

ANTH 1010.200/300 Introduction to Anthropology Fall 2021

“The purpose of anthropology is to make the world safe for human difference.” -Ruth Benedict

Course Information

Course Description:

Anthropology 1010 is an online introduction to the social science known as Anthropology. The course is divided into **4 Units** which will familiarize you with the human condition by way of each of the discipline’s four subfields: biology, archaeology, language, and culture. By participating in each of these Units, you will learn how *all* anthropologists utilize a **holistic approach** that considers human biology and evolution, history and prehistory, geography and the environment, language, culture and society, in order to understand how we are who we are and why we do what we do.

With an open mind to learning about others, we can also learn a great deal about ourselves and discover that even amidst such diversity, all human beings are biologically and culturally interlinked. This course introduces you to how people are the same everywhere- except when we’re different. And as Ruth Benedict’s point above shows - those similarities and differences are what this course all about.

What is Anthropology and What do Anthropologists DO?

Matt Elam, Glenn Close, George Lucas, Ashley Judd, Dax Shepard, Tracy Chapman, Jeff Corwin, Ursula Le Guin, Kurt Vonnegut, Michael Crichton, Zora Neale Hurston... any ideas what they have in common? ALL studied anthropology in college. Anthropology is often called “the study of the human experience”—the past, present, future, biological, linguistic, material, and cultural aspects of the human condition. It’s also comparative, because it surveys peoples and cultures all around the world to explain the differences and similarities in humans- their appearance, language, beliefs, values, and customs. As Lavenda and Schultz – the anthropologists who wrote your textbook say, anthropology addresses the fundamental question: **“What does it mean to be human?”**

Course-level Learning Objectives:

- Explain the significance & processes of human origins using key anthropological terms and theories.
- Describe our human past, from our earliest human ancestors to the development of cities and states.
- Evaluate the significance of key cultural and linguistic concepts.
- Establish connections between "meaning making" in anthropology and contemporary life.

Requirements

Textbook: Lavenda, Robert, and Emily Schultz. 2021. *Anthropology: What Does it Mean to be Human?*. 5th edition. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN **paperback:** 9780197534434. ISBN **eBook:** 9780197534465.

The course is delivered 100% remotely through Canvas, but the textbook is separate, and is **required**. There are a lot of ways you can get it- 1) buy a physical copy at the UNT Barnes and Noble, 2) rent a physical copy, or 3) rent the e-book on “RedShelf.” <https://www.redshelf.com/book/1697044/anthropology-1697044-9780197534465-robert-h-lavenda-emily-a-schultz> Because it’s easy to get this edition, and it’s the least expensive anthropology textbook on the market (believe me, I checked!) I’ll advise you against buying an older version. Class lessons in Canvas will refer to chapters and page numbers that are in the 5th edition.

Canvas: you will need to check Canvas regularly for class announcements, course updates, additional readings, and supplemental material!

Trouble-shooting: If you run into technical issues with Canvas, follow the procedures outlined under “Technical Issues” in the Student Success Guide on Canvas. Once you have a ticket number from the HelpDesk, email your IA, and cc Dr. Johnson. If you contact your Instructional Assistant and/or Dr. Johnson without FIRST completing this procedure, we’ll likely just redirect to this section of the syllabus and the matter will remain unresolved.

Minimum computer skills and digital literacy: This course defines digital literacy as the ability to use technology to find, evaluate, and communicate information. At a minimum, your successful completion of this course requires a basic digital literacy, where you must either know, or be able to learn, how to navigate UNT’s “Canvas” system, including posting discussion and assignments, or linking out the course to readings, watch required videos posted, or view films through the UNT digital library.

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course.

Your Teaching Team

Course Instructor: Dr. Jamie K. Johnson (*she, her*)

Senior Lecturer - Department of Anthropology

Office: 124 Sycamore Hall | University of North Texas (please note: all meetings will be held online)

Office Hours: Thursday 11:00am – 2:00pm [CLICK HERE TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

Office phone: 940-369-5403 (email is the best way to reach me) jamie.johnson@unt.edu

Course Instructional Assistant (IA) contact information will be available online. Make sure to find out who your IA is!

