

CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School Of Arts & Science
Social Sciences Department

Anth 104 Introduction to Anthropology

Winter 2004

1. Instructor Information

Instructor: Nicole Kilburn, M.A.

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2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Knowledge outcomes:

- Discuss the trends in human evolution and the role of natural selection
- Understand the relationship among culture, biology and environment in examining human health and disease
- Understand the importance of archaeological investigation to modern society
- Recognize and explain to others that our culture constructs our realities so that social inequality, for example, is a human invention
- Identify key features of language

Skills outcomes:

- Debate issues of human biology, society and history using anthropological evidence
- Critically evaluate evidence used to explain the human past and present

Attitude outcomes:

- Address ethnocentrism as a barrier to understanding other cultures
- Acquire a tolerance of and respect for cultural and biological diversity
- Gain an appreciation of the contributions of the anthropological approach to our understanding of human history

3. Required Materials

(a) Text: Park, Michael Alan
2003 *Introducing Anthropology: An Integrated Approach* (2nd edition).
California: Mayfield Publishing Company.

(b) Required readings on reserve in Library

*** none of these readings are very long and they should be interesting! ***

Bodley, John

1998 *The Price of Progress. From: Victims of Progress.* California: Mayfield Publishing

Chagnon, Napoleon

1992 *Doing Fieldwork Among the Yanomamo.* From: *Yanomamo: The Fierce People* by
Napoleon Chagnon, fourth edition, pp. 5-31. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.

Diamond, Jared

2002 *The Saltshaker's Curse.* In *Physical Anthropology 02/03 Annual Editions, Eleventh
Edition.* Elvio Angeloni editor, Pp. 21-25. McGraw-Hill/Duskin Publishing.

Goodman, Alan H. and George J. Armelagos

2001 *Disease and Death at Dr. Dickson's Mounds.* In *Applying Anthropology: An
Introductory Reader*, 6th edition. Aaron Podolefsky and Peter J. Brown, eds. Pp.83-
87. California: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Gordon, Peter

2004 *Numerical Cognition Without Words; Evidence from Amazonia.* *Science* 15
October 2004; 306: 496-499.

Kilbride, Philip

2001 *African Polygyny; Family Values and Contemporary Changes.* In *Applying
Anthropology: An Introductory Reader*, 6th edition. Aaron Podolefsky and Peter J.
Brown, eds. pp.209-217. California: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Lee, Richard Borshay

1969 *Eating Christmas in the Kalahari.* *Natural History* 78:10.

Miner, Horace

1956 *Body Ritual Among the Nacirema.* *American Anthropologist* 58:3.
(This article can be found at <http://www.msu.edu/~jdowell/miner.html>)

Nelson, Richard

1993 *Understanding Eskimo Science.* *Audobon* September/October.

Sterk, Clair E.

2001 *Tricking and Tripping: Fieldwork on Prostitution in the Era of AIDS.* In *Applying
Anthropology: An Introductory Reader*, 6th edition. Aaron Podolefsky and Peter J.
Brown, eds. Pp.128-135. California: Mayfield Publishing Company.

4. Basis of Student Assessment

(a) Exams : 75%

There will be three exams comprised of multiple choice questions and short answer questions such as defining terms or concepts and giving significance; listing characteristics or factors in point form; matching. The exams are each worth 25% of the final mark in the course.

Exam 1 February 8

Exam 2 March 15

Exam 3 written during the College exam period (the final is NOT cumulative)

All exams must be written to successfully complete Anthropology 104. Exams must be written **at the scheduled times**. In the case of illness, a medical certificate must be presented to the instructor. There will be **no exceptions** without a medical certificate. If a make-up exam is scheduled because of illness, students must write the make-up exam at the mutually agreed upon time. Unavailability of texts or pressure of other work will not be accepted as excuses for missing exams or other assigned work.

(b) Assignments: 25%

Group Discussion: 5%

Each student will be responsible for leading one group discussion in the term, as part of a team. In the second meeting of the class, students will choose which article of the required readings they wish to read particularly carefully so that they can provide a set of questions (3-5 questions) to lead group discussion on the day the reading is assigned. These questions must be typed up and handed in on the day of the discussion. Marks will be based on quality of questions and the response from the group; this should make EVERYONE read the articles and be prepared to discuss in class!!

