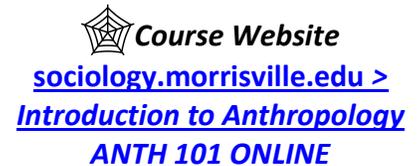


Syllabus, Fall 2020

ANTH 101



Introduction to Anthropology (Online)

Professor Kurt Reymers, Ph.D.

Professor Kurt Reymers, Ph.D.

Office Location: 205 Crawford Hall
(not present in fall 2020)

Office Hours: I will be generally available by email on weekdays (M-F) during business hours (9am-5pm). Please do not expect an email back immediately outside of these hours.

e-mail: reymers@morrisville.edu

Course Description:

An introduction to the study of human beings, ranging across the four fields of biological and cultural anthropology, archaeology, and linguistics. Focus is placed on human evolution and origins, development of human culture, and description and comparison of differing ways of life around the world. Emphasis on basic anthropological concepts of evolution, culture, kinship, institutions, globalization and socio-historical change. 3 credits, fall or spring semester. These credits will satisfy the SUNY General Education requirements for "Other World Civilizations" and satisfies any local Liberal Arts requirement.

Note: This is an online course. Regular Internet access is a requirement for successful completion of this online course.

Course Outcomes:

Anthropology is the study of human beings which employs unique methods and a holistic perspective. The chief goal of this class is to pass on the rudiments of the four fields of anthropology: cultural anthropology, physical/biological anthropology, archaeology, and linguistics. Using worldwide examples, the course will emphasize human biological and cultural origins and diversity. The expected outcomes of the course include:

- identifying scientific theory and methodology and how it is applied in anthropological investigation;
- demonstrating an understanding of the contribution of each of the four fields of anthropology to understanding human origins and culture;
- demonstrating understanding of what is universal among and what is particular about human beings (both biologically and culturally);
- comparing and contrasting anthropological perspectives of cultural relativism and universality;
- developing the ability to analyze competing theories of human origins and culture.

Reading on your own, participating online, taking notes, and completing all assignments on time should allow you to successfully gain knowledge about anthropology and obtain the specific course outcomes.

Required Texts and Materials:



Lavenda, Robert & Emily Schulz. 2018. Anthropology: What Does It Mean To Be Human, 4th ed.
Oxford University Press: NY.

Reading roughly one chapter a week will enhance your understanding of the topics of each weekly session.



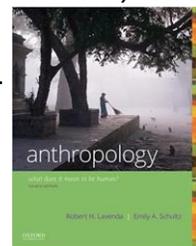
Electronic reserve media. Available on the course website (address at top of page).

These videos, podcasts and readings can be found on the course website and their consumption is required to supplement weekly topics.



A coursework notebook.

While you read, watch, or listen to your assignments, you should take notes on the most interesting and meaningful aspects of what you read. This will help you recall information when you need to answer questions on assignments, quizzes and exams.



Grades:

Group Discussion Participation (10% of final grade)

You will be asked to contribute to a weekly discussion* of the topics covered in class. Typically, a specific question will be asked to which you must provide a comment, critique, example, or some other original thought. Because viewpoints differ, please remember to keep conversation civil and avoid harsh critique of others' viewpoints.

* The "Discussions" area can be found using the links on the left side of the Blackboard page; click that link and then click on the title of the Discussion to which you want to add a comment or reply. You'll see a page of posts with the other student's names; to add to it, click on "Create Thread".

Online Weekly Quizzes (20% of final grade)

You will be required to complete timed online quizzes on a weekly basis during the course. The quizzes will be made available on the Blackboard website for the course. They cannot be made up after the day/time due.