Communication:

- Use your Canvas or UNT email account to contact us and to schedule appointments.
- Include “ANTH 1010” in the subject line. Emails lacking this may not be answered.
- Emails are not text messages, even if sent from your mobile device. Be professional.
- Please allow 24 hours for a response. I don’t check email on weekends or holidays. I teach 4 classes; if you don’t hear from me in 24hrs, email me again.
- Set your Canvas notifications to receive course announcements. Check your UNT email account frequently.

Who to email:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ○ QUESTIONS ABOUT ASSIGNMENTS: | Instructional Assistant |
| ○ QUESTIONS ABOUT GRADES: | Instructional Assistant |
| ○ MISSED ASSIGNMENTS: | Instructional Assistant, and cc: Dr. Johnson |
| ○ MISSED TESTS/GRADE APPEALS: | Dr. Johnson cc: Instructional Assistant |
| ○ QUESTIONS ABOUT MATERIAL: | Dr. Johnson and/or Instructional Assistant |
| ○ ODA, personal or sensitive matters: | Dr. Johnson |
| ○ PROBLEMS WITH CANVAS (Broken links, Films, Canvas): | Dr. Johnson |
| ○ TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES | Student IT Helpdesk, and cc: IA / Dr. Johnson |

Both your instructor and instructional assistant will be active participants themselves in the course!

Assessments & Grading

Course Assignments, Discussions, and Tests: This class will require you to complete two (2) first week assignments, four (4) short written assignments, seven (7) short discussion activities, and four (4) Unit tests. We also offer an additional, optional Final Exam that you can choose to take to replace your lowest (or missed) test grade.

1. Discussion Board Topics: You will be assigned to a discussion group of no more than 25 other students. Group members are required to engage in discussion-post conversation with one another, regarding **eight (8) discussion board questions** which are presented throughout the course. Each discussion will be scored out of 10 points. There are specific rubrics in the discussions themselves detailing the point breakdown.

The general guideline is, for each discussion, you will be expected to post one short but substantial paragraph, and respond to (at least) one of your classmates' posts with a substantial response. If you ONLY submit your post, then your discussion grade will come out to be 60% (6/10 = D). If you follow instructions and respond to someone else's post in each of the exercises, then your Discussion grade will go up to between an 80% (8/10 = B) and 100% (10/10 = A). By substantial we mean that you say more than just "I agree" or "great article". You must explain yourself by referring back to the corresponding topic. You will receive feedback from IAs on these assignments to help you improve the content and analysis of your work.

NOTE ABOUT DISCUSSIONS: Discussions are NOT political/religious platforms. They are designed to demonstrate that you understand and can clearly and effectively articulate anthropological concepts and facts. You may certainly incorporate outside reading material or anecdotal information provided it is relevant to the Topic. Only relay personal beliefs or opinions if prompted by assignment instructions.

2. Unit Assignments: You will be required to complete **four (4) unit assignments** throughout the course, worth 10 points each. The first assignment will be a written debate about genetics, due the 2nd week of class. The other three will be film responses. Please read and follow instructions carefully. A grading rubric and writing guide will be provided under the Assignments tab. You will receive feedback from IAs on these assignments.
3. Unit Tests: Throughout the semester, there will be **four (4) Unit tests** which you will have 90 min each to complete. Each Unit Test consists of multiple choice and short answer questions over material within the Canvas topics, textbook readings, and films and is worth **up to 70 pts**. You will receive feedback from IAs and the Professor on the short answer responses.

Guidelines: Once you begin a test, you have 90 minutes to finish it. Do not begin a test unless you're SURE you can finish it. DO NOT wait until the last minute. If you choose to wait until the last minute, the test will automatically end at 11:59 PM and you will earn the grade you received for the answers you have completed up to that point. Similarly, if you begin your test after 10:30pm, and your computer happens to crash, plan on taking the Optional Final Exam to replace the grade you receive for that Test. Students are responsible for securing a stable internet connection prior to beginning any Unit Test. I DO NOT RECOMMEND TESTING FROM ANY MOBILE DEVICE!

