



**School of Arts & Science
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT**

**ANTH 104-001
Introduction to Anthropology
2008W**

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Instructor Information

- (a) Instructor: Nicole Kilburn, MA
- (b) Office Hours: Mon 1:00-1:45; Mon 4:00-4:30; Wed 11:00-12:30;
Wednesday 4:00-4:30 Thurs 2:00-3:00; or by appointment.
- (c) Location: Young 207
- (d) Phone: 370-3368
- (e) Email: kilburn@camosun.bc.ca

Website: www.kilburn.disted.camosun.bc.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the trends in human evolution and the role of natural selection in the evolution of our species.
2. Outline the relationship among culture, biology and environment in examining human health and disease.
3. Explain the importance of archaeological investigation to modern society.
4. Recognize and explain to others that our culture constructs our realities so that social inequality, for example, is a human invention.
5. Identify key features of language.
6. Use the World Wide Web to investigate anthropological issues.
7. Debate issues of human biology, society and history using anthropological evidence.
8. Critically evaluate evidence used to explain the human past and present.
9. Address ethnocentrism as a barrier to understanding other cultures.
10. Acquire a tolerance of and respect for cultural and biological diversity.

3. Required Materials

- (a) **Text:** Park, Allan M.
2008 *Introducing Anthropology: An Integrated Approach*. 4th edition. New York: McGraw Hill

- (b) **Required Readings:**

The following short readings are photocopied and on reserve in the Camosun College Library. The citations that are in bold are also linked off of my website.

American Anthropological Association

1994 *Statement of Ethics*. Accessed from the AAA website www.aaanet.org

Diamond, Jared

1987 The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race. *Discover Magazine*

Diamond, Jared

1994 Race Without Colour. *Discover Magazine*.

Griffin, Marcus

Ongoing blog posted on his website <http://marcusgriffin.com/blog/>

Lewis, Stephen

2004 *Africa's AIDS Pandemic*. Excerpt from a speech by Stephen Lewis for the Toronto branch of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF)

Miner, Horace

1956 Body Ritual Amongst the Nacirema. *American Anthropologist* 58:3.

Smeets, Rieks

2006 *The Intangible Heritage Messenger Special Issue: Endangered Languages*. United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization Online Publication
September 2006

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Assignments (25%)

More detailed explanations of assignment will be handed out in class and posted on my website for each of the following assignments:

Current Anthropology (5%)

An exciting element of the discipline is the ongoing research that regularly makes new discoveries that challenge our understanding of ourselves. Students will choose one recent discovery or research project in biological anthropology or archaeology and write a 3 page paper that summarizes the work and places the new insights within the context of the course. Examples and ideas will be provided in class and posted on the website. This assignment is due **February 6**.

Ethics in Anthropology Paper (10%)

There are many ethical concerns that structure the discipline of anthropology. These have been formally acknowledged in the AAA Code of Ethics, and continue to be debated as new applications of anthropology are developed. One such application is the use of anthropologists as civilian contractors for the US Military in Iraq, individuals who are deployed with platoons to help in the counter-insurgency and reconstruction efforts. Is this an enlightened use of anthropology or ethically irresponsible? Using the ongoing blog posted by Marcus Griffin (www.marcusgriffin.com/blog/), an "embedded anthropologist" in Iraq, students will outline the application of anthropology in this context and the bases for ethical arguments. This paper is to be approximately 5 pages long, and is due **February 27**.

UNESCO Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity (5%)

Students will browse the summaries of 90 masterpieces from cultures around the world that are presented in a pdf file linked off of my website, and choose 5 of interest to read and summarize in a short written assignment. This assignment should include a brief introduction and conclusion that unify the five masterpieces so that the paper makes some basic comparisons between the masterpieces in terms of their cultural importance, what threatens their continuation, etc... This assignment is **due in class March 26**.

Class participation (5%)

Classes are more engaging and interesting when students get involved with the material by asking questions and participating in group discussions. This mark is based on general attendance, which is passive participation, and overall active participation in class discussions. Remember that quality is better than quantity; I'm looking for lively, thoughtful class discussions and debates rather than talk for the sake of talk!

Please note: Students are expected to hand assignments in on time. For late assignments, 10% of the grade will be deducted per day, and assignments will not be accepted more than three days after the deadline.

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, and longer essay style answers. The exams are not cumulative, but keep in mind that many of the concepts are relevant throughout the class and may show up on more than one exam.

Exam 1: 30% - **Wednesday, February 12**

Exam 2: 20% - **Monday, March 10**

Exam 3: 25% - **Written during the College Final Exam Period**

Please Note: All exams must be written to successfully complete Anthropology 104. Exams must be written at the scheduled times. In the case of illness, the instructor must be notified prior to the exam, and a medical certificate must be presented. There will be no exceptions without a medical certificate.

Additional exams/assignments are not available to students in order to upgrade poor marks from exams or assignments.

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

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, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

Anthropology 104 Winter 2008 Course Content and Schedule

WEEK	LECTURE TOPICS	READINGS
1 Jan 7-11	Registration list and course outline; Introduction to the course	Chapter 1
2 Jan 14-18	The Anthropological Perspective, and its Utility in a Changing World	Chapter 13; chapter 14 pp. 356-376
3 Jan. 21-25	Fieldwork: What is anthropology research, and how do we know what we know?!	<i>AAA Statement of Ethics; Body Ritual Amongst the Nacirema; Marcus Griffin's "embedded anthropologist" blog</i>
4 Jan. 28-Feb. 1	M: The Anthropology of Primates W: Human Biological Development	Chapter 4
5 Feb. 4-8	Human Biological and Cultural Development in the Past; What biological anthropologists and archaeologists can tell us about ourselves Current Anthropology Assignment due Wednesday	Chapter 5 (human evolution) Chapter 11 to p. 280 (domestication of food resources to be discussed separately)
6 Feb. 11-15	M: Archaeology, cont... W: MIDTERM EXAM 1	No assigned reading
7 Feb. 18-22	Patterns of Production, Distribution and Consumption Part I: Subsistence and Economics	Chapter 9 ; Chapter 11 pp. 280-285; <i>The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race</i>
8 Feb. 25-29	M: Globalization, Complex Subsistence, and Sustainability; The View From Your Fork W: Kinship and Social Organization; the Ties That Bind Ethics in Anthropology paper due Wednesday	Chapter 6 pp. 132-137
9 March 3-7	M: Kinship and Social Organization; the Ties That Bind W: lecture topic TBA	Chapter 10; video clips viewed off of website
10 March 10-14	M: MIDTERM EXAM 2 W: Gender in Anthropological Perspective	Chapter 6 pp. 118-132
11 March 17-21	M: Gender in Anthropological Perspective, cont... W: Language and Communication: Socio-Linguistics	<i>Africa's AIDS Pandemic</i> ; Chapter 12
12 March 24- March 28	Easter Monday, no class W: Language and Communication: Socio-Linguistics Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage assignment due Wednesday	<i>The Intangible Heritage Messenger Special Issue: Endangered Languages</i>
13 March 31-4	Biological Diversity and the Concept of Race	Chapter 8; <i>Race Without Colour</i>
14 April 7-11	Applied Anthropology, and a Look Towards the Future	Chapter 15
FINAL EXAM WILL BE WRITTEN DURING THE COLLEGE FINAL EXAM PERIOD.		