Online Media Weekly Assignment (20% of final grade)

Each week, a reading, listening, or video activity will be put on the course website and you must send your answers to questions about these activities directly to the professor by email. These activities will relate to readings that enhance the topics from the textbook and/or other readings assigned in class and available through the course website. Answers should be completed individually. Online activities will be posted weekly and are typically due on Friday at 5pm. They CANNOT be made up after the due date. The lowest online activity grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Research Assignment (20% of final grade)

A written report on anthropological research will be assigned during the semester. The assignment is designed to enhance research skills and show your understanding of the themes of evolution and culture that we are covering in the course. The reports will be typed and sent as a PDF file. Papers will be graded on a letter basis.

Exams (30% of final grade)

Three exams will be given during the course, and there will be a final exam - study weekly with the schedule provided, use the review notes and web materials, and be prepared to get the most out of this largest portion of your grade. Exams will be rigorously timed and will be significantly longer and more complex than the weekly quizzes. Be sure to study ahead of time as you will not be given time to look up every answer in your book.

Grade Distribution:

10% of grade: Discussion and Participation

20% of grade: Online Quizzes

20% of grade: Online Media Activity

20% of grade: Research Report

30% of grade: Exams and Quizzes (10% each exam)

Grade Converter: (use for any assignment/exam/grade in my classes)

Percent / Letter / Grade Point Converter:

93 to 100+ = A = 4.0	90 to 92 = A- = 3.67	87 to 89 = B+ = 3.33
83 to 86 = B = 3.0	80 to 82 = B- = 2.67	77 to 79 = C+ = 2.33
73 to 76 = C = 2.0	70 to 72 = C- = 1.67	68 to 69 = D+ = 1.33
60 to 67 = D = 1.0	59 and below = F = 0.0	

Asking about grades:

I DO NOT USE BLACKBOARD GRADE BOOK. All your grades for this course will be available on the course webpage, by clicking the "Grades" link at the top and signing in with a password I will get from you early in the semester. Please refer to this page before emailing me with questions about specific grades on assignments and exams.

Class Policies:

- **Participation:** Students should make every attempt to participate every week of the course. Non-participation will flag you for individual contact by the instructor. ***You must have regular access to your Morrisville e-mail account, the Morrisville Blackboard page online, and the course web site*** (see top of syllabus), as well as have regular (daily) access to a broadband internet connection. Proper use of each of these resources will be vital to your success in the course. Participation will involve doing activities and exercises related to weekly topics. Your report on these sociological experiences will help define your involvement in the course.
- **Class Norms:** You are attending class in an online setting, but one required to resemble a college classroom designed specifically to help you seek knowledge. It is expected, just as in the face-to-face classroom, that you will be courteous and polite in your discussions and interactions. Trolling, phishing, spamming, hacking, doxing, or otherwise treating other students or the professor in disrespectful ways are examples of *unacceptable* class behavior. The class conversation online should take the form of civilized, logical argument or pose a relevant question, and should never show disdain for another participant's point of view, although you are welcome to define your own point of view. RESPECT for the online space of the class and its ideas and the exercise of SELF-CONTROL in posting is expected from ALL STUDENTS. If the norms of respect are not being observed (for example, if you continually post on the discussion board messages that specifically deride and abuse another person's opinion) the professor reserves the right to point it out and take disciplinary action(s) against the offender(s), including but not limited to asking you to leave the online discussion board for a week or longer (for which a grade penalty will be incurred). If you want a higher grade, recognize these guidelines and be thoughtful of others.
- **Internet Outage Policy:**
In the event of an internet outage during the course (particularly while taking a quiz or exam) that affects your ability to succeed in the course, you should contact the professor as soon as possible. If internet accessibility becomes a regular problem, the professor reserves the right to grade the student accordingly (*ut videre apta*).
- **Plagiarism Rule:** Academic honesty promotes continued academic and occupational success. Maintenance of academic honesty and quality education is the responsibility of both faculty and students. Any written assignment (including all electronic media) submitted by a student must be *original authorship*. Representation of another's work as his or her own shall constitute plagiarism. See the student handbook for more information.

