

# Anthropology 1AA3 (C02)

## Introduction to Anthropology: Sex, Food, & Death

McMaster University

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Office and Office Hours:  
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### Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the field of Anthropology and its sub-disciplines through the discussion of some big questions that anthropologists investigate in contemporary and past societies. Some of the issues explored in this course include; sex, gender, food, illness, and death from archaeological, biological, cultural and linguistic perspectives. Through this course, you will develop an understanding of how the anthropological approach can be used to better understand the human condition, past and present.

### Learning Objectives:

Through this course, you will:

- Discover the diversity of research in the sub-disciplines of anthropology related to specific themes
- Understand the theories, methods, and techniques used by anthropologists
- Develop an understanding of the human place in nature from an anthropological perspective
- Appreciate the relevance of anthropological knowledge and practices to society as a whole
- Think critically about contemporary issues and debates
- Enhance your comparative, analytic, and critical thinking skills through reading and written assignments

**Class Format:** One lecture (2 hours) per week. There are no tutorials for this class, but this course is a *blended learning course*. This means that, in lieu of having a third (~50 minute) lecture period each week, you will spend this time working on projects, watching films or completing other assignments.

### Class Schedule & Format:

Lecture (2h):	Monday 7:00-9:00pm	MDCL 1305
Blended Learning (~50min):	Various tasks on Avenue to Learn	

### Required Texts:

*Sex, Food and Death – Anthropology 1AA3*. Custom Course Kit for McMaster University.  
Oxford University Press.

NOTE: This text is new, effective September 2017. Please DO NOT use or purchase any older versions of this text as the readings are completely different, and test questions are based upon the readings in the new text, not the old one.

## Teaching Assistants

You will be assigned to a teaching assistant based on your **last name**. Your TA will be responsible for grading your work and advising you throughout the term. There are no tutorials in this course. If you have any questions about the course content or your assignments, please contact your TA first.

TA Information To Be Announced - See contact information posted on Avenue to Learn

### Assessments:

Assessment	Due Date	Percent of Total Grade
Midterm Exam	February 10 <sup>th</sup>	25%
Assignment 1*	see assignment hand-out*	25%
Assignment 2*	see assignment hand-out*	25%
Final Exam	TBA	25%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

\* Choose 2/3 assignment options, you must submit your chosen assignment by the respective due dates. More information on assignments to follow.

Assignments must be submitted via Avenue to Learn. Assignments submitted via email **will not be accepted**. No extensions will be given unless accompanied by written certification, approved by your faculty office.

### Online elements:

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

### Course Materials & Avenue to Learn

**Please familiarize yourself with the Avenue to Learn website.** It can be accessed at: [avenue.mcmaster.ca](http://avenue.mcmaster.ca) . Check Avenue to Learn frequently for course announcements.

Lectures will be delivered using PowerPoint. **Abbreviated** PDF versions of the lecture PowerPoints will be posted on Avenue to Learn after each lecture.

## Turnitin.com (Avenue to learn)

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity)

## Policy on late/missed exams and assignments:

You are responsible for completing all the learning assessments on the dates for which they are scheduled.

**Late Penalties:** Late assignments will be penalized at 15% per day. Late assignments will not be accepted after 5 days (including weekends) beyond the original deadline.

**In the event of missed course work and/or exam(s) for medical or other reasons**, the student must review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”. <https://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/>

Rules governing the MSAF are as follows:

- The timeframe within which the MSAF is valid has been reduced from 5 days to 3 days.
- The upper limit for when an MSAF can be submitted has been reduced from ‘less than 30%’ to ‘less than 25%’ of the course weight.
- The ‘one MSAF per term’ limit is retained.
- As per the policy, an automated email will be sent to the course instructor, who will determine the appropriate relief. **Students must immediately follow up with their instructors. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief.**
- If you submit an MSAF and are granted permission for relief, my strict policy is to provide a 48 hour extension from the time the MSAF is received. Grades will **not** be reweighted.

**Note:** All work in this class must be completed. In the event of a MSAF, a MSAF simply gives you an extension on work missed.

**GRADES IN THIS COURSE WILL NOT BE RE-WEIGHTED.**

**Please note – all deferred and makeup exams will be in essay format – no multiple choice.**

## Student Behaviour 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 (both lectures and labs) 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, Facebook, 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**.

## 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.**

Email Forwarding in MUGSI: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html>

\*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link

(Approved at the Faculty of Social Sciences meeting on Tues. May 25, 2010)

I will check my email throughout the work-week and will strive to respond within approximately **48 hours**. Please put **1AA3 in the subject line** of your email and **include your name and student number** at the end of all correspondence.

## Weekly Lecture and Reading Schedule

**Online components** – Each week one hour of the course will be comprised of online components. Please see the schedule of online activities posted on Avenue to Learn.

