



University of North Texas
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Anthropology Department
ANTH 1100.001: World Cultures
TR 930a, Th 121
Fall 2019

COURSE INFORMATION

Welcome! I am very excited about this brand new (completely redesigned) class! This semester, we will be considering what it means to be human on a global scale. What that means is that we will work to understand the sociohistorical past, recognize cultural patterns that continue into the present, and begin to delve into social issues that connect our contemporary globalized world. But how do we choose where to start, and which cultures/societies to include? Unfortunately, we don't have international travel funds for the entire class and several years together to choose our next destination randomly. We do, however, have a map! We will follow the archeological pattern of human migration around the globe, stopping at key places along the way to learn about past, patterned, and preset lived experiences.



Source: <https://genographic.nationalgeographic.com/human-journey/>

Course Description: This course introduces key anthropological concepts and theories and applies them to: understanding the basics of what constitutes human culture; what shared characteristics human cultures have had across time and geographic space; what distinct qualities human cultures have; and the significance cultural diversity brings to the global landscape. To frame our survey of cultures, we will follow the geospatial archeological pattern of human migration around the globe, and then overlap a clear temporal context (i.e., archaeological pre-history; history; and contemporary society), so that we can better recognize the impacts of social power structures, like U.S. exceptionalism and global markets more generally, on shared hierarchical (mis)perceptions of cultures and societies around the globe.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify introductory anthropological terms and concepts as they apply to cultures & societies on a global scale.
2. Analyze and reflect on multiple perspectives of historical and contemporary cultural issues in societies in a global context using anthropological terms and concepts.
3. Increase sensitivity to major aspects and characteristics of social issues in a global context, causal and correlative factors, and associated issues influencing these issues.
4. Reflect on relationships between small-scale and large-scale social organization in a global context using anthropological terms and concepts.
5. Establish skills in discussing controversial issues with course colleagues, as well as anthropology students in universities across North America through the Community Action Project using anthropological terms and concepts.
6. Illustrate growth in written communication skills over the course of the semester.
7. Demonstrate improved critical thinking skills over the course of the semester.

Teaching team:

Instructor: **Dr. April Bass**
 Office: Anthropology Dept, 330E Chilton Hall
 Phone: 940-565-7913
 Email: april.bass@unt.edu
 Office hours: **M/W 11a-1230p** (and by appointment)

IA:
 Email:
 Office hours: (and by appointment)

IA Office location: Anthropology Dept, 308 Chilton Hall (behind Front Desk to the right)

Contacting your teaching team:

If you want to:

Ask questions about an assignment	Email your IA
Ask questions about grades	Email your IA, cc Dr. Bass
Discuss a missed assignment/exam	Email your IA, cc Dr. Bass
Ask about the structure of the course	Email your IA, cc Dr. Bass
Discuss course material	Contact your IA or Dr. Bass
Discuss personal information (e.g., ODA, life issues)	Contact Dr. Bass
Figure out technical problems with email or Canvas	Contact UIT Student Help Desk: http://it.unt.edu/helpdesk or 940-565-2324

Dr. Bass' Teaching Philosophy: I view college classrooms as practice for your future career. One of my goals is to emphasize the strengths of collaborative learning between all of you, your IA, and me. In the real world, there isn't a monopoly on knowledge, but collaboration, enthusiasm for life-long learning/innovation, and mutual encouragement. I am interested in learning about you, your goals, and how I can incorporate tools in the classroom that will give you practical application for your futures.

I understand working full-time while supporting yourself through college. I understand the first-generation college experience. I am here to offer and/or find support for any of you who chooses to seek it out. What I ask from all of you is early and genuine communication, as well as dedication to the work at hand throughout the semester - the same that will be required of you in your careers - so that our course will run smoothly.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Textbook: Spindler, G. & Stockard, J. (Eds.). (2007). *Globalization & change in fifteen cultures: Born in one world, living in another*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. ISBN-13: 978-0534636487

Additional readings: embedded in Canvas.

Canvas: you will need to check Canvas regularly for class announcements, course updates, fun supplemental material, and extra credit opportunities!

- Trouble-shooting: If you run into technical issues with Canvas (or if you need other campus resources), see the **Getting Help** page in our Canvas course.
- Navigating Canvas: If you're just learning Canvas, no worries! See the **Start Here** module in Canvas.

CLASSROOM STANDARDS

Expectations: UNT endeavors to offer you a high-quality education and to provide a supportive environment to help you learn and grow. And, as a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. Here's how to succeed at UNT: *Show up. Find support. Get advised. Be prepared. Get involved. Stay focused.*

As the instructor in this class, I am responsible for:

- providing course materials and guidance that will assist and support your achievement of the stated learning objectives,
- providing timely and helpful feedback within the stated guidelines,
- and assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone.

