropology are described in the sixteen chapters and four modules of your textbook. Each of these chapters/modules has its own module in your online Canvas course. Each module contains the following:

1. an introduction
2. content (textbook pages, additional content information, and learning objectives)
3. an internet exercise
4. a discussion board (only five modules contain a discussion board)
5. a quiz to assess your mastery of the learning objectives
6. a summary

All assessments have specific due dates.

Additionally, there are four article summary assignments and four film summary assignments. Modules for these assignments are arranged sequentially throughout the course content, as they are associated with the subfields of anthropology. The summary assignments also have specific due dates that may be found in the course schedule.

This class does not have a weekly schedule. However, there are deadlines for assessments every 4 weeks throughout the 16-week semester. Deadlines can be found in the course syllabus. Individual due dates are also visible when you open a module.

Slow and steady progress through the course modules is the most successful strategy. Avoid waiting until right before the deadline to try to complete assessments.

Although this class is completely online, you will have the opportunity to interact with classmates through discussion boards and with your instructor by email, messaging through Canvas, and the comment sections of assignments.

How Student Performance Will be Measured

Student mastery of the content of this online course will be measured through a variety of assessments:

- quizzes
- internet exercises
- discussions
- article summaries
- film summaries
- midterm and final exams