

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
DIVISION OF HUMANITIES
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES
Anthropology program

AN101: INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY
FAÑOMNÅKAN 2025 SYLLABUS

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Office Hours: T 9:30-12:30, MW 8:30-9:30, and 3:30-4:00 or by appointment.

CLASS MEETINGS

M/W 9:30-10:50

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to anthropology: the comparative study of human beings. The basic principles of archaeology, cultural anthropology, linguistics, and physical anthropology are explored as they relate to the study of human beings and to each other as sub-disciplines of anthropology.

RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE

Anthropology has a critical role in the liberal education of undergraduate students. Our frequently humanistic, always comparative, and often ecological and evolutionary approaches to the study of human diversity are eye-opening. For example, students are asked to reflect on the limits of cultural relativism vis-à-vis universal human rights considerations. UOG students are enriched by these encounters with anthropological thinking and cross-cultural perspectives. For UOG students who may become leaders and professionals, Anthropology is a particularly relevant program of study, as it affords insights into humankind's past, present and future. For future teachers, businesspersons, government workers, health care providers, social workers, and other human service professionals, Anthropology has much to offer in facilitating the kind of personal growth that enables those who study it to function more harmoniously within multicultural environments.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR STUDENTS

Course SLOs	Program LOs	University ILOs	Core Foundations SLO	Assessment Methods
With successful completion of the course, students will demonstrate introductory-level knowledge and be able to apply the fundamental:				
Concepts,	SLO2. Utilized the concept of cultures as a fundamental organizing concept of anthropology;	ILO1. Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving ILO3. Effective oral and written communication ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in a democratic context ILO6. An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7. An interest in personal development and life-long learning	CT1. Applying the concepts essential to examination and evaluation argumentative discourse. CT3. Synthesizing information on order to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions. OC1. Developing and presenting material around a central theme. OC2. Using organization and language to effectively present material to an audience. Written Communication (all apply) Information Literacy (all apply)	Assignment 1: Making questions in anthropology. Assignment 2: Biological anthropology poster. Assignment 3: Test of Concepts. Assignment 4: Archaeology Quiz. Assignment 5: Anthropology Paper.
Theories,	SLO1. Understand the current issues and debates in the sub-fields of anthropology. SLO3. Articulate knowledge of the history and theories of anthropology;	ILO3. Effective oral and written communication ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in a democratic context ILO6. An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7. An interest in personal development and life-long learning	CT1. Applying the concepts essential to examination and evaluation argumentative discourse. CT3. Synthesizing information on order to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions. OC1. Developing and presenting material around a central theme. OC2. Using organization and language to effectively present material to an audience. Written Communication (all apply)	Assignment 1: Making questions in anthropology. Assignment 2: Biological anthropology poster. Assignment 5: Anthropology Paper.
And research methodologies	SLO4. Collect anthropological data according to generally accepted professional anthropological practices; and SLO5. Analyze anthropological data in both oral and written forms.	ILO1. Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving ILO2. Mastery of quantitative analysis ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in a democratic context ILO5. Responsible use of knowledge, natural resources, and technology	CT1. Applying the concepts essential to examination and evaluation argumentative discourse. CT3. Synthesizing information on order to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions. Information Literacy (all apply) Written Communication (all apply) Quantitative Reasoning (all apply)	Assignment 4: Archeology quiz. Assignment 5: Anthropology Paper. In-class activities and readings
...in the four-field approach to anthropology including archeology, biological anthropology, cultural anthropology and linguistics.				

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS

As vehicular readings, we will use a required READING PACK that you will be able to download from UOG Moodle System.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

The instructional approach will embrace a communicative and collaborative framework, with a focus on fostering inductive processes among participants. The learning journey will be facilitated through a blend of lectures, readings, exercises, videos, and discussions, empowering participants to take the lead in their educational experience.

Classroom lectures, a central component of the course, will be conducted face-to-face twice a week. If a student is unable to attend a lecture due to a significant reason, they are kindly requested to communicate the cause to the instructor. Active engagement throughout the course will be highly valued and factored into the final grade. Your participation is encouraged, whether it involves asking questions, expressing opinions, or sharing doubts and different perspectives. Your active involvement is integral to enhancing the overall learning sessions. Please feel free to reach out whenever you have questions or would like to contribute; your insights will undoubtedly enrich our discussions.