“Anthropology in the News” assignment: 5%

One of the interesting aspects of anthropology is that research is ongoing, and new results are reported all the time that help us better understand all aspects of the human species, from our evolution and social behaviour as primates, to piecing together the archaeological record. For this assignment, find one press release on any aspect relevant to anthropology and write a summary and commentary. Sources for finding these press releases can be newspapers or the online news sources listed on the website. Students will submit a copy of the article, plus a 2-3 page (double-spaced, typed) summary of the new research and how it relates to material covered in the course. The new findings may inform about some of the many debates in human evolution, highlight development issues, discuss linguistics projects, or present new archaeology evidence, to name a few. This assignment is due **March 29**.

Kinship Assignment: 5%

Anthropologists use complex kinship diagrams to record information about family relationships. To become familiar with the symbols and the mechanics of these charts, students will record their family kinship information in a kinship diagram. Specifics for this assignment, including relevant symbols and how to express particular kin relationships, are posted on the website. This short assignment is due **February 22**.

A Person Behind Every Product Global Awareness Assignment: 10%

In our complex economy, as consumers we rarely think about where things come from and how they make it to our store shelves. In an attempt to understand the interconnected nature of our global economic system, and the complexities that link producers to consumers, students will choose a product from a list posted on the website (available in the second week of class) and research the product backwards from the store shelf to its production and resource extraction. A short paper (5 pages maximum, typed, double-spaced) will outline the steps required for this item to arrive in Victoria for consumption, and consider the people at the production end of the equation. A list of items and details about this assignment are posted on the website. This assignment is due **March 8**.

BE FOREWARNED: Try to avoid handing in papers late, as you will lose marks!!! A paper will be considered late if it cannot be handed in at the beginning of class. ALL late papers will have 2 marks deducted. Papers will not be accepted later than 2 school days after they are due. This is a really stupid way to lose marks, and the course outline gives a lot of advance warning about assignments, so don't even TRY to dream up excuses!!

Please note: extra assignments **are not** available to students in order to up-grade poor marks from exams or lab work.

5. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%	B = 75 - 79%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 90 - 94%	B- = 70 - 74%	F = 0.0 - 49%
A- = 85 - 89%	C+ = 65 - 69%	I = See Calendar for Details
B+ = 80 - 85%	C = 60 - 64%	AUD = Audit

W = Official withdrawal has taken place.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-8

Course schedule: Class meets Tuesdays 6:00-8:50 pm

WEEK	LECTURE TOPIC	READINGS
1 Jan 10-15	Registration list and course outline; Introduction to the course	Chapters 1 and 2
2 Jan 17-21	Evolution and natural selection	Chapter 3; <i>The Saltshaker's Curse</i>
3 Jan 24-28	An introduction to Primates and the Human Species	Chapter 4
4 Jan 31-Feb. 4	Human Evolution: The Fossil Evidence	Chapter 5
5 Feb. 7-11	MIDTERM EXAM 1 ; Culture and Worldview	<i>Understanding Eskimo Science</i> (some terms can also be found in Chapter 7)
6 Feb. 14-18	Language and Communication: socio-linguistics	Chapter 11; <i>Numerical Cognition Without Words; Evidence from Amazonia</i>
7 Feb. 21-25	Marriage and Kinship Organization Kinship chart is due	Chapter 9; <i>African Polygyny</i>
8 Feb. 28-March 4	Subsistence Patterns	Chapter 8
9 March 7-11	Economic Anthropology; Patterns of Distribution and Consumption Consumerism Assignment is due	READINGS TO BE ANNOUNCED
10 March 14-18	MIDTERM EXAM 2 ; Sex and Gender	Chapter 6
11 March 21-25	Doing Anthropology: fieldwork	<i>Doing Fieldwork Among the Yanomamo; Body Rituals Amongst the Nacirema</i>
12 March 28-April 1	Introduction to Archaeology Anthropology in the News Assignment due	Chapter 10; <i>Disease and Death at Dr. Dickson's Mounds</i>
13 April 4-8	Biological and cultural human diversity Is there such a thing as race?	Chapters 13 and 14
14 April 11-15	Culture Change in the Modern World Review and Wrap up	Chapter 15; <i>The Price of Progress</i>

THE FINAL EXAM WILL BE SCHEDULED DURING THE COLLEGE EXAM PERIOD. DO NOT MAKE ANY SUMMER PLANS BEFORE THE DATE OF THIS EXAM IS POSTED!!