

Welcome to:

General Anthropology
ANT 2000

Summer B 2009

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 10:00- 11:50 AM

Room: BA 0119

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**Professor: Joanna Mishtal, Ph.D.**

**Office Hours & Location:** Mon. and Wed., 12:30 – 1:30 pm

**E-mail:** [jmishtal@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:jmishtal@mail.ucf.edu) (preferred contact method)

**Phone:** (407) 823-3797  
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Course Description and Objectives:

This course is designed to introduce undergraduate students to anthropology and its traditional four subfields: cultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, biological anthropology, and archaeology. The content will also include an introduction to anthropological research methods. The concepts introduced in class will be grounded in cases from non-Western and Western societies, and whenever possible, we will make connections to present day global political, cultural, and economic concerns. The class schedule emphasizes cultural and medical anthropology, meant to capitalize on the instructor's areas of research. Some classes will be taught by other anthropology faculty who will deliver guest lectures on topics specific to their specializations. Readings for the course will include articles and book chapters, which will be augmented by visual representation of the content through films and videos.

Class Objectives:

By the end of the course students will:

- understand anthropological approaches to the study of human diversity
- gain a broader perspective on the concepts of culture, gender, race, class, and sexuality
- understand the concept of evolution and the biological origins of humans
- gain a basic understanding of archaeology and the study of material cultural remains
- gain a basic understanding of the function of language in the context of culture

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**Expectations:**

I hope that you will want to attend this class and that you will be eager to participate in discussions whenever possible. If it is particularly difficult for you to speak up in class I invite you to my office hours to discuss any of the topics in a smaller, less intimidating setting.

Students are expected to attend all lectures and films, and take notes on lectures, films, class discussions, and the assigned readings. Students are expected to read all of the material assigned for each class and be prepared to discuss it. If you attend classes, take thorough notes, and do the readings and assignments seriously, you should do very well in this class.

**If you miss a class,** ask to borrow a fellow student's notes because lectures will not always cover the same material as the reading for that day.

**Academic Integrity:** I adhere to academic honesty rules of this and other universities and expect you to do your own work; cheating on exams or plagiarism is unacceptable and will carry serious consequences. In the case of cheating or plagiarism there will be a zero given for the course.

**Respectful Behavior:** Students are expected to maintain a respectful demeanor in all class discussions and interactions with other students, professor, and guest speakers. Any inappropriate behavior will be reflected in the final grade.

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Students with disabilities who may need special academic accommodations should discuss options with the professor during the first week of class. To receive accommodations students must first register with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371. For further information please see: http://www.sds.ucf.edu/Student_Handbook/default.htm, or email sds@mail.ucf.edu.

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**Grading Policy:**

**Final Exam Date:** Do not plan to leave town before this examination – students cannot pass this class if they miss the final examination.

**Punctuality** is expected for all exams and quizzes. Any student who arrives after the first student who completed the test left the room, will not be permitted to take the exam. Students who miss the exam in this way will receive a zero for that exam.

→ **NO Make-Up Exams will be given.** If a student misses an exam, a zero will be given for that test.

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Examinations and Grading scale:

Exam I, Exam II, and Final Exam (100 points each)

These exams will each consist of 50 questions, 2 points each (multiple choice and true/false). Each exam will cover concepts from all chapters, videos, and lectures *since the previous exam*, i.e., these are not cumulative tests. **You are required to bring a brown scantron and #2 pencils to the exam.**

Grading scale:

- 93 and higher = A
- 90-92 = A-
- 87-89: B+
- 83-86 = B
- 80-82 = B-
- 77-79 = C+
- 73-76 = C
- 70-72 = C-
- 67-69 = D+
- 63-66 = D
- 60-62 = D-
- 59 and below = F

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**Required Texts (and where you can find them):**

This course does not require a textbook. Instead, a series of articles and book chapters will be required for this course. All texts will be available in PDF form on our course website in Webcourses@ UCF for students to download and print. Students are required to download all texts for this course *at the start of the semester*.