COURSE SYNOPSIS

1. INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS ANTHROPOLOGY?

22-29 January

READINGS: Strang, Veronica. 2009 "Introduction" in *What Anthropologists Do*. Oxford: Berg.

ASSIGNMENT 1: MAKING QUESTIONS IN ANTHROPOLOGY. (January 24) Since Anthropology is a science of questions the students will reproduce and will give examples of questions related to the four disciplines. This assignment will be conducted on Moodle.

2. EVOLUTION, COSMOGENESIS, AND BIOGENESIS

3-5 February

LECTURE: Online

READINGS: Kruger, Ann Cale. 2011. "Imitation, Communion, And Culture". In *Mimesis and Science: Empirical Research on Imitation and the Mimetic Theory of Culture and Religion*. Scott R. Garrels, ed. Michigan State University Press. Pp. 111-128.

RESOURCES: Movie: Becoming Human (Part 1)

3. FROM THE FIRST BIPEDS TO THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN HUMANS

10-12 February

LECTURE: Online

READING: Neubauer, F. (2014). A Brief Overview of the Last 10 Years of Major Late Pleistocene Discoveries in the Old World: Homo floresiensis, Neanderthal, and Denisovan. *Journal of Anthropology*, 1-7.

RESOURCES: Movie: Becoming Human (Parts 2 and 3)

4. LANGUAGE & CULTURE

17-19 February

READINGS: Salzmann, Zdenek. 2012 "Introducing Linguistic Anthropology" in *Language, Culture, and Society: An Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology*. Fifth Edition. Boulder: Westview Press. Pp. 1-16.

RESOURCES: A World of Gestures: Culture and Nonverbal Communication

5. ASSIGNMENT 2: BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY POSTER PRESENTATIONS

24 February-5 March

6. CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY: MAIN CURRENTS AND PROBLEMS

10-12 March

READING: Sterk, Claire E. 2007. "Fieldwork on Prostitution in the Era of Aids." P. 130-137 in *Applying Anthropology: An Introductory Reader*, eds. Aaron Podolefsky and Peter J. Brown. 8 ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

RESOURCE: Awareness

7. RELIGION AND MAGIC

24-26 March

READINGS: Strathern, Andrew. 1982 "Witchcraft, greed, cannibalism and Death: some related themes from the New Guinea Highlands" in Bloch, M., and J.P. Parry, *Death and the Regeneration of Life*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ Pr. Pp. 111-133.

RESOURCE: Spirit Doctors

8. MYTHOLOGY AND RITUAL

31 March – 2 April

READINGS: Girard, René. 1986. "The Gods, the Dead, the Sacred, and Sacrificial Substitution." In *Violence and the Sacred*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press. Pp. 250-273.

RESOURCE: The land has eyes.

9. GENDER AND SEXUALITY

7 March

READINGS: Groes-Green, Christian. 2013. "To Put Men in a Bottle": Eroticism, Kinship, Female Power, and Transactional Sex in Maputo, Mozambique". *American Ethnologist* 40(1): 102–117.

RESOURCES: Four Wives and One Husband - Polygamy in Iran

10. HEALTH AND MEDICINE

9-14 April

READINGS: Campbell, D. (2011). "Anthropology's Contribution to Public Health Policy Development". *McGill Journal of Medicine: MJM*, 13(1).

RESOURCES: From Our Strength: Birth and Indigenous Politics in Cañar, Ecuador

11. FAMILY & KINSHIP

16–21 April

READINGS: Menchu, Rigoberta 1992 "Birth Ceremonies". In *One World, Many Cultures*. Stuart Hirschberg, ed. Pp. 49–59. New York: Macmillan Pub. Co.

ASSIGNMENT 3: TEST ON CONCEPTS OF LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY. April 15 (Preparation) April 17 Test, 2024.

12. ARCHAEOLOGY: DEFINITION AND METHODOLOGY

23 – 28 April

READINGS: Bayman, James, and Miriam Stark. 2000. "Defining Archeology." Pp. 3-5. In *Exploring the Past. Readings in Archeology*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press

RESOURCES: What is Archaeology?

