



ANT 2000

Introduction to Anthropology

Section: RVAA

Internet/Fully Online

Fall Term 2026

Course Time Zone | Eastern Time (ET). Course due dates are according to this time zone.

Professor Information

Lisa Mueller

Roles: Primary Instructor

Email: lisbrown@fiu.edu

Response Time: 24 business hours

Phone: (305) 348-2247

Office Hours: Office hours are by appointment at your convenience.

Please let me know when you are available and we'll work something out.

Even if you need to meet in the evening or on the weekend, I can usually accommodate that.

Office Location: Global and Sociocultural Studies

Department or Academic Unit: Global and Sociocultural Studies

Course Description

Anthropology is the comparative study of human cultures, societies, and biological diversity, inviting us to explore what it means to be human across time and space. This course introduces students to the broad scope of the discipline—from our earliest origins as a species to contemporary global realities—by examining how social relations, cultural practices, and historical forces shape human life. Drawing on ethnographic accounts, documentary films, and interdisciplinary perspectives, we will explore key domains such as kinship, religion and ritual, gender and sexuality, language, economics, politics, health and healing, and systems of meaning and representation. Students will engage with core concepts, methods, and theoretical approaches in anthropology, with particular attention to sociocultural analysis and ethnographic fieldwork. As a Global Learning course, it emphasizes both cultural diversity and global interconnectedness, encouraging students to critically reflect not only on “other” cultures but also on their own assumptions, identities, and lived experiences within an increasingly interconnected world.

Course Prerequisites

Course prerequisites, if any, are listed below.

UCC Category Description

This course satisfies the University Core Curriculum **Social Sciences, Group 1** requirement.

Social science courses must afford students an understanding of the basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and past and present social, political, and economic issues.

Textbook and Course Materials

Introduction to Anthropology - Openstax

Required/Recommended: Required

Authors: Jennifer Hasty, David G. Lewis, Marjorie M. Snipes

Publisher: Openstax

Publication Date: 2022

Copyright Date: 2022

ISBN 10: 1711494992

ISBN 13: 978-1711494999

Chapters/Pages: Listed in Modules

Panther Book Pack

Get all required course materials for \$22 per undergrad credit hour through Panther Book Pack. You'll be charged automatically unless you opt out within 3 days after the add/drop deadline.

For more details, to compare costs, and to learn how to access your course materials, visit the [Panther Book Pack information page on FIU OneStop](#).

Readings, Materials, and Open Educational Resources (OER)

FIU has implemented the Panther Book Pack rental program, which provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of \$20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack. The Panther Book Pack program applies to all undergraduate credit hours per academic session. I recommend that you review the pricing for all materials across your

classes this session compared to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt-out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. You may opt back into the Panther Book Pack up to three days after the add/drop deadline. If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged \$20 per credit hour, and the course materials will be reserved for you for the undergraduate courses for which you are registered. For more details, visit onestop.fiu.edu/bookpack.

Other Course Materials and Open Educational Resources (OER)

Visit <https://openstax.org/> for a free copy of the textbook, Introduction to Anthropology. All other readings and materials, such as videos, magazines and journal articles, and/or documentaries, will be posted on Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- CLO1: Identify major anthropological concepts, theories, methods, terms, and perspectives.
- CLO2: Interpret cultural practices, beliefs, and contemporary issues using anthropological concepts and perspectives.
- CLO3: Analyze cultural similarities, differences, and social systems within broader historical and social contexts..
- CLO4: Conduct ethnographic inquiry to investigate human experiences and cultural practices.

Expectations of this Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same as 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.

Students are expected to:

- **review the getting started** page located in the course modules;
- **introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion;
- **take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with the learning management system, Canvas;
- **interact** online with instructor and peers;
- **review** and follow the course calendar and weekly outlines;
- **log in** to the course **3 times** per week;
- **respond** to discussions by the due date specified. **No late work will be accepted;**
- **respond** to **emails** within **2 days**;
- **submit** assignments by the corresponding deadline.

The instructor will:

- log in to the course **4 times** per week;
- respond to **emails** within **24 hours**;
- grade assignments and/or provide feedback within **3-4 days** of the assignment deadline.

Grading

Course Grades Distribution Table

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points for Each	Weight
Quizzes	7	50	20%
Essay Reflections	7	50	20%
Midterm	1	100	15%
Final: Podcast or Video Presentation	1	100	15%
Final: Written Report	1	100	15%
Discussion Board Posts	6	5	15%
Total	23	405	100%

Letter Grade Distribution Table

Letter Grade	Sample Range %
A	95 to 100
A-	90 to 94.99
B+	87 to 89.99
B	83 to 86.99
B-	80 to 82.99
C+	77 to 79.99
C	70 to 76.99
D	60 to 69.99
F	0 to 59.99

Proctored Exams

Please note that the information contained in this section applies only if your course requires a proctored exam.

Through a careful examination of this syllabus, it is the student's responsibility to determine whether this online course requires proctored exams. Please visit our [Student Proctored Exam Instructions](#) webpage for important information concerning proctored exams, proctoring centers, and important forms.

