

## **Anthropology 3PD3: Debates and Perspectives in Anthropology**

**Fall 2017**

**Instructor:** Dr. Karen McGarry

**E-mail:** mcgarry@mcmaster.ca (**email is the best way to reach me**)

**Office:** Chester New Hall, Room 531

**Office Hours:** Mondays 11 a.m. – noon or by appointment

**Class Meeting Times:** Mondays 12:30-1:20, Tuesdays 1:30-2:20 and Thursdays 12:30-1:20 in BSB 106

**Phone:** 905-545-9140 ext. 23901

### **Course Description**

This course explores themes of importance to the various sub-disciplines of Anthropology. The goal is to show how varying analytical perspectives on these broad themes produce divergent views of past and present human cultures.

### **Goals and Outcomes of Course**

Appreciation of how the sub-fields engage with a number of important themes.

Develop the skills to critically evaluate ideas put forward in each of the sub-disciplines.

Develop critical reading skills.

Enable students to write a significant research paper.

### **Evaluation:**

**Midterm Test:** 25% - October 19 in class

**Debate Paper:** 25% - Due by December 5th at 4 p.m. Please submit as a Word file to Avenue drop box.

**Peer editing:** 5% - November 20

**In-class discussion/debate:** 5% (various due dates)

**Two (out of three) reading reflections:** 7.5% each - 15% total; #1 is due September 21; #2 is due October 30; #3 is due November 23. All reading reflections should be submitted to the Avenue Drop box by 4 p.m. on or before the due date. Note that you must choose 2/3 and you cannot do 3/3. In other words, we won't take the top two grades.

**Active Participation and tutorial attendance:** 10%

**Final Take Home Test:** 15% - Due by 4 p.m. on December 11<sup>th</sup> to the Avenue drop box.

### **Tutorials:**

The class will be divided (on the basis of your last name) into Groups 1 and 2. On certain dates marked on the syllabus below, EITHER group 1 or 2 will meet for tutorial discussions. These sessions are mandatory to attend and you must come to class having done the required readings for that tutorial theme. A separate handout will be distributed which discusses this.

**Tutorial Leader for Groups 1 and 2: TBA**

**Policy on the Submission of Assignments** - Assignments submitted by e-mail **will not be accepted**. No extensions will be given unless written certification, approved by your Faculty office, is provided. Please note that policies concerning the use of MSAFs (McMaster Student Absence Forms) have changed (see <http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/>). Late assignments without appropriate documentation will be penalized **10% per day** late, including weekend days. No assignments are accepted after 48 hours of the submission deadline (including weekends) and you will receive a 0.

**Missed Assessments or Exams** – Note that the Midterm test cannot be MSAF'd as it is worth 25%.

**Course Materials and Avenue to Learn (ATL)** -Lectures will be presented using Power Point, an abbreviated version of which will be posted weekly on ATL. You must be registered in the course to have access to the 3PD3 site. **Please familiarize yourself with the Avenue to Learn system.** You can access ATL at:  
<http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/?logout=1>

**Correspondence** - I will check my email regularly throughout the week, so you can expect a response within approximately **48 hours**. Please put **3PD3 in the subject line** of your email and **include your name and student number** at the end of all correspondence.

**Student Behavior and Responsibilities** –

***Your learning*** – it is your responsibility to **keep up with the readings** – do not leave them until the night before the exams. Attendance in this class is **essential** if you want to do well in this course. You are expected to think about the readings and integrate them into the information and concepts presented during lecture.

**Classroom behavior** – Please **do not be afraid to ask questions** or provide constructive comments! If you do not understand something, or if I have gone over a concept too fast, stop me and ask a question. Chances are if you do not understand something, other people in the class are in the same position.

**Please ensure that cell phones are turned off** (including text messaging, Twitter, etc...) and **arrive on time for class**. If you have to leave class early, please sit near one of the exits. **Laptop computers** may be used in class for taking notes, but students using their computers for any other purpose (e.g., checking Facebook) will be asked to turn their computers off. Please be polite to your neighbours and **keep conversation to a minimum**.