13. ARCHEOLOGY IN GUAM AND MICRONESIA

30 April – May 5

READINGS: Carson, Mike T. *First Settlement of Remote Oceania: Earliest Sites in the Mariana Islands*. Springer Briefs in Archaeology. New York: Springer, 2014. Pp. 135-147.

ASSIGNMENT 4: ARCHEOLOGY QUIZ, May 12, 2025.

ASSIGNMENT 5: ANTHROPOLOGY PAPER. Complete a 2,000-word written assignment on capturing the participant's personal experience within the course. The paper should incorporate a comprehensive overview of the lecture materials. Submission deadline: May 14, 2025.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance in the lectures is required to pass this course. If, without any explanation, a student misses classes for three weeks consecutively, the lecturer may assume they have withdrawn from the course. Please email your lecturer if you are absent due to illness or any other reason. You will find me sympathetic to communication.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR GRADING

Assignment 1: Making questions in anthropology.

Classwork

Since anthropology is a science of questions the students will reproduce and will give examples of questions related to the four disciplines.

Assignment 2: Biological anthropology poster.

Class presentation

Students in groups will adopt a hominid or homo skull and will present its characteristics in a poster together with a model of evolution.

Assignment 3: Test on concepts of linguistic and cultural anthropology.

Classwork

A quiz will be given to evaluate the comprehension and acquisition of main key concepts presented and prepared during course lectures and discussions.

Assignment 4: Archeology quiz.

Classwork

A short quiz will be given to the participants to affirm the main definitions, techniques, and theories in the archeological field.

Assignment 5: Anthropology Paper.

Submit to the instructor.

Participants should create a 2,000-word written assignment on capturing the student's personal experience within the course. The paper should incorporate a comprehensive overview of the lecture materials.

GRADE ALLOCATION

ASSIGNMENT 1: MAKING QUESTIONS IN ANTHROPOLOGY.	5%
ASSIGNMENT 2: BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY POSTER.	20%
ASSIGNMENT 3: TEST OF CONCEPTS	30%
ASSIGNMENT 4: ARCHEOLOGY QUIZ	10%
ASSIGNMENT 5: ANTHROPOLOGY PAPER	20%
READINGS, TEXTS, AND ATTENDANCE	15%

The final grade awarded appears as a letter:

A+	98-100	Outstanding
A	93-97	
A-	90-92	
B+	89-87	Good
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Adequate
C	70-76	
D	60-69	Deficient
F	<60	Failure

ASSIGNMENT CRITERIA

Assignment grades are based on the student's ability to demonstrate their knowledge of the set literature, films, and lecture materials. Each assignment **MUST** directly relate to the course materials (readings and films) or it will be considered **IRRELEVANT** and may receive an "F" grade. Essays must include a list of references discussed in the body of the essay, and these references should be drawn from the course materials. Additional materials discussed outside of the AN101 curriculum may earn some extra credit if deemed appropriate; however, extra materials should not replace but accompany a discussion of the readings provided.

PLAGIARISM

The UOG Student Handbook prohibits plagiarism. I personally will not tolerate it. In this class, evidence of plagiarism in any assignment will result in an F grade for the whole course, and possibly a hearing at the Student Discipline Committee. Review handout on how to avoid plagiarism.

ADA Accommodation Services

The University is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community free of all forms of discrimination and harassment in all programs, activities, and employment practices as required by Title VII and Title IX and other applicable statutes and policies. If you experience harassment or discrimination, report it immediately to the Director of EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office, at 671-735-2244, 671-735-2971, TOD 671-735-2243 or eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu. For immediate assistance in an emergency call 911.

For individuals covered under the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), if you are a student with a disability requiring academic accommodation(s), please contact the Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations Office to discuss your confidential request. Please provide an accommodation letter from the Disability Support Services/Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodation counselor. To register for academic accommodations, please contact or visit the Student Center, Rotunda office #6, disabilitysu000rt@triton.uog.edu, or telephone/(TDD) 671-735-2460.

For applicants or employees with a disability requiring employment or workplace accommodation(s), please contact the Director of EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office to discuss your specific needs. Please provide documentation concerning your disability and the need for employment or workplace accommodation. Our office is located at the Iya Hami Hall, Dorm 2, right side entrance, first floor, Room 104, and our contact numbers are indicated above.

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