Introduction to Anthropology  
ANT 2000, Spring 2008  
Tue/Thur, 1:40-2:55pm, Bldg 39, Room 1016

Instructor: Gordon F.M. Rakita  
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Phone: 620-1658  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday  
3:00 - 4:30 pm & by Appt.

Lab Assistant: Ms. Vicki Parman  
Lab: Building 51, Room 1210  
e-mail: Vicki.Parman@unf.edu  
Lab Hours: Tuesday & Thursday  
3:00 - 4:30 pm & by Appt.

COURSE SYLLABUS:
This document is the syllabus for my Introduction to Anthropology course (ANT 2000). As such it is the controlling document for the class. Below you will find most of the information you need to successfully pass this course. You are responsible for knowing all the information presented in this document. I will not accept any excuses that involve you not reading this syllabus and understanding its contents.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course is an introduction to the discipline of Anthropology. Anthropologists explore and try to understand humanity in all its biological and cultural diversity. To do that, anthropologists study people and their societies both in the present and from the past. They study other animals that can inform us about ourselves and how we may have lived in the past. They also study language and how humans use their capacity for symbolic speech to communicate with each other. Anthropologists examine all of these aspects of humankind from both scientific and humanistic perspectives. The goal of Anthropological research is a deep and rich understanding of who we are as humans, how we have changed, and why we are as we are.

COURSE GOALS:
1. To impart a basic understanding of the nature of Anthropology  
2. To explore the biological and cultural diversity of humankind  
3. To develop the skills necessary for critical understanding of Anthropological information.

COURSE BLACKBOARD SITE:
This course is accompanied and supported by a Blackboard website. Each students officially enrolled in the course will have access to this site, and all course requirements will be available on it. It is extremely important that you make sure you know how to access the Blackboard site and familiarize yourself with its content.

COURSE READINGS:
Each of the required readings for ANT 2000 will be posted on the Blackboard site as Adobe PDF files. Make sure the computer you are using to access the readings has the free Adobe PDF reader installed. Some of the files are large, so it is recommended that you use a high bandwidth connection to retrieve them. The readings are listed on the course schedule below and should be completed prior to the assigned due date. Completing the required readings on time will significantly improve your chances of receiving a high grade in the course.

COURSE “LISTENINGS”:
Additionally, students will be required to listen to various audio-clips available on the course Blackboard site as MP3 files. As with the required readings, some of the audio clips are large files, so you should consider using a high bandwidth connection to retrieve or listen to them. The due dates for required listenings are listed on the schedule below.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/GRADE DETERMINANTS:
Student final grades will be based upon three (3) in-class exams given over the course of the semester. No exam will be held during Finals Week. These exams will be worth 25% of your final grade each (for a total of 75%). Exams will test your knowledge and understanding of material from the course readings, lectures, “listenings”, videos, and other sources. Exams will be made up of any combination of the following; multiple choice, true/false, short answer, matching, and essays. Exams will not be strictly cumulative, but may require you to apply information learned in an earlier portion of the class to later material. Additionally, student will be engaged in six (6) in-class activities throughout the semester. These activities will take place entirely within the class period and will make up 12.5% of each student’s final grade. No make-
ups will be granted on in-class activities. Finally, students will also be given four (4) anonymous surveys on the
Blackboard site throughout the semester. Completing each of these surveys on time will earn students the final 12.5% of
their grade.

Grading:

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Worth</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (Feb 7th)</td>
<td>25.0% of Final Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (March 13th)</td>
<td>25.0% of Final Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (April 24th)</td>
<td>25.0% of Final Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blackboard Surveys (4)</td>
<td>12.5% of Final Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classroom Activities (6)</td>
<td>12.5% of Final Grade</td>
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</table>

No make-up exams will be given without either prior consent or appropriate justification. You must communicate to me
your interest in taking a make-up within 2 days of the exam date. If you request a make-up exam, be prepared to provide
me with documentation. Documentation must be dated, as well as relevant and specific to your excuse. Make-up exams
will not follow the same format as regularly scheduled exams; they will be essay or short answer exams.