**MSAF Policy**

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”. Please note these regulations have changed beginning Spring/Summer 2015.

If you have any questions about the MSAF, please contact your Associate Dean's office.

### **FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES E-MAIL COMMUNICATION POLICY**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. **If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.**

### **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, Appendix 3, [www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac\\_integrity.htm](http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm)

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one's own for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

**Student Accessibility Services:** <http://sas.mcmaster.ca> MUSC-B107 905-525-9140 x28652

*NOTE: Disclosure of disability-related information is personal and confidential.*

Student Accessibility Services offers various supports for students with disabilities. We work with full time and part time students. SAS provides or assists students with their academic and disability-related needs, including: Learning Strategies, Assistive Technologies, Test & Exam Administration, Note-Taking Programs, Classroom Accommodations. Please inform the instructor if there are disability needs that are not being met.

### **McMaster University Policy on Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities & McMaster University Anti-Discrimination Policy**

• <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicAccommodation-StudentsWithDisabilities.pdf>

### **Special Accommodations -**

Any student with special learning needs should contact Dr. McGarry by the end of the **second week** of classes at the latest. You must have written confirmation from Student Accessibility Services (formerly the Center for Student Development). Students can contact SAS to arrange assistance in the completion of exams. <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>

**Student Success Centre:** <http://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca> GH-110 905-525-9140 x24254 Provides the following services: student orientation, academic skills, leadership, service-learning, volunteerism, educational planning, employment and career transition.

**Student Wellness Centre** <http://wellness.mcmaster.ca/> MUSC-B101& B106 905-525-9140 x27700 Provides services in: Personal and Psychological Counselling, Mental Health Support, Medical and Health Services

### **Class Schedule:**

#### **September 5: Introduction to the course and course expectations**

Please read the course syllabus thoroughly.

#### **Issue #1: Representing “Others”**

**September 7:** Hall, Stuart. 1993. The West and the Rest: Discourse and Power. *In* The Formations of Modernity: Understanding Modern Societies. Bram Gieben and Stuart Hall, eds. Pp. 185-227. Cambridge: Polity Press (Posted on Avenue to Learn)

#### **September 11: Re-thinking Histories: Cannibalism?**

**Reading:** Obeyskere, G. “The Apotheosis of Captain Cook” (on Avenue)

**September 12: No class. Please watch the film -- “The Couple in the Cage”:**

<https://vimeo.com/79363320>

We will discuss this film on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **September 14: Tourism and Representation**

**Readings:** Catherine Palmer, “Tourism and Colonialism: The Experience of the Bahamas” (on Avenue to Learn)

Little, Kenneth, “On Safari” (on Avenue to Learn)

**September 18: Tutorial Group #1: Meeting #1** (Remember: if you are in tutorial group #1, then you don’t need to come to class today!)

**September 19: Tutorial Group #2: Meeting #1** (Remember: if you are in tutorial group #2, then you don’t need to come to class today!)

#### **September 21: Representing “Others” and Situating Knowledge: The Case of Museums**

**Readings:** Barringer and Flynn, “Colonialism and the Object” (posted on Avenue to Learn)

\*\*\*\*\***Reading Reflection #1** is due on September 21 to Avenue drop box by 4 p.m.

#### **September 25: Museums, Part II**

**Reading:** Gable and Handler, “After Authenticity at an American Heritage Site” (posted on Avenue)

Butler, Shelley, “The Politics of Exhibiting Culture”

**September 26: Tutorial Group #2: Meeting #2** (Note that this is not a mistake – it will be GROUP 2 meeting this week for our second meeting. Group 1 will meet on October 2 for the second tutorial).

