

# ANTHROP 1AA3: SEX, FOOD AND DEATH

Spring 2022

**Instructor:** Beatrice Fletcher  
**Email:** fletchba@mcmaster.ca  
**Lecture:** Wed. 6:30-9:30PM  
**Lecture Location:** JHE 376  
**Office Hours:** Wed. 4:30-5:30PM or by appointment  
**Office:** CNH 515

**Delivery Mode:** *Blended Delivery.*  
Asynchronous material posted to A2L weekly on Mondays by 11:59pm;  
In person lecture will be recorded and posted on A2L within 48hours of lecture

## Contents

Course Description .....	3
Course Objectives .....	3
Required Materials and Texts .....	3
Introduction to Anthropology- Sex, Food and Death .....	3
Class Format .....	4
Course Evaluation – Overview .....	4
Course Evaluation – Details .....	4
Assignment 1: Optional Annotated Bibliography .....	4
Assignment 2: Essay- Media Representations of Gender and Sex (25%) .....	4
Test 1 (25%) .....	5
Assignment 3: Essay- Case Studies in Food and Illness (25%) .....	5
Test 2 (25%) .....	5
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings .....	5
Week 1 (May 2 <sup>nd</sup> - May 8 <sup>th</sup> ) .....	5
Week 2 (May 9 <sup>th</sup> - May 15 <sup>th</sup> ) .....	5
Week 3 (May 16 <sup>th</sup> - May 22 <sup>nd</sup> ) .....	6
Week 4 (May 23 <sup>rd</sup> - May 29 <sup>th</sup> ) .....	6
Week 5 (May 30 <sup>th</sup> - June 5 <sup>th</sup> ) .....	6
Week 6 (June 6 <sup>th</sup> - June 12 <sup>th</sup> ) .....	6
Week 7 (June 13 <sup>th</sup> - June 17 <sup>th</sup> ) .....	6
Course Policies .....	7
Submission of Assignments .....	7
Grades .....	7

Late Assignments.....	7
Absences, Missed Work, Illness.....	8
Avenue to Learn.....	8
Turnitin.com .....	8
University Policies .....	8
Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy .....	8
<b>Privacy Protection</b> .....	8
Course Modification .....	9
<b>ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES</b> .....	11
<b>REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK</b> .....	11
<b>ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)</b>	11
<b>COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING</b> .....	11
<b>EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES</b> .....	11

***This lecture schedule is based upon current university and public health guidelines and may be subject to changes during the term. Any changes to the schedule or course delivery will be communicated on the course announcements section on Avenue to Learn. Please check the announcements prior to attending class.***

## **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, sociocultural, 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.

## **Course Objectives**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- 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

## **Required Materials and Texts**

There is **one required textbook** for this course: **Introduction to Anthropology- Sex, Food and Death.**

It is available through either [McMaster's Campus Store](#) (CAD), [VitalSource](#) (CAD) or [RedShelf](#) (USD).

### **Introduction to Anthropology- Sex, Food and Death**

Custom edition for McMaster University, Oxford University Press, 2021

ISBN-13: 9780199017850

eISBN-13: 9780199017034

**NOTE: This text has been updated, effective September 2021.** Please DO NOT use or purchase hard copy versions of this text that are older than September 2021 as the readings have changed.

## **Class Format**

This course is a *blended learning* course. This means that the course has both **in-person** and **online** components. Each week, one 3-hour lecture will be offered in person. This lecture will be recorded and posted to Avenue to Learn (A2L) within 48 hours of delivery. In lieu of having a second 3-hour lecture period each week, you will spend this time working on projects, watching films, completing other assignments, or watching pre-recorded lectures. Materials, including any relevant pre-recorded lectures, will be posted to Avenue to Learn by Monday nights at 11:59PM.

While fully asynchronous participation is possible, it is strongly recommended that you do your best to attend class sessions. The pace of an accelerated spring/summer course requires consistent commitment that can be difficult to maintain with the delay in lecture video posting. Additionally, as lectures are recorded live via Echo360, I do not have control over the recording process and lecture audio may be muffled by masks, impacted by sound glitches, or occluded by background noises.