Letter grades (for both exams and final grades) will be based upon the following categories: 100-93 (A), 92-90 (A-), 89-87
(B+), 86-83 (B), 82-80 (B-), 79-77 (C+), 76-70 (C), 69-60 (D), ≤59 (F). I keep my grade book in Microsoft Excel, and use it
to calculate and round off final grades. If you prefer for your grade to be rounded off by a different method than the one
used by Excel, then I encourage you to contact Microsoft Corporation directly and ask that they make the appropriate
change to their software and issue a version update.

As per my legal and ethical responsibilities to discuss a student’s grades only with that student, I can not discuss
individual grades via e-mail or the phone. You must see me in person to discuss the specifics of your grade. The student
handbook outlines procedures for students wishing to appeal academic decisions.

Any student found engaging in academic misconduct (as defined by the University of North Florida) will be
subject to appropriate disciplinary action. The current student handbook contains a detailed discussion of the
University’s policy on academic misconduct. Violations of academic integrity include; cheating, fabrication or falsification
of information or documents, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic misconduct. Students
may be subject to any and all of the following; academic counseling, reprimand, a failing grade for the assignment that
involved the misconduct, a failing grade for the course, and referral of the behavior to the Departmental Chair or
appropriate Dean. Again, the student handbook outlines procedures for students wishing to appeal the academic
decisions of the Professor.

The United States government, the University of North Florida, and I are all committed to guaranteeing a learning
environment in which reasonable accommodations are made for individuals with disabilities. In accordance
with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1999, any students in need of assistance or alternative learning
arrangements are encouraged to contact either me or the University’s Disabled Services Program office (located in
Building 10, Room 1201, 620-2769 Voice/TDD, 620-3874 FAX, URL: http://www.unf.edu/dept/disabled-services/).

Video/Audio/Photographic Recording: All course lectures are the intellectual property of the course instructor.
Unauthorized recording (audio, video, or photographic) of lectures is strictly prohibited and students who engage in such
recording may be subject to legal action.

Extra Credit: No extra credit projects will be available. The only way to receive a passing grade in this course is to
complete the course requirements. Do not assume that you can “blow off” or otherwise perform poorly on the exams and
then expect me to provide you with a way to improve your grade.

Attendance: Attendance to lectures is not mandatory; however it is necessary for successful completion of the course. A
great deal of the learning of this course occurs during lectures. In lecture, we will be discussing key anthropological
issues, concepts, and ideas. Lectures will be the only way you can learn some of the important information you need to
succeed in this course. If you must miss a lecture, it is your responsibility to make sure you find out the information that
you missed. I suggest you find a classmate at the beginning of the semester who is willing to share their notes with you if
you do miss a class (and vice versa). Do not ask me to provide a copy of my lecture notes or slides. Late arrival to class
is disruptive and impolite to both the other students and me. Therefore, I reserve the right to deduct points from your final
grade and habitual tardiness will result in a lowered final grade.

Participation: Participation in classroom discussions and activities is strongly encouraged and will positively affect your
grade. Lack of participation will negatively affect your grade. I will strive to create a class atmosphere that is congenial,
enjoyable, and relaxed. However, I expect all students to treat each other and me with courtesy and respect. All reasonable opinions regarding course materials will be acceptable for discussion and comment. No opinions or speech which discriminates against or is derogatory towards others on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, political affiliation, or disability will be tolerated. Students expressing such opinions will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. I reserve the right to re-direct or curtail discussions that diverge from the course goals or lecture topic. I am happy to answer questions about the day’s topics during my lecture (though I may ask that you defer your question till a more appropriate part of the class period). You are also welcome to e-mail me questions.