**September 28: Sara Baartman:** <http://thoughtcatalog.com/kovie-biakolo/2014/11/how-to-un-break-the-internet-compare-the-plight-of-sarah-baartman-to-kim-kardashian/>

See also: <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-35240987>

### **Issue #2: Thinking and Acting Ethically**

**October 2: Tutorial Group 1: Meeting #2**

**October 3: Thinking and Acting Ethically – Human Remains**

**Reading:** Walker P. L. 2004. Caring for the Dead: Finding a common ground in disputes over Museum Collections of human remains (posted on Avenue)

Bruning, “Complex Legal Legacies” (posted on Avenue)

**October 5: Ethics, Anthropology and Military Engagements**

Readings: <http://www.aaanet.org/about/Policies/statements/Human-Terrain-System-Statement.cfm>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/07/07/army-shuts-down-controversial-human-terrain-system-criticized-many-anthropologists>

Albro, “Anthropology and the Military” (on Avenue)

**Week of October 9-15: Reading Break. No classes this week.**

**October 16: Archaeology and Ethics**

**Reading:** Zorzin, “Archaeology and Capitalism” (on Avenue)

**October 17: Tutorial Group 2: Meeting #3**

**October 19: Midterm in class.**

**October 23: Tutorial Group 1: Meeting #3**

**October 24: Corporate Anthropology**

**Readings:** Singer, Natasha, “Intel’s Sharp-eyed Social Scientist” (link posted on Avenue)

Baer, Drake, “Here’s Why Companies are Desperate to Hire Anthropologists” (link posted on Avenue)

**October 26: The Napoleon Chagnon Controversy**

**Readings: Please read the Chagnon article first.**

Chagnon, Napoleon, “Doing Fieldwork among the Yanomamo” (posted on Avenue. This is chapter 1 of Chagnon’s ethnography).

Daly, Lewis, “Narcissus in the Bush” (posted on Avenue)

**October 30: The Napoleon Chagnon Controversy, part II**

+++++++ **Reading reflection #2 is due to Avenue drop box by 4 p.m on October 30.**

**Issue #3: Politicizing Anthropology**

**October 31: Tutorial Group 2, Meeting #4**

**November 2: Re(constructing) the Past: What does it mean to “think anthropologically?”**

**Readings:** Marks, Jonathan, “Neanderthal Genomics” (on Avenue to Learn)

Nelson, Sarah, “Diversity of Upper Paleolithic Venus Figurines and Archaeological Mythology” (on Avenue to Learn)

**November 6: Tutorial Group 1: Meeting #4**

**November 7: Inventing Archaeological Histories**

**Reading:** El Haj, “Translating Truths” (posted on Avenue)

**November 9: Who Benefits?**

**Readings:** TallBear, Kim, “Genomic articulations of Indigeneity” (on Avenue) and Reardon, T, and TallBear, Kim, “Your DNA is our History” (on Avenue)

**November 13: Peer editing, Group 1** - Please bring two hard copies of a complete rough draft of your paper to class.

**November 14: Peer editing, Group 2** - Please bring two hard copies of a complete rough draft of your paper to class.

**November 16: Who Benefits?, con’t**

**Issues #4: Bodies**

**November 20: Tutorial Group #1: Meeting #5**

**November 21: Tutorial Group 2: Meeting #5**

**November 23: Bodies and Embodiment**

**Reading:** Lock, Margaret, “Cultivating the Body” (on Avenue)

+++++++**Reading reflection #3 is due to Avenue drop box by 4 p.m. on November 23**

**November 27: Representing the Body**

**Reading:** Martin, E., “The Egg and the Sperm” (posted on Avenue)

Distribution of Take home test

**November 28 and 30: The End of the Body?**

**Reading:** Martin, E. “The End of the Body” (on Avenue)

**December 4: Final debate papers due to Avenue drop box by 4 p.m. today**

**DECEMBER 11: TAKE HOME TEST DUE to Avenue Drop box by 4 p.m. on December 11th, 2016.**