Plagiarism means theft of intellectual property, obtained from a print or electronic medium. A person has plagiarized if s/he quotes three or more words in sequence from a source and (1) doesn't use quotation marks ("The quick brown fox..."), or (2) doesn't identify the source (what is known as "citation"). A person has also plagiarized if s/he records or cites ideas, information, or other material from a source that is not identified, or if the individual paraphrases information from a source that is not acknowledged. The penalty for plagiarism could be failure on the assignment, failure in the course, or even expulsion from the college. *Ignorance of these rules is not an excuse for plagiarism.*

IMPORTANT RULE ABOUT COPYING: In an online setting, it's tempting to "work together" with one or more other students to answer questions and complete assignments and exams. Please know that I have a keen eye and memory, and I have comparison software that can scan your assignment and compare the wording to other students'. IF THERE IS AN EXACT MATCH, BOTH/ALL STUDENTS INVOLVED WILL FAIL THE ASSIGNMENT (in the case of a first infraction; see plagiarism consequences, above). In the case of exams and quizzes, if answers to all questions match exactly or statistically too close to another student(s), both/all students involved will face a penalty.

Late, Make-up Assignment, Extra Credit Policy

Exams and quizzes: I expect exams to be taken during the preassigned times arranged during the course. Make-up exams (opening the exam portal online) will not be done, unless you make arrangements with me more than *24 hours (1 full day)* in advance of the end of the exam. If you miss an exam or quiz without making arrangements to make it up, you will receive NO CREDIT for that particular exam or quiz (In the case of medical emergencies, please contact me).

Online Media: You cannot make up *any* online media activities after the due date (typically Friday 5pm). There are no exceptions to this rule. Online media questions can be submitted at any time *before* the due date/time. Inability to access the website to complete the activity is NOT a valid excuse for missing an assignment. Be prepared to complete the activity prior to the due date.

Research Report: The research paper will be due as scheduled, but may be turned in up to ONE WEEK after the due date with a penalty of ONE LETTER GRADE (or 10 points on a 100 point scale), unless otherwise indicated by the professor. No written assignments will be accepted for course credit after the one-week late period.

Discussion Board: Your contributions to the course discussion board should take place during the week that the discussion assignment is given (by the following Sunday at midnight). Late discussion board contributions will be subject to approval by the professor and given half-credit if accepted.

Extra credit: I do not give extra credit assignments to individuals – any extra credit will be on a class-wide basis (and there is no guarantee of ANY extra credit assignments in any given semester).

Students with Learning and/or Physical Challenges

Morrisville State College is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the College's programs or services, contact Accessibility Services (AS) as soon as possible (asctesting@morrisville.edu, 315.684.6349). To receive any academic accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with Accessibility Services. AS works with students confidentially and does not disclose any disability-related information without their permission. If you wish to use their test accommodations for an exam please let me know the week before each exam. Doing this will help me accommodate you. All tests must be completed the same day and time the test is scheduled. Any other arrangements must be made by agreement between the student, instructor, and AS. Even if you do not have a documentable disability, remember that other support services, including the Tutoring Center and the professor's office hours, are available to help all students.

Starfish

This course participates in the Starfish Early Alert System (accessible through Blackboard), an early intervention system designed to enable academic success, student persistence, and graduation. When an instructor observes student behaviors or concerns that may impede academic success, the instructor may raise an alert flag that 1) notifies the student of the concern, 2) requests an individual contact to discuss the issue, and 3) in most cases, refers the student to the academic advisor. If you receive an email notification of an early alert, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss the issue. The purpose of the contact is to determine the severity of the issue, accurately assess its potential impact on your academic success, and to plan actions to prevent negative consequences and enable academic success. For more information about harnessing your success, contact your academic advisor.

