

AFRICAN AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH 3130 – FALL 2019
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Instructor: Kimberly Wren, Ph.D.

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Class Time: Tuesdays (6:00 PM - 8:50 PM)

Class Location: ENV 115

Course Description:

This class is divided into five sections related to African American (AA) Anthropology. Three classes will be devoted to each section. The five sections are as follows:

1. AA Archaeology
2. AA Biological Anthropology
3. AA Cultural Anthropology
4. AA Linguistics
5. AA Contributions

As evident from the above list, this course will explore the AA experience through the four fields of anthropology. We will also explore AA contributions to the American way of life and the ongoing battle for recognition, life, liberty, and justice in AA communities. The experience of AA will be filtered through the lenses of racialization, self-determination, and systemic marginalization.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course:

- Students should have a general understanding of the theories and methodologies employed in AA diaspora archaeology and AA archaeology. Moreover, they should understand how material culture is used to identify groups.
- Students should understand the role biological anthropologists played in racializing AA and the role race plays in biological anthropology today.
- Students should understand how cultural anthropologists contributed to the Civil Rights Movement and how their continued activism highlights AA resilience and struggle to maintain harmony in their communities.
- Students should have a general understanding of AA contributions to English in the United States. This includes understanding the origins of Ebonics, African American Vernacular English, Louisiana French creole, and Gullah Geechee.

- Students should be able to identify the contributions AA made to American culture, including their contributions to music, art, religion, medicine, science, literature, politics, etc.
- Students should know how to think critically and ethically about AA research and narratives
- Students should know how to identify credible resources and effectively use them in their own research.

Course Texts:

All course readings will be uploaded to Canvas for your convenience. There is no primary text for this class. However, a bibliography of books, chapters, and articles used in this course is provided at the end of this syllabus. These readings are subject to change. Changes to assigned readings will be made at least one week in advance. These changes will also be announced in class and posted to Canvas.

Course Prerequisite:

There is no prerequisite for this course

Course Structure:

The first session will be an introduction to the course syllabus, student expectations, and teacher expectations. In all future sessions, I will typically provide a lecture covering the topic of the day during the first hour of the class. Students are encouraged to ask questions and provide input during lectures. The second hour of the session will be treated as an open-ended discussion of the lecture, assigned readings, and discussion questions. During the discussion, a few members of the class will be responsible for leading the discussion and focusing attention on the purpose and main points in assigned readings. I will also assist in leading each discussion. I will delegate who will be responsible for each week's discussion during the first session. The last 50 minutes of class will be devoted research time. I will assist you all with gathering sources and editing your class paper. This time is not an opportunity to leave early. I will ask each student where he or she stands on his or her paper during this time.

Course Website:

All course materials, readings, and other resources necessary for this course will be available on Canvas. **All assignments, quizzes, and correspondence must be submitted to my UNT e-mail directly or through Canvas. Please use your UNT e-mail ONLY to submit assignments, quizzes, and correspondence.**

Evaluation:

There will be many opportunities for you to sharpen your critical thinking skills in this class. Your discussions, quizzes, and term paper will all require critical thinking. **All work must be completed using Microsoft Word, Times New Roman font, 12-point font, double-spaced, 1-inch margins (top, bottom, right, and left).**

Attendance: (15% of total grade)

As there are only 15 days that we meet this semester, **unexcused** absences will be counted against you. In other words, attendance is mandatory. Please communicate with

me if you are having trouble attending class. I cannot accommodate you if you do not communicate with me.

Class Participation: (15% of total grade)

Participation in class discussions is 15% of your grade. All relevant questions, input, and observations are welcome. I expect students to respect each other's input, whether you agree or not. I welcome challenges to any perspective, including my own, as long as they are presented respectfully. Your student-lead discussion will make up your entire participation grade. **Do not miss class on the day you are leading discussion! If you must miss class, let me know as soon as possible so that I can make future arrangements for you to lead discussion.**

Quizzes: (20% of total grade; due on Fridays)

Students will take four small quizzes during this course. Quizzes will be based on assigned readings and lectures. Please take these quizzes seriously, they are easy grades and make up the largest portion of your total grade. All quizzes are due on Fridays at 11:59pm. I will not accept late quizzes without prior notification or a legitimate excuse.