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Required Documentary and Ethnographic Films:

Students are required to see all films and videos shown in class and stay alert for the duration of the showing. Titles of films will be provided in class.

Course Schedule

WEEK 1:

Mon, 6/29 – Syllabus and Overview of Class. Accessing the required readings.

Tue, 6/30 – Anthropological research methods.

Read: Bohannon, Laura. "Shakespeare in the Bush." *Natural History* 75 (1966):28-33.

Wed, 7/1 – Cultural Anthropology: American anthropology - Frantz Boas and Margaret Mead

Read the following 3 websites:

http://anthropology.usf.edu/women/mead/margaret_mead.htm,

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franz_Boas, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruth_Benedict

Film: "The Shackles of Tradition" and "Margaret Mead: Taking Note"

Thur, 7/2 – Cultural Anthropology: Gender diversity and variance – Samoa.

Read: Schmidt, Johanna. "Paradise lost? Social Change and Fa'afafine in Samoa." *Current Sociology*, 2003, vol. 51(3/4). Pg. 417-432.

Film: "Paradise Bent"

WEEK 2:

Mon, 7/6 – Cultural Anthropology: Cultural Materialism – Papua New Guinea.

Read: "Pig Lovers and Pig Haters." In: Good to Eat: Riddles of Food and Culture. 1985

Film: "Ongka's Big Moka"

Tue, 7/7 – Cultural Anthropology: Globalization and the !Kung of the Kalahari, Africa.

Read: Shostak, Marjorie. "Introduction," pp. 1-7, and "Taking Lovers," pp. 265-288. In: Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman. 1981.

Film: "N!ai: The Story of Kung Woman"

Wed, 7/8 – Wrap up of the section and review for Exam I

Thur, 7/9 – **Examination I**

WEEK 3:

Mon, 7/13 – Archaeology: Guest Speaker – Professor Pete Sinelli, "Archaeology of the South-Eastern Bahamas"

Tue, 7/14 – Archaeology: Guest Speaker - Dr. John Walker

Wed, 7/15 – Applied/Public Interest Anthropology: Guest Speaker - Lauren Novak, MA Candidate, "Forensic Anthropology"

Thur, 7/16 – Linguistic Anthropology: Language and Culture

Film: "Technology – The Web and World English"

WEEK 4:

Mon, 7/20 – Linguistic Anthropology: Writing, Literacy and Power – Indigenous language extinction
Film: “Voices of the world”

Tue, 7/21 – Linguistic Anthropology: Human and Primate Communication
Film: “Koko” – Nature Series

Wed, 7/22 – Wrap up of the section and review for Exam II

Thur, 7/23 – **Examination II**

WEEK 5:

Mon, 7/27 – Biological Anthropology: Guest Speaker - Dr. Libby Cowgill

Tue, 7/28 – Biological Anthropology: Guest Speaker - Dr. Libby Cowgill

Wed, 7/29 – Biological Anthropology: Guest Speaker - Dr. Libby Cowgill

Thur, 7/30 – Biological Anthropology: Guest Speaker - Dr. Libby Cowgill

WEEK 6:

Mon, 8/3 – Medical Anthropology: Reproductive Health and Family Planning in China
Read: Fong, Vanessa. “China’s One-Child Policy and the Empowerment of Urban Daughters.” *American Anthropologist*, 2002, vol. 104 (4): 1098-1110.
Film: “Small Happiness”

Tue, 8/4 – Medical Anthropology: Reproductive Health and Family Planning in China
Read: Thurston, Anne F. “In a Chinese Orphanage.” *The Atlantic Monthly*, 1996, vol. 277 (4), pp. 28-41.

Wed, 8/5 – Wrap up of the section and review for Final Exam

Thur, 8/6 – **Final Examination**

~~~ *Have a nice break!* ~~~