



SYLLABUS

ANT 2000, Introduction to Anthropology
3 Credits – Spring Semester 2023



Instructor: Jerry B. Brown, Ph.D.
Founding Professor of Anthropology

Phone: I am out of the country and cannot receive phone calls.
Please use Canvas e-mail contact information below to reach me

Office Hours: By appointment only via Canvas

Please message me using Canvas Inbox.

E-mail: I check my course related e-mail daily.

Please note: Due to a high volume of e-mails, my general policy is to respond only to e-mails which relate to the course content or to questions which cannot be answered by any other available course-related resources (i.e., FIU Tech Support, Course Syllabus, In-class announcements, etc.). If I experience an overload of e-mails, it may take several days before I can respond. All e-mails must begin with “Hi Professor Brown” and end with your “Full Name”; otherwise, they may not be read.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

ANT 2000, Introduction to Anthropology (3). To introduce students to key concepts, perspectives, themes, and critical applications in the field of anthropology.

COURSE OBJECTIVES – See Weekly Course Calendar, pp. 9 - 11

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Define the major fields of anthropology and their specializations.
- 2) Demonstrate an understanding and respect for human similarities and differences.
- 3) Understand the methods anthropologists use to analyze how various groups of people organize and make sense of the world around them.
- 4) Critically reflect on their own biases and worldviews.

How Non-FIU Students Can Enroll and Take This Course for 3 Credits

Students who are not enrolled as degree-seeking students at Florida International University (FIU) can take up to 15 credits as Non-Degree Seeking Students (NDSS) without formally applying for admission to FIU, by filling out the [Non-Degree Seeking Students Application](#) and paying a non-refundable Application Fee of \$30. If you are taking an online course, you do not need to submit Immunization Records. Spring 2022 course enrollment for NDSS opens on January 6; classes start on January 10. FIU is a fully accredited U.S. university based in Miami, Florida, USA.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

COURSE COMMUNICATION

All communication in this course will take place *via the Canvas Inbox*. Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial](#) or [Canvas Guide](#) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox.

POLICIES

Please review the [FIU's Policies](#) webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

As a member of the FIU community you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the [FIU Student Code of Conduct](#).

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND SKILLS

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a *lack of basic computer literacy*. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "[What's Required](#)" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Privacy Policy Statements for Partners and Vendors:

- [Canvas](#)
- [Microsoft](#)
- [Adobe](#)
- [Turnitin](#)
- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)
- [ZOOM](#)

Please visit our [Technical Requirements](#) webpage for additional information.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATION

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's [Disability Resource Center](#).

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT STATEMENT

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Academic Misconduct includes: **Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources, or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. **Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is participating in plagiarism.

Learn more about FIU's [academic integrity policies and procedures](#) as well as [student resources](#) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

PANTHERS CARE / COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS)

If you or a classmate experience feelings or events in life that are difficult to deal with, such as racism, sexism, political bullying, or other inhumane treatment, [Panthers Care](#) is a safe and helpful website for seeking encouragement and help. When we experience these types of words and behavior, we may need assistance and support as we work through them. Please contact Panthers Care for yourself or any classmate you believe might need assistance.

Depression and suicide, including youth suicide, are real and increasing concerns a world filled with many challenges. If you hear a friend or anyone expressing thoughts that may put their life in danger, please do not ignore these warning signs. You may save a life by reaching out to this person, listening to their feelings, encouraging them to talk to friends and family, and/or referring them to the highly-qualified FIU Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) listed below.

[Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings to all of us at one time or another. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call 305-348-2277 to set up a time to talk, or visit the online self-help portal.

PROCTORED EXAM POLICY

This course does not require an on-campus or proctored exam.

TEXTBOOKS

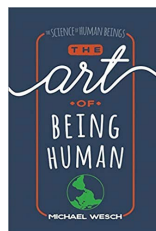
1/ REQUIRED - *The Art of Being Human: A Textbook in Cultural Anthropology, 2018,*

By Michael Wesch, Kansas State University - Dubbed "the prophet of an education revolution" by the *Kansas City Star*, Michael Wesch is internationally recognized as a leader in teaching innovation.

ISBN-13: 978-1-944548-13-1

This book may be purchased from Amazon or at FIU bookstore. **However, the author has also made this book available FOR FREE. It may be viewed and downloaded from two sites:**

- 1) <https://newprairiepress.org/ebooks/20/>; or 2) <https://anth101.com/start/> - Professor Wesch's course website which has additional resources including "Getting Started," "10 Modules," and "Videos."