Trouble? If you have an IT issue, you must contact the Student IT Help Desk before contacting the Instructional Assistant or Dr. Johnson. See "Technical Issues" in the Student Success Guide. Questions about the test material –including grade appeals –must be presented to Dr. Johnson within 3 DAYS following the test. If you miss a test

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or contact your IA or Dr. Johnson too late, plan to take the Optional Final Exam. All make-up Tests must be completed within 1 WEEK of the due date. No exceptions. **If you have a problem the day of the test, you can email me to “reset” the Canvas test, but you also need to include a screenshot of the problem you experienced,** and attach that to your email.

4. Optional Final Exam: The Final Exam is an optional, comprehensive exam worth up to 70 pts —you DO NOT have to take it. Should you score higher on the Final Exam than any previous test, then the Final Exam score will replace your lowest test score in the final grade calculations. If you score lower on the final than any of the four previous tests, then the Final Exam grade won't count against you. In other words, it can't hurt you, it can only help.
5. Core Evaluations: This class is part of the UNT “Core,” which means it has a short, required assessment at the end that measures your progress in “competency areas” that UNT figures are important (e.g.- “critical thinking,” “empirical skills,” “social responsibility,” etc.). These assessments are worth 8 points total.
6. Extra Credit Assignments: There are 2 optional extra credit assignments that will allow you 5 points each. One is the “Neanderthal” assignment in Topic 5, and the other is evidence that you did the “SPOT” evaluation for this course. Other Extra Credit may be made available periodically throughout the semester. Check course announcements frequently to learn more!

Points Distribution and Grading Scale:

Assignments and Discussions	Possible Points
Unit Assignments	40 (4 x 10)
Topic Discussions	80 (8 x 10)
Unit Tests	280 (4 x 70)
Core Assessment	8
Total: 408 points	

Calculating your grade:

Point Conversion to a Letter Grade
367 – 400 points (90-100%) = A
326 – 366 points (80-89%) = B
285 – 325 points (70-79%) = C
244 – 284 points (60-69%) = D
0 – 243 points (< 59%) = F

Course Policies

Academic Honesty: For papers and assignments, cite your sources, and do original work! This cannot be stressed enough. Students found plagiarizing their own or others' materials (incl. Canvas, the textbook, other books, journal articles, online resources, etc.), will first be given an opportunity to explain themselves. If it is determined that the student unknowingly copied work without giving proper credit, that student will be given the opportunity to re-write their assignment. All make-up work deadlines apply. If it is determined that the student knowingly copied work without

giving proper credit, that student will be given a '0' ('F') for that assignment and their previous/future work may be subject to additional scrutiny.

Assignments and Tests: ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS MUST be ORIGINAL. TESTS MUST BE COMPLETED ALONE. The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or collusion (helping others to cheat). Students suspected of any of these will be provided the opportunity for a hearing; a guilty finding will merit an automatic "F" in the course. For information on the University's policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, and especially the [UNT Student Code of Conduct](#).

Late Assignments and Make-up Work: Because all student work is submitted through Canvas, only students with University-excused absences are able to make-up missed work without penalty.

A University-excused absence for this course includes:

- 1) Covid-19 related illness
- 2) Lasting, non Covid-19 related illness, including concerns about mental health
- 3) Legitimate personal or family emergency
- 4) Religious observance (in which case students may be allowed to test or submit assignments early)
- 5) Other University-excused academic or athletic event