As a student in this class, you are responsible for:

- completing all assigned reading and activities of the course in a timely manner,
- working to remain attentive and engaged in the course, as well as interactive with your course colleagues,
- and assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone.

Attendance & Participation (see Canvas “Policies” for details): National and local studies have shown a direct correlation between attendance and grade performance. *Therefore, attendance is considered mandatory.* You are expected to attend class and actively participate in all aspects of the learning process; this includes class discussions, written work, and in-class activities.

HAVE ACCOMMODATIONS?

I’m happy to work with you! Let’s talk about flexibility.

- Attendance will be taken every class period (beginning Sept. 10th) through an iClicker review question at the beginning of class. **NOTE:** being tardy isn’t great, but I would much rather you come late than not at all.
- > 2 unexcused absences: if your absences are *unexcused*, there will not be a make-up opportunity for any in-class activities, which will result in a grade reduction. **NOTE:** excused absences include University approved absences, verifiable family or medical emergencies and/or illnesses.
- > 1 late assignment: after you’ve used your Oops Pass, no late work will be accepted.

ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Syllabus changes: assignments, schedule, and points outlined below may change to meet the needs of our class and the semester. *Stay tuned to Canvas often for any updates.*

Course Assignments: This course requires that you make the commitment to spend at least 6 hours a week reading the assignments, reflecting on the material covered, and participating in other activities outside class time.

1. **Attendance & Participation:** See Classroom Standards section above and the Policies section on Canvas for details. Active engagement in class discussions and attendance/participation on guest speaker days is essential. Let’s come to class prepared and ready to interact, so we don’t have to resort to pop quizzes!

HAVE ACCOMMODATIONS? I’m happy to flex with you! Let’s talk early about alternatives.

2. **Guest Speaker Reflections:** We are fortunate to have several guest speakers joining us this semester! For each one, you will be provided with a list of guided questions to assist you in writing a thoughtful reflection on your experience. By *thoughtful*, I mean that you include specific examples to illustrate your points, communicate your thought process clearly, and demonstrate your understanding of relevant concepts/theories.
3. **Community Action Project:** This Community Action Project allows you to actively participate in civic engagement and discourse with other anthropology students across North America through: critically thinking through a globally complex situation, researching and writing op-ed piece about it, and anonymously evaluating four (4) other op-eds about the same anthropological issue. The Action Period for FS19 is: **Oct. 28-Nov. 13 (total time ~2-3hrs).**

NOTE: there is a **\$15 lab fee** associated with this project that helps fund the Project, as well as *open access publishing* for the Center for a Public Anthropology publishing series. If anyone is unable to pay the fee, please speak with Dr. Bass about options.

4. **Article Reviews:** Part of your college career is becoming familiar with finding, reading, and understanding scholarly articles. Using library research tools (e.g., search and/or database functions), find **two (2)** articles that are both relevant to what we're covering and interesting to you. After selecting and reading the articles, write a summary of the article (500 words) and your critical reaction to it (500 words). You can find specific guidelines (as well as comments/feedback after grading) for this and other assignments in the rubric on Canvas.

5. **Exams:** There are **four (4)** exams for this class. The focus of these exams will be critical thinking/analysis. Structure: short-answer and short-essay questions. Two exams will be individual in-class exams, and two exams will be collaborative take-home exams. We will go over detailed instructions in class and on Canvas.

Points Distribution and Grading Scale:

Assignments	Possible Points	Percentage
Attendance & Participation	120	12%
Guest speaker reflections	150	15%
Community Action Project	100	10%
Article Reviews (2)	150 (2 X 75)	15%
Exams (4)	480 (4 X 120)	48%
Total	1000	100%

Calculating your grade: You can calculate your grade at any time by dividing the total number of points you have earned by the total number of points possible and multiplying by 100. *Do not email your instructor or your IA asking what your grade is.* We will refer you to this section of the syllabus.

Point conversion to letter grade
1000-900 Points (90-100%) = A
899-800 Points (80-89%) = B
799-700 Points (70-79%) = C
699-600 Points (60-69%) = D
599-0 Points (Under 59%) = F

NOTE: This schedule may be modified as needed during the semester. If and when modifications are made, you will be notified in a timely manner in class & through Canvas.

