

Midland College
Master Syllabus

ANTH 2346: GENERAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Required Participation: For online classes, students MUST actively participate by completing an academic assignment (known as “Background”) by the official census date. Students who do not do so, may be dropped from the course.

Course Description: General anthropology is an introduction to the discipline of anthropology, which is the study of human beings, their antecedents, related primates, and their cultural behavior and institutions. This course introduces the four major subfields of American anthropology: archaeology, biological, cultural, and linguistic anthropology, as well as ethics in the discipline.

(1) *Archaeology* is the study of both the ancient and recent human past through material remains. Topics may include the adoption of agriculture, human adaptation in response to environmental change, and the emergence of complex societies.

(2) *Cultural anthropology* is the study of contemporary and recent historical cultures all over the world. Its focus is on social organization, culture change, economic and political systems, and religion. It also provides a broad introduction to the overall principles as well as theoretical and methodological issues relating to cultural anthropology.

(3) *Biological anthropology* is the study of the origin, evolution, and biological diversity of people. Topics may include genetics, adaptation, primate studies, and the human fossil record. These areas will be examined within the context of human interaction with the environment.

(4) *Linguistic anthropology* is the study of variation in language across time and space, the social uses of language, and the relationship between language and culture. Examples of specific topics to be covered include phonology and morphology, language and gender, language acquisition, cross-cultural studies of language, bilingual communities, and the loss of traditional skills as a result of the extinction of world languages.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

- Describe the key concepts and methods of anthropology.
- Compare and contrast the subfields of anthropology, including but not limited to physical anthropology, cultural anthropology, and archeology.
- Demonstrate an understanding of anthropological approaches to human diversity.
- Demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories used within the discipline.

- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of human cultural and biological diversity both past and present.
- Students will develop critical thinking skills. Students will be able to logically assess arguments and the accuracy and sufficiency of collected evidence applicable to an issue/problem through participating in class discussions designed to encourage critical assessments and debate regarding anthropological case studies.
- Students will be able to communicate ideas, knowledge and information in a coherent and logical manner. Student reaction papers will be assessed for logical organization, grammar and appropriate arguments.
- Students will gain a basic understanding of the place of anthropology in the modern world and be able to identify how anthropological principles can be applied in addressing current and future challenges.

Required Textbook: Will be current. Students should contact their instructor prior to purchasing the text and supplies to confirm required course materials.

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:

- Involvement with the material is essential - students must complete the readings, watch the lectures and take notes, and participate in online discussions.
- Students are expected to be able to read, write, and understand Standard English; the course is based on extensive amounts of material given in lecture, audio visual aids, and assigned readings.
- A schedule of readings and assignments will be provided at the beginning of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to know exam dates and when other assignments are due.
- If a student is unable to submit an exam or other assignment on time, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor before the due date.
- It is also the responsibility of the student to know their progress in the course.
- If the student takes the initiative, the instructor will advise them on their progress in the course.
- Instructors cannot drop students with a "W". This must be accomplished officially by the student.

Scholastic Dishonesty & Academic Misconduct: Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on an exam or other assignment will receive an "F" for the course and will be dealt with according to Midland College policy (see the *Midland College Handbook*). Be sure to familiarize yourself with this policy by clicking here: [Scholastic Dishonesty And Academic Misconduct](#). I will **strictly enforce** the policy as defined by Midland College. The Web Course has a built-in plagiarism check.

Make-up Policy: All assignments must be turned in on time. Be sure to submit your assignments early! Make-up exams or assignments (without point deductions) will only be given when (a) there are exceptional circumstances preventing you from taking the exam or turning in

the assignment on the scheduled day (e.g., a serious illness requiring hospitalization, death of a family member, legally required activity, or religious holiday), (b) you can provide written proof of the exceptional circumstance (e.g., a physician's note, obituary listing you as a relative of the deceased), and (c) you notify me of the situation prior to the scheduled time of the exam or assignment due date.