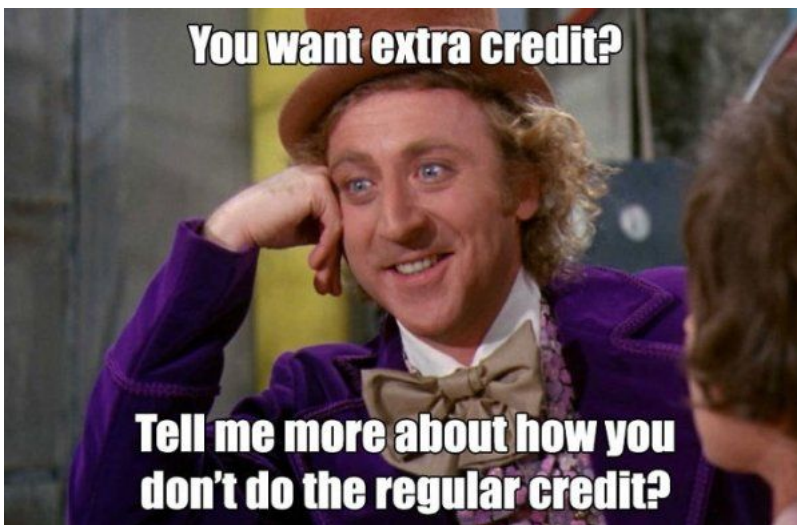
Unexcused Absences

- 1) Missing an assignment or test without emailing the professor in advance of the due date
- 2) Confusion about assignment due dates
- 3) Waiting until the last minute to submit an assignment or test (We can see when you log in!)
- 4) Work-related absences
- 5) Personal travel-related absences

IF you miss a deadline for any reason other than those which are excused, you may submit late assignments or tests up to one week after the deadline at the discretion of the professor *and* your Instructional Assistant.

1 day late = 1/2 letter grade; 2 days late = 1 letter grade; 3 days late = 1.5 letter grade; 4 days late = 2 letter grades; 5 days late = 2.5 letter grades; 6 days late = 3 letter grades.

Only one late assignment or test will be allowed per student.



How to be successful in this course:

1. Manage Your Time Wisely

You must stay up-to-date in this course! I recommend scheduling designated times to read and work on the assigned Topics and textbook readings, assignments, discussions and tests – and sticking to them. The course is structured so that everyone is looking at the same Topic and participating in the same discussions, every week. Each week, you should review the Schedule, read the Topic and Textbook materials, then complete the corresponding Assignment, Discussion, or Test. In particular, print out the schedule so you can carry around an easy-to-find reference.

2. Read the Required Textbook

Seriously. If you're uncomfortable learning from a book, or just don't want to buy the required textbook, this class isn't for you.

3. View the Required Films

In addition to reading the online Topics and textbook content, you will be required to view three films. ALL links to the films can be found both in the individual **Topics** themselves. First you login with your EUID and password, then the video will pop up. The library's Video-On-Demand page will also open in the background and display all the films that are available to you through in the Video-on-demand system. After viewing each film, you will complete the corresponding assignment or discussion.

4. Pay attention to class announcements or emails through Canvas.

And as part of this, make sure that your Canvas announcements and emails get forwarded to whatever email you use the most (like your UNT email). If I send an email out through Canvas, you need to make sure you're going to be able to see it.

5. Stay in touch with your Instructor and Instructional Assistant.

If you encounter a problem with getting things done or staying up, it's imperative that you stay in touch with us.

Always remember the core rules of "netiquette:"

Rule 1. Remember the human. Never forget that the person reading your mail or posting is, indeed, a person, with feelings that can be hurt.

Corollary 1: It's not nice to hurt other people's feelings.

Corollary 2: Never email or post anything you wouldn't say to your reader's face.

Rule 2. Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life.

Corollary 1: Be ethical. Don't google answers, cheat, or collude (help others cheat). This goes for behavior on any course-related Group Me App.

Rule 3. Know where you are in cyberspace.

Corollary 1: Netiquette varies from domain to domain, and even class to class.

Rule 4. Respect other people's time and bandwidth.

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Corollary 1: It's OK to think that what you're doing at the moment is the most important thing in the universe, but don't expect anyone else to agree with you.

Corollary 2: Post messages to the appropriate discussion group, and pay attention to others' posts.

Corollary 3: Don't ask your instructor, IAs, or other students questions whose answers are already on the course syllabus or in the class itself.

(Abstracted from Albion.com <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/book/0963702513p32.html>)

University Policies

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences: According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

Emergency Notification & Procedures. UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Important Notice for F-1 Students Taking Distance Education Courses: For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken online or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination, or other purposes integral to completion of the class. Current policies and guidelines [are available here](#).