Introduction

Week 1. *What is Anthropology?*

Aug 24: Purchase textbook and review syllabus/schedule
Aug 25: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 1](#) pgs. 3-10
Aug 26: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 1](#) pgs. 11-20
Aug 27: read Lavenda textbook, [Module 1](#), pgs. 21-29
 Do Group Discussion 1 – post an introduction in the [Blackboard Discussions](#) area
Aug 28: Do Online Media #1 - due no later than 5pm Fri

I: Biological Anthropology

Week 2. *Genetics and Evolution*

Aug 31: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 2](#), pgs. 31-37
Sept 1: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 2](#), pgs. 38-45
Sept 2: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 2](#), pgs. 46-58
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues and Thurs 9pm*
 Do Online Media #2 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Blackboard Discussion 2 – on Evolution – by Sunday

Week 3. *Primateology and Early Origins of Man*

Sept 7: Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 3](#), pgs. 61-74
Sept 8: Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 3](#), pgs. 61-80
Sept 9: Lavenda textbook, [Module 2](#), pgs. 81-93
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Do Online Media #3 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Group Discussion 3 – Primateology – by Sunday

Week 4. *The Origins of Homo sapiens*

Sept. 14: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 4](#), pgs. 96-111
Sept. 15: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 4](#), pgs. 112-123
Sept. 16: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 4](#), pgs. 124-139
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Online Media #4 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Group Discussion 4 – Last Human Standing – by Sun.

Week 5. *Review and Exam 1*

review: Lavenda textbook Chps 1, 2, 3, 4 and notes
Sept 21-24: Exam 1 – see Blackboard

Week 6. *Variation in Homo sapiens*

Sept 28: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 5](#), pgs. 143-152
Sept 29: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 5](#), pgs. 153-164
Sept 30: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 5](#), pgs. 165-167
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Online Media #5 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Group Discussion 5 – Race & Society – by Sunday

II. Archaeology and Linguistics

Week 7. *How We Discover the Past*

Oct 5: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 6](#), pgs. 169-177
Oct 6: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 6](#), pgs. 178-189
Oct 7: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 6](#), pgs. 190-198
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Online Media #6 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Group Discussion 6 – Archaeology – by Sunday

Week 8. *Domestication & The Rise of Civilization*

Oct 12: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 7](#), pgs. 201-213
Oct 13: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 7](#), pgs. 214-222
Oct 14: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 7](#), pgs. 223-235
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Online Media #7 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Group Discussion 7 – Human Civilization – by Sunday

Week 9. *Human Culture and Cultural Change*

Oct 19: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 8](#), pgs. 237-246
Oct 20: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 8](#), pgs. 247-256
Oct 21: read Lavenda textbook, [Module 3](#), pgs. 257-270
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Online Media #8 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Group Discussion 8 – Human Culture – by Sunday

Week 10. *Linguistics*

Oct 26: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 9](#), pgs. 273-288
Oct 27: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 9](#), pgs. 289-297
Oct 28: read Lavenda textbook, [Module 4](#), pgs. 298-301
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Online Media #9 - due no later than 5pm Fri
 Do Group Discussion 9 – Human Language – by Sunday

Week 11. *Review and Exam 2*

review: Lavenda textbook Chps 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9 and notes
Nov 2-5: Exam 2 – see Blackboard

III. Ethnology

Week 12. *Cultural Institutions I: Trade & Economics*

Nov 9: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 11](#), pgs. 337-347
Nov 10: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 11](#), pgs. 347-356
Nov 11: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 11](#), pgs. 357-361
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Do Group Discussion 11 – Trade and Reciprocity – by Sunday

Week 13. *Cultural Institutions II: Power*

Global Stratification and Political Organization

Nov 16: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 12](#), pgs. 363-375
Nov 17: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 12](#), pgs. 376-384
Nov 18: read Lavenda textbook, [Chapter 12](#), pgs. 385-391
 Quiz due on Blackboard *between Tues & Thurs 9pm*
 Do Group Discussion 12 – Global Order – by Sunday

Nov 23-28: Thanksgiving Break

Week 14. *Review Week*

Review ALL Lavenda textbook readings and notes
 (see final exam review sheet)

Week 15. *Final Exam*

Dec 7-10: Final Exam (see Blackboard)