Schedule of Topics

Below is an outline of the course. It is subject to change with written notice.

Canvas Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	Academic Honesty Policy	Quiz	0
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Mid-Semester Grade (UCC Requirement)	Assignment	100
	Open Forum	Discussion	0
	Practice Quiz	Quiz	0
8/28/26	Essay Reflection 1	Assignment	50

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
8/28/26	Essay_Reflection 2	Assignment	50
8/28/26	Quiz 1	Quiz	50
9/4/26	Discussion 1	Discussion	10
9/4/26	Essay_Reflection 3	Assignment	50
9/4/26	Quiz 2	Quiz	50

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via **the Canvas Inbox**. Check out the [Canvas Guide](#) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using the Canvas Inbox.

I will respond to all correspondence within **2 days**.

Policies & Resources

Before starting this course, please review the Policies & Resources Page in Canvas which includes comprehensive information on various University and Course Level Policies such as:

- University Policies
- Accessibility and Accommodations
- Online Etiquette
- Technical Requirements and Skills

- Computer & Digital Literacy Skills
- Course Technology Accessibility Statements and Privacy Policies
- Academic Integrity
- Copyright Statement
- Nondiscrimination Statement
- Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Fair Use Policy

Assignments & Assessments

Quizzes

Quizzes assess your understanding of key concepts, readings, and lectures for each module. They include multiple-choice and short-answer questions designed to reinforce core ideas and ensure consistent engagement with course materials. Quizzes emphasize comprehension, application, and critical thinking rather than memorization alone, helping you build a strong foundation in anthropological concepts across the semester.

Discussion Board Posts

Discussion board posts are short (minimum 100 words) contributions that promote collaborative learning and critical engagement with course topics. You may share insights, pose thoughtful questions, connect readings to real-world examples, or respond meaningfully to classmates' posts. These contributions should demonstrate engagement with the material and encourage dialogue, helping to build a dynamic and respectful learning community.

Essay Reflections

Essay reflections invite you to apply anthropological concepts to real-life observations, personal experiences, or case studies. These assignments emphasize critical thinking, reflexivity, and the ability to connect course readings to everyday life. You will analyze cultural practices, engage with ethnographic methods, and develop your own interpretations, often incorporating observation, visual materials, or fieldnotes.

Midterm: Ethnographic Research Proposal

The midterm consists of an ethnographic research proposal in which you design a small-scale research project. You will identify a topic, develop a research question, and outline your methods, including participant observation and interviewing. This assignment emphasizes your ability to apply anthropological concepts, consider ethics and positionality, and plan a feasible and meaningful study.

Final Project (Presentation + Written Report)

The final project includes both a creative presentation (podcast or video) and a written ethnographic report. You will conduct original research using ethnographic methods, analyze your findings, and connect them to course concepts. The presentation highlights your ability to communicate insights effectively, while the written report demonstrates deeper analysis, use of evidence, and reflexive engagement with your research process.

Zoom Video Conference

Zoom is a video conference tool that you can use to interact with your professor and fellow students by sharing screens, chatting, broadcasting live video/audio, and taking part in other interactive online activities.

Zoom meetings can be accessed via the Zoom link in the course navigation menu. Once you click on the Zoom link, it will route you to join the meeting for the respective class session. You will also be able to view upcoming

meetings, previous meetings that you have already joined, and meeting recordings. Before joining an actual class session:

- Reference the [Zoom Student Tutorials](#) to learn about the tool, how to access your meeting room, and share your screen.
- Access the [Zoom Test Meeting Room](#) to test out the software before joining an actual session.

If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the [FIU Canvas Help Team](#). Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The **Office of Civil Rights** (OCR) is responsible for ensuring that FIU maintains a workplace and learning environment free from discrimination, where current and prospective faculty, staff, and students are treated equitably. If any student, employee, or applicant has a sincere and reasonable belief that they have been discriminated against or harassed based on age, color, disability, marital status, ethnic or national origin, race, religion, retaliation, sex, or any other protected category, they can report their concerns to the OCR team through report.fiu.edu.

State General Education Course Description and Outcomes

This course aligns with the state-mandated course description and student learning outcomes specified below.

ANT 2000 - Introduction to Anthropology

In this course, students will learn the foundations of anthropology as the study of human variation in its biological, social, and cultural dimensions. Students will learn about anthropological concepts, principles, and methodologies to understand and explore past and present human behavior. They will apply the anthropological approach to analyze issues

pertaining to past and contemporary cultures, and develop intellectual skills and habits to understand behavioral, social, and cultural issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives.

Student learning outcomes:

- Students will explain scientific approaches to the study of human variation and human origins, including primatology, extinct and extant human cultures, language, and ethnicity.
- Students will explain the origins of anthropology as a foundation discipline in the social sciences that examines the nature and definition of culture.
- Students will apply anthropological concepts, principles, and methods to the scientific study of past and present human behavior.
- Students will explain how anthropology incorporates multidisciplinary knowledge and perspectives.
- Students will describe contemporary anthropological contributions.