Topic Selection: (5% of total grade; due 5:00 PM on Tuesday, 9/03/19)

There are several topics for the term paper provided on Canvas. Students must submit their topic selection by 5:00 PM on 09/03/19. However, the topics covered in this course are not exhaustive. Students are encouraged to explore other topics related to AA experiences for their term papers. If you are interested in a topic that is not on Canvas, discuss the topic with me and I will decide if the topic is relevant to this course.

Annotated Bibliography: (15% of total grade; due 5:00 PM on Wednesday, 09/25/19)

Students must submit an annotated bibliography by 5:00 PM on 09/25/19. In an annotated bibliography each reference is followed by a brief description of the main point(s) and/or purpose(s) of the source being referenced. Each description must be between 100 and 150 words. You are required to use a minimum of eight **credible** references for your paper. We will discuss what sources are **credible** and what sources are **not credible**. **An example of an annotated bibliography is provided on Canvas.** I will devote class time to discuss any concerns or issues you might have constructing your bibliographies.

Rough Draft Term Paper: (15% of total grade; due 5:00 PM on Wednesday, 10/30/19)

Students must submit a rough draft of their 4-5 page paper by 5:00 PM on 10/30/19. The purpose of this paper is to develop your **critical thinking skills** by pushing you to analyze and think critically about the information you read regarding AA people. Your paper should include 1-2 questions or concerns related to your topic. Your paper should represent your own independent work. If, after reviewing your papers, I think it is necessary to have one-on-ones, I will let you know directly via email. **Do not wait until the last minute to write your draft. Your draft weighs just as much as your final paper.** I will give you all an opportunity to ask questions about your rough draft in class on September 10th, 17th, and 24th, and October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29rd. Your paper should include (see **political science example on Canvas**):

1. an introduction (your 1-2 questions or concerns go here),

2. background research on the topic supported by cited sources,
3. a discussion of how other researchers have addressed your questions or concerns (with supporting references),
4. your own speculations as to why your questions or concerns have not been addressed if they have not been addressed by other researchers (consider biases in research, dominant narratives, and intellectual power),
5. your own answers to your questions and the reason(s) you do or do not agree with how other researchers have answered your questions (**applicable to students addressing questions**),
6. how you think the concerns you present should be addressed (**applicable to students focused on concerns or issues**),
7. how addressing your questions or concerns might impact AA populations in a positive and/or negative way, and
8. how addressing your questions or concerns might contribute to a more holistic understanding of the AA experience.

Final Term Paper: (15% of total grade; due by 5:00 PM on 12/05/19)

Students must submit their final paper by 5:00 PM on 12/05/19. **Late papers will only be accepted under extenuating circumstances.** I will evaluate your final paper in light of the critiques I gave you on your rough drafts. If you address the issues I point out in my critiques, you will get a passing grade on your paper. **In short, do not ignore my critique of your rough drafts!** I will give you all an opportunity to ask questions about your paper in class during the month of November and on 12/03/19. If you need more time, make an appointment with me prior to the due date.

Final Exam: There is no final exam for this class.

Grading Composition:

Attendance.....	150
Class Participation.....	150
Quizzes.....	200
Topic Selection.....	50
Annotated Bibliography.....	150
Rough Draft Term Paper.....	150
Final Term Paper.....	150
Total Points.....	1000

Grading Scale:

900-1000 A / 800-899 B / 700-799 C / 600-699 D / 0-599 F

Course Policies:

Late Work: Late quizzes, bibliographies, rough drafts, term papers, and other assignments will not be accepted unless you have shown that there is a legitimate (i.e., medical emergency, loss of a family member, etc.) reason your work is late.

Attendance: As there are only 15 days that we meet this semester, unexcused absences will be counted against you. You will miss information vital to your quizzes and other assignments if you do not attend every class. See <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039> for the **Student Attendance and Authorized Absences** policy.

Extra Credit: Extra credit will be offered on some quizzes.

Misconduct: The **Code of Student Conduct** and the **Prohibition of Sexual Assault and Retaliation** are available at <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>. Review these sources for information regarding unacceptable and inappropriate behavior. Such behavior is not tolerated on UNT's campus and will not be tolerated in class.