TENTATIVE Schedule	
Week & Dates	Migration Outline (See detailed themes/topics on Canvas)
Wk 1: 8.27/29	Introduction to course & Anthropology
Wk 2: 9.3/5	East Africa: Cradle of Humankind?
Wk 3: 9.10/12	West & South Africa: Intracontinental migration
Wk 4: 9.17/19	Arabian Peninsula: Out of Africa, pt. 1
Wk 5: 9.24/26	India: Along the coastline
Wk 6: 10.1/3	Indonesia: Waterways
Wk 7: 10.8/10	Australia: Sea-voyaging
Wk 8: 10.15/17	Middle East: Out of Africa, pt. 2
Wk 9: 10.22/24	Central Asia & Steppe: New understandings
Wk 10: 10.29/31	East Asia: Foundations
Wk 11: 11.5/7	Eurasia: Intersections, pt. 1
Wk 12: 11.12/14	Europe: Intersections, pt. 2
Wk 13: 11.19/21	The Americas: Changing theories, pt. 1
Wk 14: 11.26/28	T: TBA; R: National Food Day Celebration
Wk 15: 12.3/5	The Americas: Changing theories, pt. 2 & Review
Final Exam (Exam #3) Info: Thurs., Dec. 12 8a - 10a	

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity: 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.

- **Plagiarism:** It is your responsibility to understand what plagiarism is. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, see the UNT library guide at: <https://guides.library.unt.edu/plagiarism/home> and ask your IA *before* you turn in an assignment. Because I realize that we all have different backgrounds when it comes to citing outside sources, this course recognizes two categories of plagiarism:
 - **Category A:** Sloppiness and/or Ignorance. Failing to indicate (cite) where you borrowed material from and/or failing to indicate (cite) where quoted text came from.
Consequence: automatic letter grade reduction from final assignment grade without rewrite option.

- **Category B:** Obvious Conscious Plagiarism. Copying/pasting texts into your own work (instead of summarizing & citing); reusing your own work from other classes; using a classmate's work in part or whole from this class; buying or using a pre-written assignment.
Consequence: Automatic **zero** on assignment with option to rewrite for a grade no higher than a "C".
- **NOTE:** Any second instance of plagiarism will result in a **zero** for the course.

Late Work & Oops Pass: If you are experiencing illness, personal distress, family complications, or other life experiences that will require deadline flexibility, make sure to speak with your IA or Dr. Bass **early**, so that we can flex with you.

Everyone gets overwhelmed & forgetful sometimes, and there will be some flexibility for delays in your future careers, but there is also an expectation of personal responsibility. Everyone has **one** Oops Pass to use this semester on a non-exam assignment.

Details:

- To use your Oops Pass, let your IA know within 24hrs of the deadline that you will be turning your assignment in late. If you forgot about an assignment, then notify your IA within 24hrs after the deadline.
- You will have an additional week (7 days) to complete your assignment.
- Your final assignment grade will be reduced by 10%. If that assignment is a team assignment, all team members will have the same grade reduction (but the rest of your teammates will be able to keep their Oops Passes).
- After you've used your Oops Pass, no late work will be accepted.

If you miss a deadline and have a [university-excused absence](#) you must provide documentation with 48 hours of the missed deadline in order to avoid grade reduction.

Personal Distress: Excerpts from <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care> "The University of North Texas cares about our students' success, not only academically, but emotionally and physically.... Because of our commitment, we provide literally hundreds of departments and services across campus that respond to our students' unique needs." UNT believes it is important to foster an environment that encourages students to maintain a standard of responsibility for self-care which includes the ability to respond adequately to one's emotional, physical, and educational needs. If you are experiencing physical or emotional distress which adversely affects your ability to succeed in class, please see me as soon as possible. Together, we will point you towards the appropriate resources.

Basic needs – you can't learn if you're hungry: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable me to provide any resources that I may possess. **Dean of Students 940-565-2648.** You are not alone. We are here to help.

UNT Food Pantry: Any current UNT student in need can visit the Food Pantry 8am-6pm Monday-Thursday and 8pm-5pm on Fridays. Students will check-in at the Dean of Students Office front

desk in the Union, Suite 409. Students may go directly to room 366 from 5PM-6PM, Monday-Thursday. Students who visit the food pantry can request to meet with a staff member to discuss any difficulties they may be facing during the hours of 8am-5pm. When appropriate, referral to additional campus and/or community resources will be made. The *Dean of Students Office has established protocols that allow for student confidentiality and dignity to be maintained*. There is also a pantry located at the Discovery Park Location in the Engineering Library (M130) next to the Career Center. There is also a Food Pantry located at UNT's New College at Frisco, which can be accessed by visiting the information desk.

ODA Policy: UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. 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 a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students 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 ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

Course-specific addition: For anyone seeking ADA accommodations, please bring me your official "request" letter during the first week of class. In addition, let's meet early during the semester and often to make sure that this course is offering all possible steps to maximize your learning and engagement with the material.

Sexual Assault Prevention: UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Course-specific addition: 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: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0. Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT's Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. *You are not alone. We are here to help.*

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.