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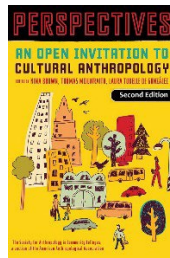
2/ RECOMMENDED - [Perspectives: An Open Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, 2nd Edition](#)

By Nina Brown, Thomas McIlwraith, Laura Tubelle de González, 2019
ISBN-10: 1931303673, ISBN-13: 978-1931303675

This book may be purchased from Amazon or at FIU bookstore. **However, the Society for Anthropology at Community Colleges has also made this book available FOR FREE. It may be read and downloaded at: <https://perspectives.pressbooks.com/>**

This book is recommended reading for Anthropology majors and for people considering pursuing a degree in Anthropology. See weekly course Modules for specific recommended reading chapters. There will be no exam questions or Discussion Posts based on this recommended text.

This is novel textbook, a collection of chapters on the essential topics in cultural anthropology. Different from other introductory textbooks, this book is an edited volume with each chapter written by a different author.



The Wesch textbook is required for the course. We will begin using it immediately and extensively, so please do not hesitate in downloading, purchasing, or renting The Art of Being Human.

In each Module, there will be links to Required Readings by the course instructor, Jerry B. Brown.

In each Module, additional power points, articles, and/or videos may be posted and linked to the course website via Canvas as Recommended Readings.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

There are no course prerequisites.

EXPECTATIONS OF THIS ONLINE COURSE

This is a fully online course, which means that all of the course work will be conducted online with no regularly scheduled in-person or virtual class meetings. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Please be confident of your abilities before you commit to this course.

Always contact [FIU Online tech support](#) or [Canvas Help Center](#) if you run into technical problems or have questions about technical issues.

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- **Review the “Getting Started” information** located in the course content.
- **Self- Introduction - Introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting an introduction (and a picture, please!) in the appropriate discussion forum. This introduction will not be graded, and no points will be awarded for it.
- **Syllabus Review – At the end of your Self-Introduction, please confirm that you have read and understand this Syllabus.**
- **Take the Non-Graded Practice Quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with Canvas.
- **Interact** online with instructor and peers.
- **Review** and follow the Course Calendar found on the end of this Syllabus.
- Log in to the course **at least 3 times per week.**
- Respond to **emails/messages/announcements** within **2 business days.**
- **3 Graded Exams (Quizzes)** - Take the three (3) course exams by the corresponding deadlines.
- **5 Graded Discussion Posts** – Every three weeks, during Weeks 1 through 16 of the course, post one Discussion Post on Canvas, either commenting on or raising a question about one the assigned readings. Each Discussion Post should be a minimum of 250 words (not spaces).
- **Review the Course Calendar at the back of this Syllabus for the due dates for Self-Introduction, Syllabus Review, Practice Quiz, Exams and Discussion Posts. Except in the case of a written medical excuse, late work will not be accepted. No extensions will be granted to make up exams, discussion posts, or to complete the course at a later date.**

THE INSTRUCTOR WILL:

- Log in to the course **2-3 times per week on business days.**
- Respond to **e-mails/messages** within **2 days, when possible** (see “E-mail” info on page 1 above).
- Grade exams within **6-10 days** of the exam deadline
- **Post Mid-Term Grades.**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE POINTS

There are several activities within each of the fifteen (15) Modules (Modules) to assist you in building knowledge of Anthropology. The fifteen Modules are organized on a weekly basis.

A/ PRACTICE QUIZ (Non-Graded)

REQUIRED BY _____, AT 11:59 PM EST FOR EVERYONE!

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the *Practice Quiz from each computer you will, or may, be using to take your Graded Exams*. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the [minimum hardware requirements needed to take the exams](#). You may take this Practice Quiz as many times as needed until you pass with 100% accuracy.

Total Points: Non-Graded / No Points Awarded

B/ THREE EXAMS (GRADED)

There are three graded exams (quizzes) with due dates listed in the Course Calendar at the back of the Syllabus. Exams will be based on the weekly Required Readings by Wesch and Brown listed in the Course Calendar plus any additional Required Materials (Power Points, articles, videos, etc.) that may be posted by the instructor. Late or make-up exams will not be accepted.

All exam will auto-submit when (1) the timer runs out OR (2) the closing date/time has been reached, **whichever happens first**. For example, if an exam has a closing time of 11:59 pm but the student begins the exam at 11:54 pm, the student will only have 5 minutes to complete the exam.

