Syllabus Spring 2020

Ant 4034 History and Theory of Anthropology Spring 2020

Monday, Wednesday, 2:30 - 3: 20 BA1 0122 and online (this is an M class)
Instructor: Vance Geiger, PhD
Office: Howard Philipps Hall 311C
Office Hours Monday, Wednesday - 12 - 2; 3:30 - 4:00
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TA Chelsea Dawes

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite(s): ANT 2410Links to an external site. or C.I. Corequisite(s): None.
Prerequisite(s) or Corequisite(s): None.

Catelogue description: The exploration of the intellectual foundations of modern anthropology.

Course Description: This course will trace the rise of anthropology and its various major theoretical schools. Anthropology is the discipline that attempts to take a natural historical approach to the study of human beings and consequently, addresses the issue of
what are the similarities and differences (in biology and behavior) among members of the
species Homo sapiens. The history of anthropology is largely the history of different approaches to this question. The theoretical schools that have arisen represent these different approaches. Theories, and theoretical approaches are important because they guide the formation of hypotheses, the focus on certain kinds of data to the exclusion of other data, and hence methods for doing research. The approach this class will take is to
focus on four basic theoretical issues that have arisen and still persist to this day in anthropology. These four basic issues are:
1. nature versus nurture
2. individual versus groups
3. ideational versus materialistic
4. deterministic versus contingent theories

We will see throughout the course how various anthropologists have been led to choose which of side of the dichotomies they consider best explains the big question that anthropology addresses.

Text
Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History by McGee and Warms - available online (week 1 as a pdf)
Laughter Out Of Place by Goldsmith
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Skloot

Grading
There will be two exams each worth 100 points = 200 points
There will be 10 assignments worth 10 points each = 100 points
There will be two 5 page papers each worth 50 points = 100 points
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Total 400 points
Grading Scale: 90 – 100 = A, 80-90 = B, 70-80 = C, 60-70 = D, Below 60 = F

Office Hours - Face to Face and Online

Your instructor holds both face to face office hours in the office and online in the course chat. Office hours are for discussing anything of interest but especially anything related to course material. Since this is an online course the only means of communicating and interacting with students is through e mail and in office hours, if there is any confusion on any issue in the class students should contact the instructor. A further note - some students decide to go on to graduate school, or some other activity that requires a letter of recommendation and they often ask me for one. Since they are online students I rarely know much or anything about them beyond their performance in the course. If you think that at some time in the future you might desire to make such a request participating in office hours in some form is required.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student ConductLinks to an external site. for further action. See the UCF Golden RuleLinks to an external site. for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon

request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must connect with Student Accessibility ServicesLinks to an external site., Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, we will all need to work together. Everyone should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.htmlLinks to an external site..
- Familiarize yourself with evacuation routes from each of your classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency. (Insert class-specific details if appropriate)
- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/AEDlocations-UCFLinks to an external site.(click on link from menu on left). (insert class specific information if appropriate)

- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to ucf.eduLinks to an external site.and logging in. Click on “Student Self Service” located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue “Personal Information” heading on your Student Center screen, click on “UCF Alert”, fill out the information, including your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click “Apply” to save the changes, and then click “OK.”
- If you have a special need related to emergency situations, please speak with me during office hours.
- Consider viewing this video (You CAN Survive an Active Shooter(Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.)) about how to manage an active shooter situation on campus or elsewhere.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your instructor to discuss your circumstances.

Schedule

Week 1: Jan 6: Introduction and The Purpose of Theory

Assignment 1 due 1/13 11 59 pm

Week 2: Jan 13: Setting the Stage: Early attempts to explain the differences with biology.
Readings: Haller and Gould

Assignment 2 due 1/21 11 59 pm

Week 3: Jan 20: Nineteenth Century Evolutionism
Reading: Intro, spencer, typor, morgan, marx engels.

Assignment 3 due 1/27 11 59 pm

Week 4: Jan 27: Foundations of Sociological Thought
Reading: Intro, durkheim 1 and 2, weber

Week 5: Feb 3: Historical Particularism
Reading: Intro, boas, kroeber

Assignment 4 due 1/10 11 59 pm

Week 6: Feb 10: Functionalism
Reading; Intro, malinowski, redcliffe-brown, gluckman

Paper 1 Due:

Week 7: Feb 17: Culture and Personality
Reading: benedict, mead

Week 8: Feb 24: Return of Evolutionary Theories
Reading: white, steward

Assignment 5 due Mar 2 11 59 pm

Exam 1 2/29 8 am - 3/2 11 59 pm

Week 9: Mar 2: Neomaterialism: ecological, functionalist, marxist
Reading: fried, Harris, Rappaport, Wolf, Fried

Assignment 6 due 3/16 11 59 pm

Spring break Mar 9-14

Week 10: Mar 16: Structuralism and cognitive anthropology
Reading: Intro, Strauss, Tyler, Dubisch, Ortner

Assignment 7 due 3/23 11 59 pm

Week 11: Mar 23: The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
Reading: The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

Week 12: Mar 30: Laughter Out Of Place
Reading: Laughter Out of Place

Week 13: April 6: Gender and Anthropology, Symbolic Anthropology
Reading: Slocum, Leacock, Turner, Geertz

Assignment 8 and 9 due 4/13 11 59 pm

Week 14: April 13: Postmodernism, Globalization
Reading: D'Andrade, Ong, Appadurai

Assignment 10 due 4/20 11 59 pm

Week 15: Apr 20 (Last Day of Class) Summing Up: Paper 2 Due

Final Exam - Exam 2 - 4/21 8 am - 4/22 11 59 pm