If you missed an assignment because you forgot to do it, you can still submit it **as long as you complete it within 24 hours** of the original due date. Please note that I will automatically deduct 10 points from the assignment for late submission. You don't complete your late assignment within 24 hours, you will automatically receive a zero (0) for the assignment.

Civility and Class Policy: Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning. Please ensure that your email messages, discussion board postings, and other electronic communications are thoughtful. We will welcome diverse opinions in this course, and you are expected to demonstrate an open mind and courtesy when responding to the thoughts and ideas of others. Therefore **the following are prohibited:** making offensive remarks in email or the discussion board, using inappropriate language or discussing inappropriate topics online, spamming, hacking, using the discussion board for commercial purposes, using all caps (considered shouting in online communications), cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type.

Evaluation of Students

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
➤ Background (Census)	= 2%
➤ First exam	=15%
➤ Second exam	=15%
➤ Third exam	=15%
➤ Final exam	=20%
➤ Discussions	=10%
➤ Quizzes	=10%
➤ Reaction papers	= <u>13%</u>
TOTAL:	100%

Grading Scale for Final Course Grade:

A=90-100
 B=80-89
 C=70-79
 D=60-69
 F=Below 60

Viewing Your Grades: You can access your grades on the Canvas menu (Grades). Grades will be posted after the due date and after all assignments have been graded. **Note:** Some assignments will take more time to grade than others!

Grading Description: The instructor will email, announce and post (on Canvas beside the assignments) what materials students need to study to get ready for the following assignments. The due time and dates are listed on the “Course Schedule” below.

(1) **First, Second and Third Exams.** The format of these exams will be multiple choice and true/false, short answer and essay questions. Each exam will consist of questions covering the material in the textbook(s), films, and lectures. Please note that some exam questions will come from assigned reading that is not covered in the lectures. Also, some exam questions will cover material in the lectures that does not come from assigned readings. Therefore, it is your responsibility to listen to all lectures and complete all assigned readings.

(2) **Final Exam.** *The final exam will be comprehensive and* will contain multiple choice, true/false, short answer and essay questions. These essay questions will provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of anthropological theory, debates within the field of anthropology, and anthropological approaches to human cultural and biological diversity.

(3) **Quizzes.** You will be given multiple choice or true/false quizzes as well as short essay quizzes. Be sure to review your notes and textbook readings regularly in order to be well-prepared for your quizzes.

(4) **Discussions.** Students will participate chapter discussions throughout the semester facilitated via Canvas. Further details about these assignments will be posted in the module folders.

(5) **Reaction papers:** After the completion of the readings, the instructor will assign several major points to discuss. You may agree or disagree with the authors, but you must justify your viewpoint by providing a logical and convincing argument. Further details about these assignments will be posted in the module folders.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS AND QUIZZES WILL BE DUE BY 11:59 PM CENTRAL TIME ON THE SCHEDULED DUE DATE. You will submit all assignments through Canvas, rather than by e-mail. Specific instructions for how to submit the assignments will be included in the assignment instructions. Please title your assignment files “lastname_firstname_assignmentname.doc, docx, or PDF”. Additional instructions will be posted on Canvas beside each assignment file. *Assignments that are sent to me through email will not be accepted.* Remember, to save all your assignments on your computer and external drives to ensure you have backup copies.

Non-Discrimination Statement:

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following individual has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Tana Baker

Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer

3600 N. Garfield, SSC 131

Midland, Texas 79705

(432) 685-4781

tbaker@midland.edu

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must visit www.midland.edu/accommodation and complete the Application for Accommodation Services located under the Apply for Accommodations tab. Services or accommodations are not automatic, each student must apply and be approved to receive them. All documentation submitted will be reviewed and a “Notice of Accommodations” letter will be sent to instructors outlining any reasonable accommodations.

Division Information: *Social & Behavioral Sciences; MHAB 176; 685-6829*

07/20/2021