COURSE LAB ASSISTANT:
An advanced Anthropology major, who has already completed this course, will act as laboratory assistant for the class. The lab assistant is there to assist you in all aspects of this course. If you have questions about course information, lecture topics, the readings or listenings, or anthropology in general, you are strongly encouraged to ask the lab assistant. If you need advice about preparing assignments or studying for quizzes/exams you should feel free to contact the lab assistant as she has already successfully passed this course. The lab assistant will be holding office hours (as noted above) or can be reached via e-mail. Please identify yourself as a student of this class when communicating with the lab assistant. Additionally, the lab assistant will be leading classroom discussions and working in concert with the professor to lead class.

While the lab assistant will be assisting with the course, all official grading of enrolled students will be completed by the professor and the lab assistant will not have access to student grades. Additionally, although the lab assistant is an extremely important resource for students, you should not hesitate to see or speak with (or e-mail) the professor for assistance, advice, or for consultation about your grade.

E-MAIL:
E-mail is often the best method for communicating with me and I encourage you to e-mail me whenever you may have a question, concern, or comment. E-mailing me is also an excellent way for you to make sure I remember something. (I will often ask students to e-mail me so that I have a tangible reminder of what I might need to do to assist them.) Please make sure you identify yourself (full name) and which of my courses you are taking. If I do not know who you are, then I can not assist you. Make sure your return e-mail address is correct and operational. If my reply bounces, I will not try again. Use proper punctuation, spelling, grammar, complete sentences, etc. DO NOT use text-messaging abbreviations. If I can not understand your message, then I can not assist you. If you are writing an e-mail longer than a paragraph or two, then consider speaking to me in person. I respond to all e-mails as quickly as possible. In some cases this may take a day or two. Do not assume that I received your message unless your receive a reply back from me. Please do not forget that UNF e-mail is a public form of communication. As such, I do not discuss the specifics of anyone’s grades via e-mail.

CELL PHONES, PAGERS, & OTHER WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES: All such devices must be turned off during class periods. Students who require an exception to this rule may discuss the situation with me. Anyone caught using any of these items during an exam will be treated as if they are cheating.

OFFICE HOURS: My office hours are listed above. If you need to meet with me and can not meet during these times, please contact me. I am happy to arrange a time to meet that is convenient for both of us. Please take advantage of my office hours to come see me and discuss questions or concerns you might have. If you are still reading this syllabus at this point, please see me in person during my office hours prior to January 18th, 2008 and I will award you two extra points on your first exam. If you are interested in majoring or minoring in Anthropology, my office hours are a good time to discuss this with me. It is sometimes necessary for me to cancel my scheduled office hours. If so, I will do my best to make sure I make this announcement in class. I am committed to making sure I am available to offer any help that I can. If you wish to discuss the specifics of your grade, you must meet with me personally. I can not discuss your grades with you via e-mail or the phone.

Tips for Successfully Completing this Course: (1) complete the readings & “listenings” (2) attend all lectures, (3) participate in classroom discussions
UNF GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES ADDRESSED BY THIS COURSE:

I. Skills: Students should be able to:
   A. think critically, reason soundly, and argue effectively, as demonstrated by the ability to:
      (1) analyze arguments according to standard criteria
      (2) assume and defend a position on a given topic
      (4) read and analyze complex texts, including the analysis of rhetorical devices and modes of inference
   B. demonstrate competence in the use of information technology, as demonstrated by the ability to
      (3) use appropriate network communications software
   C. communicate effectively, as demonstrated by the ability to:
      (2) speak with clarity and organization of thought

II. Knowledge: Students should know:
   A. The natural and designed world,
      (1) demonstrating a general knowledge of current scientific understanding of the history and nature of the
          universe, the earth, and of life forms
      (2) demonstrating a general knowledge of the methods and traditions of analysis in the natural sciences
   B. The social, political, economic, and psychological world,
      (1) demonstrating a general knowledge of scholarly understanding of the range of social, political,
          geopolitical, and economic organization
      (2) demonstrating a general understanding of human development, behavior, and health
      (4) demonstrating a general knowledge of the methods and traditions of analysis in the social sciences
   C. History, literature, art, music, and philosophy,
      (1) demonstrating a general knowledge of the nature, origins, and contributions of major civilizations