Exams provide the opportunity for you to gauge your growing knowledge of Anthropology, including understanding vocabulary and key concepts, summarizing major topics, and the application of theoretical perspectives/concepts. Exams are structured within the following parameters:

1. Ninety (90) minutes is allotted for twenty-five randomly assigned multiple choice questions (taken from a question pool). **Exams exceeding the closing time deadline will be late and not accepted.**
2. You are required to download and utilize **Respondus Lockdown Browser** for taking exams online. The browser and instructions for using it are provided here as follows:
 - A) Review the [Respondus LockDown Browser Instructions](#) on how to install, access your assessments and view your grades.
 - B) After installing the browser, please take the **Practice Quiz** to familiarize yourself with the testing environment and to ensure that you have downloaded the Respondus Lockdown Browser correctly.
3. Exams will **only** be reset with an emailed report from [FIU Online technical support](#).
4. **If you encounter any technical difficulties during an exam, please IMMEDIATELY contact the FIU Canvas Help Team. Do not email me, as I have no ability to access to fix this.**

Total Points: 3 Exams: 25 questions/exam x 2 points per question = 50 Points/Exam x 3 = 150 Points

C/ FIVE DISCUSSION POSTS (GRADED)

Five (5) times during weeks 1 through 16 of the Course Calendar, students will post one Discussion Post. In these posts, which take place every three weeks, you will either comment on, or explore a question about, any topic in the Required Readings (see Course Calendar in this Syllabus for Required Readings, pp. 9-11). In addition, in Week 1, each student will post a “Self-Introduction” along with confirming that they have read the Syllabus.

Example of a Comment – Cultural Relativism: I would like to comment on how the widespread practice of Aztec cannibalism can be interpreted through the lens of cultural relativism. [Insert Your Comment].

Example of Question – Heroic Profession: I would like to explore the question of why author Susan Sontag called anthropology a “heroic” profession. [Insert Your Comment].

- Each Discussion Post must be a minimum of 250 words (not spaces), or it will receive no points. While longer comments, as long as you like, are welcome, there is no Extra Credit given for longer comments. Each Discussion Post should begin with a brief **title in bold** that describes the Post.

Total Points: 30 Points each for 5 Discussion Posts, 30 x 5 = 150 points maximum

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GRADES

Course Requirements			Points		
<i>Three Exams</i> (50-point max x 3)			150		
<i>Five Discussion Posts</i> (30-point max x 5)			<u>150</u>		
Possible Points			300 Total		
Letter Grade	Percent	Points	Letter Grade	Percent	Points
A	95 - 100	285-300	C+	75 - 79	225-239
A-	90 - 94	270-284	C	70 - 74	210-224
B+	85 - 89	255-269	D	60 - 69	180-209
B	83 - 84	249-254	F	< 60	< 180
B-	80 - 82	240-248			

MIDTERM GRADES POSTED

The Provost's Office, in conjunction with the Student Success and Advising Center, will collect midterm grades. The midterm grade is simply the percent derived from your graded points/the total maximum possible at the time of midterm. This data is collected in an effort to identify students that may need assistance at the half-way point in the course.

MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Excepting religious holidays and/or dire circumstances (which should be reported to the Disability Resource Center), or illness with a doctor's note, under no circumstances will missed or late assignments (including Exams and Discussion Posts) be accepted. Late work will be awarded zero grade points. In addition, no extensions will be granted to complete this course at a later date. On the bright side, *you may work as far ahead as you can or wish!*

COURSE CALENDAR – FALL SEMESTER 2022

Classes Begin: Mon, Jan. 9, 2023 / Classes End: Sat, Apr. 22, 2023

All Discussion Posts are due by 11:59 pm EST on Sunday at the end of that Week

Week	Date	Course Topics	Required Readings	Due Dates
1	Module 1 Week begins Mon, ____	Class Overview, Textbooks, Requirements, and Syllabus Review - MW: DEAR STUDENT, Welcome to Anthropology <u>Practice Quiz to be completed by 11:59 pm EST, Sunday, _____, 2023</u> (Note: MW = Mike Wesch, JB = Jerry B. Brown)	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Syllabus Wesch, Welcome, pages 1-8.	Discussion Post on “Self-Intro” and “Syllabus confirmation,” due: Sun, ____ No points
2	Module 2 Week begins Mon, ____	FIELDWORK - MW: Questions, Connections, Trying New Things - JB: Doing fieldwork among farmworkers <u>Last Day to Add/Drop Class with out paying fees: _____</u>	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Impact of the Grape Boycott Wesch, Ch. 1	
3	Module 3 Week begins Mon, ____	CULTURE (A) - MW: The Art of Seeing Growing Up Among the Nacirema - JB: Soma, Divine Mushroom of Immortality	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Soma Wesch, Ch. 2	Discussion Post #1 on Weeks 1, 2 or 3 Readings, due: Sunday, ____
4	Module 4 Week begins Mon, ____	CULTURE (B) - MW: The Art of Seeing Growing Up Among the Nacirema - JB: The Psychedelic Gospels	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Entheogens in Christian Art Wesch, Ch 2	
5	Module 5 Week begins Mon, ____	EVOLUTION - MW: Who are we? Human Evolution The (Un)Making of the Modern Body - Brown, Critique of McKenna’s Stoned Ape Theory of Evolution	<u>Read:</u> Mckenna, Stoned Ape Theory of Evolution Wesch, Ch 3	