ADA/ ODA Accommodation Policy: The University of North Texas and the Department of Anthropology makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. I personally go out of my way for physically and neuro-diverse students. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [Office of Disability Accommodation website](#). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment and Assault: UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more. UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs. This includes a Survivor Advocate. You can contact them [through this link](#), or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

Return to Learn - Important Information about Fall 2020 and COVID-19

Absences

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a higher rate of absenteeism is likely. Students may become ill or asked to self-isolate because they have come in contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19. While class attendance is expected, it is important to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. In spring 2020, Faculty Senate approved a COVID-19 impact on attendance statement to include in course syllabi. The statement was revised in July to align with newly adopted UNT procedures. Below is the attendance impact statement to include in Spring 2021 syllabi. It is also included in the [syllabus template available on the DSI CLEAR website](#).

Attendance Policy - COVID-19 impact on course participation

While regular participation in this course is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19.

Please contact me if you are unable to complete assignments because you are ill, or unable to take a test due to COVID-19 including symptoms, potential exposure, pending or positive test results, or if you have been given specific instructions to isolate or quarantine from a health care provider or a local authority. It is important that you communicate with me **prior to missing your assignment or test** so I may make a decision about accommodating your request for make-up work.

If you are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID-19](#) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are required in all UNT facilities. Students are expected to wear face coverings when on campus. If you are unable to wear a face covering due to a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Access to request an accommodation. UNT face covering requirements are subject to change due to community health guidelines.

Vaccinations

Vaccinations are critical to the success of our return to typical operations. UNT has implemented a vaccination campaign with incentives for students, faculty and staff who voluntarily provide proof of vaccination. All who voluntarily disclose will receive a prize and be entered into a pool to win large prizes (such as tuition for a semester, parking pass, professional development funding).

International students and incoming international faculty access to vaccines is varied. UNT will accept vaccines recommended by the CDC and/or World Health Organization. Anyone who has not received one of these vaccines will be asked to quarantine for 10 days and will be offered the opportunity to receive a CDC recommended vaccine. A list of approved vaccines is on the [Health Alerts Website](#).

Only those vaccines listed on CDC/WHO sites are approved for the UNT community. Please visit the [Health Alerts Website](#) for a list of approved vaccines.

UNT Anthropology Cares About Our Students, Our Instructional Assistants and Our Faculty and Staff <3

A NOTE ABOUT LEARNING DURING UNPRECEDENTED TIMES (adapted from Dr. Jason Tham)

The COVID-19 pandemic continues and so do the challenges and suffering of people in our own country and around the world. As we try to navigate, manage, and survive during these times of injustice, persecution, joblessness, homelessness, sickness and death we have the opportunity to come together in this class. We are a learning community and as part of this community our engagement as individuals who are part of this collective space should be guided by the following principles:

People are the priority. Educational institutions claim that students and teachers are their top priority, yet the holistic wellbeing of students and educators is ultimately demonstrated by actions and practices that clearly and uncompromisingly prioritize the people most impacted by them.

As participants in the process of teaching and learning we should remember to put people first by practicing the ideas we will learn about in this class with empathy and compassion. We must remember to engage each other with our minds as well as our hearts as *sentipensantes*, human beings whose humanity is deeply connected to our ability to think and feel.

Stay informed. We will seek reliable sources of information to stay informed about developments related to the pandemic and to local and global social injustices. We will use this to make informed personal and professional decisions.

Communicate and connect. We will communicate with each other often and will remain connected. This may mean experimenting with communication platforms that may be new to some of us. It may also mean changing platforms as needed. Please reach out when you have questions and when you need support.

Celebrate accomplishments. We will take time to celebrate and mark our collective class accomplishments and the individual accomplishments that are significant to you. Any kind of achievement during an uncertain time is a testament to your ability to persevere and our collective ability to do it together.

Take time to thrive. It is important that individually and collectively we take time to take care of our minds, bodies, and spirits. If you are not feeling well and are struggling to do the work for this class, **let me know so that we can come up with alternatives.** Do not push yourself beyond your limits; invest in self-care and self-preservation. Take time to do things that nurture your body, mind, and soul.

HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!