

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Module Title	Introduction to Anthropology
Module Code	ANTH 110
Module Credits	4
Pre-requisites (including Year 1)	N/A

Description

Course Overview
This course introduces students to anthropology as a holistic field devoted to understanding the human experience across time and space. Students explore how societies adapt to environments, develop social institutions, form belief systems, create languages, and build material cultures. Through comparative case studies, hands-on exercises, and ethnographic observation, students gain insight into cultural variation and the shared patterns that connect all people.
Method of Teaching and Learning
This module will be taught using a combination of lectures, tutorials and consultation hours. Learning will also be reinforced by appropriate readings from the course text.
Syllabus
<p>Modules</p> <p>Module 1 – What Is Anthropology?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the discipline • Holism and cross-cultural comparison • Anthropology and contemporary issues <p>Readings: Intro chapters from both texts</p> <p>Module 2 – Anthropology as a Science and a Humanistic Discipline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical development of the field • Critiques of early anthropological frameworks • Ethics in anthropological research <p>Activity: Case study reflection on representation</p>

Module 3 - Ethnography and the Culture Concept

- Fieldwork, participant observation
 - Cultural relativism vs. ethnocentrism
 - Building field notes
- Workshop:** Mapping a cultural space

Module 4 - Social Relationships: Kinship and Family Systems

- Descent patterns, household structures
 - Marriage customs, alliances, and changing norms
- Reading:** Kinship chapters + contemporary case study

Module 5 - Subsistence, Foodways, and Environmental Adaptation

- Foraging, horticulture, pastoralism, agriculture
 - Food as cultural identity
- Applied Task:** Micro-ethnography of a food space

Module 6 - Economic Life and Systems of Exchange

- Reciprocity, redistribution, market economies
 - Gift giving and value
- Reading & Activity:** Short article analysis + discussion

Module 7 - Archaeology and the Material Past

- Methods of excavation
 - Interpreting artifacts
 - Preservation, ethics, and cultural heritage
- Demo:** Creating a mock artifact catalog

Module 8 - Biological Anthropology and Human Evolution

- Primate behavior
 - Human variation and evolution
 - Fossil evidence and adaptive traits
- Reading:** Evolution and primatology chapters

Module 9 - Language, Thought, and Communication

- Structure of language
- Language acquisition
- Linguistic relativity

Workshop: Transcribing interactional data

Module 10 - Communicating Without Words

- Gesture, posture, silence, space
- Cultural norms around nonverbal meaning

Assignment: Nonverbal communication field notes

Module 11 - Sex, Gender, and Identity

- Gender roles across cultures
- Biological vs. cultural frameworks
- Contemporary debates

Reading: Gender chapters + short articles

Module 12 - Globalization and Cultural Change

- Global flows of goods, migration, media
- Cultural hybridization
- Local responses to global systems

Case Study: Global commodity chain analysis

Module 13 - Belief Systems, Ritual, and Symbolism

- Religion, magic, cosmology
- Ritual practices and material symbolism

Reading: Belief systems chapters

Module 14 - Applied Anthropology

- Anthropology in health, business, design, education

- Bridging theory and practice
Final Presentations: Students connect anthropology to their major

Assessment

Assessment Type	% of Final Mark
Ethnographic Observation Project	25%
Applied Anthropology Portfolio	30%
Short Writing Assignments	15%
Homework & Quizzes	20%
Course Participation and Attendance	10%

Range	Letter Grade
90% - 100%	A
80% – 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
< 60%	U

Textbooks

Mandatory Textbooks

Title	Editor/Author	ISBN/Publisher
<i>Perspectives: An Open Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, 2nd Edition</i>	Brown, McIlwraith, & de González	
<i>Introduction to Anthropology, OpenStax</i>		

Optional Textbooks

Title	Author	ISBN/Publisher
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Reference Textbooks

Title	Author	ISBN/Publisher
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