Wk	Date	Reading	Assessment	Theme
1	Jan 6	<b>Ch 1 (pg. 25-44)</b>		Intro to Anthropology and Culture
2	Jan 13	<b>Ch 6 (pg. 103-110)</b> [not including <i>Ardipithecus kadabba</i> ], <b>113-115, 118-123</b> [from ‘The Robust Australopithecenes’ on]) <b>Ch 7 (pg. 127-147)</b> [not including inset box on Davidson Black])		Basics of biological anthropology & human evolution
3	Jan 20	<b>Ch 8 (pg 151-157, 160-162)</b> [Schoeningen Spears to, and including, Ancient mtDNA], <b>170-171)</b> <b>Ch 19 (pg. 405-408)</b>		Biological anthropology: ‘Modern’ humans & variation
4	Jan 27	<b>Ch 2 (pg. 45-70)</b> <b>Ch 3 (pg. 71-76)</b>	Assignment Option 1 Due Jan 31 <sup>st</sup>	Sex & Gender
5	Feb 3	<b>Ch 4 (pg. 78-89)</b> <b>Ch 5 (pg. 90-100)</b>		Sex & Gender continued
6	Feb 10	<b>Ch 13 (pg. 309-324, 350)</b>	<b>MIDTERM</b>	MIDTERM
7	Feb 17	<b>READING WEEK</b>		
8	Feb 24	<b>Ch 14 (pg. 360-374)</b> <b>Ch 16 (pg. 390-393)</b>	Assignment Option 2 Due Feb 28 <sup>th</sup>	Agriculture, Food Culture
9	March 2	<b>Ch 15 (pg. 375-389)</b> <b>Ch 17 (pg. 394-398)</b> <b>Ch 20 (pg. 409-413)</b>		Food Taboos and Transformation
10	March 9	<b>Ch 22 (pg.432-444)</b>		Diet and health
11	March 16	<b>Ch 10 (pg. 201-213)</b> [(skip the section on “Evolutionary Perspectives on Health”], <b>219-227)</b> <b>Ch 11 (pg. 228-241)</b>		Cultural aspects of health & healing, globalization
12	March 23	<b>Ch. 11 (pg. 254-258)</b> <b>Ch 12 (pg. 266-308)</b>		Cross-cultural perspectives on death
13	March 30	<b>Ch 9 (pg. 175-200)</b>	Assignment Option 3 Due March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Death cont. & Applied Anthropology
14	April 6	-		Overflow, recap, review

### **Note on modification to course materials:**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

### **Academic dishonesty:**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

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, <https://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.html>

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. (Insert specific course information, e.g., style guide)
2. Improper collaboration in group work. (Insert specific course information)
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

### **Academic accommodation for religious, indigenous or spiritual observances (RISO)**

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

## Academic accommodation of students with disabilities:

Academic Skills Counselling and Services for Students with Disabilities are available through the Student Accessibility Services (SAS)

Tel: 905-525-9140 x28652 Email: [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca) Website: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca>

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca). For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.

## AODA:

If you require this information in an alternate/accessible format, please contact Marcia Furtado at 905-525-9140 extension 24423 or email [furtam1@mcmaster.ca](mailto:furtam1@mcmaster.ca)

## Late Withdrawal:

McMaster University provides a Late Withdrawal option to assist students who have become irretrievably behind in a course. Students who have fallen behind with assignments and/or are not prepared to write final examinations (or equivalent) in one or more courses are encouraged to make use of this option and must contact their Academic Advisor in the Faculty/Program Office. Students will work with their Academic Advisor to discuss the situation and what steps they can take to prevent a recurrence.

The maximum number of units for which students may request a Late Withdrawal is 18 units throughout their undergraduate degree. Students may request a Late Withdrawal, without petition, no later than the last day of classes in the relevant Term. However, it is important to note that:

- Requests for Late Withdrawal cannot be made in courses for which the final exam (or equivalent) has been attempted or completed. This also includes courses where a final grade has been assigned (e.g. clinical courses). **In this 1AA3 course, the final exam is considered the final assessment.**

- Such requests will be cancelled or revoked if it is determined that the student attempted or completed the final exam (or equivalent).

- Students cannot use the Late Withdrawal option for courses in which they are under investigation or for which they have been found guilty of academic dishonesty.

Course(s) approved for Late Withdrawal will be:

- Assigned a non-numeric grade of LWD, in lieu of an alpha/numerical grade
- Excluded from the calculation of the GPA
- Ineligible for tuition refund

Approval of a late withdrawal is final, and requests to be re-enrolled in the withdrawn course(s) will not be considered. A withdrawal will not preclude students from enrolling in the course(s) in a subsequent term.