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6	Module 6 Week begins Mon, ___	LANDGUAGE - ME: The Power of Language - JB: Chimpanzees and American Sign Language	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Chimps and Sign Language Wesch, Ch 4	Discussion Post #2 on Week 4, 5 or 6 Readings, due: Sunday __, 11:59pm
7	Module 7 Week begins Mon, ___	INFRASTRUCTURE: TOOLS - ME: Tools and Their Humans Mediated Culture - JB: Strontium-90 Baby Teeth Study <u>Exam #1 on Weeks 1 - 6 Readings. Opens and Closes 11:59pm EST, Sun. ___</u>	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Strontium-90 and nuclear power article Wesch, Ch 5	<u>Exam #1, due: Sunday, ___, 11:59pm EST</u> <u>50 point max</u>
8	Module 8 Week begins Mon___	SOCIAL STRUCTURE - MW: Love in Four Cultures Becoming Our Selves: Identity, Race - JB: Negative Love Syndrome	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Negative Love Syndrome Wesch, Ch. 6	
9	Module 9 Week begins Mon, ___	SUPERSTRUCTURE (A) - MW: Big Questions about Morality The Dynamics of Culture Religion and the Wisdom of the World - JB: Aztec Cannibalism	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Aztec Cannibalism Wesch, Ch 7	Discussion Post #3 on Week 7, 8 or 9 Reading, due: Sunday, __, 11:59pm
10	Module 10 Week begins Mon. ___	SUPERSTRUCTURE (B) - MW: Big Questions about Morality The Dynamics of Culture Religion and the Wisdom of the World - JB: Santeria in Miami: Why Expanding?	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Santeria in Miami Wesch, Ch 7	
11	Module 11 Week begins Mon. ___	SUPERSTRUCTURE (C) - MW: Big Questions about Morality The Dynamics of Culture Religion and the Wisdom of the World - JB: Wave Theory of American History <u>Exam #2 on Weeks 7-11 Readings. Opens ___ and Closes 11:59pm EST, Sun. ___</u> <u>Last Day to Drop with DR Grade. ___</u>	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Wave Theory article Wesch, Ch 7	<u>Exam #2, due: Sun. ___, 11:59pm EST</u> <u>50 point max</u>
12	Module 12 Week begins Mon ___	GLOBALIZATION - MW: How does the world work? - JB: Global Warming: The Methane Accelerator	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Methane Accelerator Wesch, Ch 8	Discussion Post #4 on Week 10, 11 or 12 Readings, due: Sun, __, 11:59pm

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13	Module 13 Week begins Mon, ___	“THE GOOD LIFE” - MW: Creating “The Good Life” The Power of Storytelling - JB: The Hero’s Journey, Anthro thru Film	<u>Read:</u> Brown, The Hero’s Journey Wesch: Ch. 9	
14	Module 14 Week begins Mon, ___	THE ART OF BEING HUMAN - MW: There Are No Accidents: If Paul Farmer is the Model - JB: Challenge 10: Write your Manifesto	<u>Read:</u> Brown, H2 Clipper airship Wesch, Ch 10	
15	Module 15 Week begins Mon, ___	INTERNET IMMORALITY - JB: Graduation Day: 2122 - Earth: Calcutta or Eden? - Space: The Final Frontier - Internet Immortality: Who Wants to Live Forever?	<u>Read:</u> Brown, Internet Immortality Wesch, no reading	Discussion Post #5 on Week 12, 14, or 15; OR Write Your Manifesto, following outline on Wesch, p. 357. Due: ___
16	Exam Week Week begins Mon, ___	Finals Week – No Modules or Classes <u>Exam #3 on Weeks 12-15 Readings. Opens ___ and Closes 11:59pm EST. Saturday, ____, 2023</u> (Note: This Exam closes on Sat., not Sun.) <u>Grades Posted: May 4, 2023</u>		<u>Exam #3 due: Sat, 11:59pm EST, ___</u> <u>50 point max</u>

In each Module, additional class handouts (power points, articles, or videos) may be posted and linked to the course website via Canvas. Most of these will be supplemental course materials to enhance your knowledge of the field. If any of these are “Required Readings” they will be clearly marked.

No extensions will be granted on Exams or Discussion Posts, or to complete the Course at a later date, except in the case of illness with a written note from doctor or hospital.

No late Exams or Discussion Posts will be accepted - late work will be awarded zero grade points.

End of Syllabus