Academic Integrity: The **Student Academic Integrity** policy is available at <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>. In short, cheating, fabrication, forgery, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and sabotage are not tolerated at UNT.

ADA Accommodations Statement: "The University of North Texas (UNT or University) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission, treatment, or access to its programs or activities, nor in employment in its programs or activities. The University is committed to providing equal educational access for qualified students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as Amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. In addition, the University is committed to making all programs and activities sponsored by UNT accessible, as required by the Texas Accessibility Standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines. To this end, all academic units are willing to make reasonable and appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies in order to facilitate equality of educational access for persons with disabilities." This statement and more information related ADA accommodations can be found at https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/16.001_StudentAccommodation.2018Pub2.pdf. In addition, students with disabilities who are seeking accommodations are required to register with the Office of Disability Accommodations (ODA). For more information visit the ODA website at <https://disability.unt.edu/> or contact the ODA directly at 940-565-4323.

Contacting the Professor: I am available on Mondays or Tuesdays by appointment and via email at kimberly.wren@unt.edu . All emails must be submitted from your UNT e-mail address. Please give me 24 hours to respond before you send a follow-up email during the week and 48 hours on the weekend.

Course Schedule: *Italicized readings are NOT required.*

DATE	DEADLINES	TOPIC	ASSIGNED READINGS
27 August 2019, Tuesday		Course Introduction	Course Syllabus
03 September 2019, Tuesday	Topic Selection, 5PM	AA Diaspora Archaeology & AA Archaeology: Theory, Methodology & Identity	Perry and Paynter 1999; Agbe-Davies 2007; <i>Ogundiran and Falola 2007</i>
10 September 2019, Tuesday		AA Archaeology: Identity, Racialization & Inequality	<i>Paynter and McGuire 1991</i> ; Bower 1991; Orser 2007 (p 1-14)
13 September 2019, Friday	Quiz #1, 11:59PM		
17 September 2019, Tuesday		Bioarchaeology / Osteoarchaeology	Roberts and McCarthy 1995; Watkins 2012
24 September 2019, Tuesday		Biological Anthropology and Race	Sauer 1992; <i>Gravlee 2003</i> ; Caspari 2009; <i>Giles 2012</i> ; Roseman 2014
25 September 2019, Wednesday	Annotated Bibliography, 5PM		
01 October 2019, Tuesday		Ethics	Cook 1993; Blakey 1998; McDavid 2002; Davidson 2007
04 October 2019, Friday	Quiz #2, 11:59PM		
08 October 2019, Tuesday		Race Riots, Racial Violence & Lynching	Brundage 1993(p 86-102); Karatzas 2018
15 October 2019, Tuesday		Anthropologists and Civil Rights	Haugerud 2016 (p 588-590); <i>Cooper 2016</i> ; Mensch 2017; <i>Maharawal 2017</i> ; <i>Maskovsky 2017</i>
22 October 2019, Tuesday		AA Criminalization, Confinement & Victimization	Curtis-Richardson 1997; Rhodes 2001; <i>Jenkins 2006</i> ; <i>Muller and Schrage 2014</i> ; <i>Richardson et al. 2014</i>
25 October 2019, Friday	Quiz #3, 11:59PM		
29 October 2019, Tuesday		Talking “Black;” Talking “White”	Gaiimo 2010; <i>Rahman 2012</i> ; Neal 2013; Wolfram and Waldorf 2019;
30 October 2019, Wednesday	Rough Draft, 5PM		
5 November 2019, Tuesday		Ebonics and African American Vernacular English	Rickford 2016; Rickford_Ebonics pdf.; Smith 2016
12 November 2019, Tuesday		Louisiana French Creole & Gullah Geechee	Dubois and Harvoth 2003; Klien 2011; Huggins et al., 2018
15 November 2019, Friday	Quiz #4, 11:59PM		
19 November 2019, Tuesday		AA Contributions to the Arts	Ruppel 2003; Squires et al. 2006; Rosado 2003
26 November 2019, Tuesday		AA Contributions to Science	Guglielmi 2018; Engel and Grant 2018
3 December 2019, Tuesday		AA Contributions to Politics	West 1993 (p 33-46, 61-67); Burton 1995 (p 17-27, 61-70, 75-84); Andrews 2014
5 December 2019, Thursday	Final Paper, 5PM		

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