III. Values: Students should value:
   B. The Other, demonstrating an appreciation of the Other sufficient to motivate an understanding of individuals
      and groups who differ in significant ways from the Self, such as differences generated by race, gender, class, and
      culture in both domestic and international contexts
CLASS SCHEDULE
(This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Readings</th>
<th>Required Listenings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8-Jan</td>
<td>Basics of Anthropology</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>A Map of the World</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10-Jan</td>
<td></td>
<td>35 Suggestions for College Students by Brown &amp; Franck</td>
<td>National Geographic Bias</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>15-Jan</td>
<td>Evolution</td>
<td>Was Darwin Wrong? – National Geographic</td>
<td>Constellations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17-Jan</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Case for Evolution by Barash</td>
<td>What is Reality?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>22-Jan</td>
<td>Primates</td>
<td>Animal Behavior from the Economist</td>
<td>The Age of the Earth</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24-Jan</td>
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<td>Homo Floresiensis from the Economist</td>
<td>Breasts</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>31-Jan</td>
<td>Early Hominids</td>
<td>The Gift of Gab by Matt Cartmill</td>
<td>NPR – Great Ape Culture</td>
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<td>5-Feb</td>
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<td>Leakey Foundation – Washburn Lecture</td>
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<td>7-Feb</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>12-Feb</td>
<td>Neandertals</td>
<td>Got Culture by Stanford</td>
<td>Piltdown Man, The First Use of Tools</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14-Feb</td>
<td>Modern Humans</td>
<td>Human Evolution from the Economist</td>
<td>Leakey Foundation – L. Aiello Lecture</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>19-Feb</td>
<td>Race &amp; Ethnicity</td>
<td>Does Race Exist? by Bamshad &amp; Olson</td>
<td>What Color Are You?, Do Hate Crimes Exist?</td>
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<td>21-Feb</td>
<td>Culture &amp; Symbols</td>
<td>Should Anthrop...? by Salmon &amp; Skinner</td>
<td>Lowriders as Art</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>26-Feb</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Some Notes on Language by Kephart</td>
<td>Efe Infant Care, Infant Sleeping Practices</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28-Feb</td>
<td>Subsistence</td>
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<td>Qollahuaya Body</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>4-Mar</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Eating Christmas in the Kalahari by Lee</td>
<td>Greetings, Endangered Languages</td>
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<td>6-Mar</td>
<td>Complexity</td>
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<td>Anasazi America</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>11-Mar</td>
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<td>13-Mar</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>18-Mar</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>20-Mar</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>25-Mar</td>
<td>States &amp; Political Organization</td>
<td>Life Without Chiefs by Harris</td>
<td>Communist Hoosiers</td>
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<td>27-Mar*</td>
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<td>Degenerationism</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>1-Apr</td>
<td>Economies</td>
<td>The Arrow of Disease by Diamond</td>
<td>Medicinal Cannibalism</td>
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<td>3-Apr</td>
<td>Trade &amp; Exchange</td>
<td>Matrilineal Kinship... by Yuan &amp; Mitchell</td>
<td>Skateboarders in Love, NPR – Gay &amp; Lesbian Atlas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>8-Apr</td>
<td>Sex &amp; Gender</td>
<td>Anatomy of a Ritual by Jared Diamond</td>
<td>Borrow Your Spouse?, More than One Husband?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>Family, Kinship &amp; Marriage</td>
<td>Body Ritual Among the Nacirema by Miner</td>
<td>What Does God Look Like?, Cargo Cults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>15-Apr</td>
<td>Ritual &amp; Religion</td>
<td>Why Can’t People… by Lappe &amp; Collins</td>
<td>Cosmologies, Infants’ Spiritual Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17-Apr</td>
<td>Globalization &amp; World Systems</td>
<td>Consulting Anthropologists from the Economist</td>
<td>Good Intentions Gone Bad, Americans’ Waste Habits</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>22-Apr</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Atomic Wildlife Refuge, Alexander’s Multiculturalism</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24-Apr</td>
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*Deadline to Withdraw is Friday, March 28th*