## **Course Evaluation – Overview**

1. Assignment 1: Annotated Bibliography (Optional), due by 11:59pm on May 13<sup>th</sup>
2. Assignment 2: Essay (25%), due by 11:59pm on May 20<sup>th</sup>
3. Test # 1 (25%), held ONLINE on May 25<sup>th</sup>
4. Assignment 3: Essay (25%), due by 11:59pm on June 10<sup>th</sup>
5. Test # 2 (25%), held ONLINE on June 15<sup>th</sup>

## **Course Evaluation – Details**

### **Assignment 1: Annotated Bibliography- Media Representations of Gender and Sex (Optional)**

**Due May 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm to Avenue to Learn drop box**

For this optional assignment you may submit an annotated bibliography with **three popular media sources and two peer-reviewed journal articles** relating to your paper topic for assignment 2. Each annotation must appear in APA format and be accompanied by a 200-300-word annotation summarizing the piece and indicating why the publication is relevant to your chosen topic. If you choose to complete this assignment and submit it by the deadline, **this assignment may contribute 10% to your final grade, reducing the weight of assignment 2 to 15%** (this weighting adjustment will only apply should it work out in your favour). Further details will be discussed in lecture and an instruction sheet and rubric will be posted to Avenue to Learn during the first week of class.

### **Assignment 2: Essay- Media Representations of Gender and Sex (25%)**

**Due May 20<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm to Avenue to Learn drop box**

For this assignment you must complete a 1200–1400 word essay covering one of three possible topics falling under the umbrella of “gender and sex”. This assignment will focus on your ability to critically evaluate media representations through appropriate reference to scholarly peer-reviewed research. Further details will be provided in lecture and an instruction sheet and rubric will be posted to Avenue to Learn during the first week of class.

### **Test 1 (25%)**

**May 25<sup>th</sup>, ONLINE (12-hour window from 9:30am-9:30pm to complete)**

This online test consists of **50 multiple choice questions**. You will have **1 hour** to complete the test. Testable material includes all readings, lectures, and films up to the midterm test date. Any material marked as optional will not be tested. More information will be provided in advance of the test date and an online review sheet will also be posted.

### **Assignment 3: Essay- Case Studies in Food and Illness (25%)**

**Due June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm to Avenue to Learn Drop Box**

For this assignment you must complete a 1200–1400 word essay covering one of four possible topics. Topic options will fall either under the umbrella of “food” or the umbrella of “death and illness”. This assignment will assess your ability to identify, read, synthesize, evaluate, and communicate information gleaned from scholarly sources relating to an anthropological topic. More details will be provided in lecture and an instruction sheet and rubric will be posted to Avenue to Learn.

### **Test 2 (25%)**

**June 15<sup>th</sup>, ONLINE (12-hour window from 9:30am-9:30pm to complete)**

This online test consists of **50 multiple choice questions**. You will have **1 hour** to complete the test. Test 2 **is not cumulative** and will only test material from after test 1. Any material marked as optional will not be tested. More information will be provided in advance of the test date and an online review sheet will also be posted.

### **Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings**

**NOTE:** The chapters listed below refer to the chapters listed in the textbook **table of contents**, which may differ from the chapter numbers printed on the top of each chapter.

#### **Week 1 (May 2<sup>nd</sup>- May 8<sup>th</sup>)**

**Asynchronous Material: Introduction and Welcome to the Course/Blended Learning/What is Anthropology**

**Readings:** Chapter 1

**May 4<sup>th</sup> Lecture: Sex and Gender, Part I**

**Readings:** Chapter 5; also read 121-130 and 133-143 & this online article:

<https://leakeyfoundation.org/what-our-skeletons-say-about-the-sex-binary/>

**Notes:** Course and assignment expectations will be discussed in class

#### **Week 2 (May 9<sup>th</sup>- May 15<sup>th</sup>)**

**Asynchronous Material: Films Dealing with Sex and Gender**

**Readings:** None

**May 11<sup>th</sup> Lecture: Sex and Gender, Part II**

**Readings:** Chapter 6

**Notes:** \*\*\*Optional Assignment 1: Annotated Bibliography due May 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm to A2L\*\*\*

**Week 3 (May 16<sup>th</sup>- May 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Asynchronous Material: Forensic Anthropology**

**Readings:** Chapter 23

**May 18<sup>th</sup> Lecture: Medical Anthropology: Disease, Illness, and Sickness**

**Readings:** Chapter 9, pp. 144-153, including box feature on Arthur Kleinman

**Notes:** \*\*\*Assignment 2: Media Representations of Sex and Gender Essay due May 20<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm to A2L \*\*\*

**Week 4 (May 23<sup>rd</sup>- May 29<sup>th</sup>)**

**Asynchronous Material: Social Determinants of Health and Disease**

**Readings:** Chapter 11

**May 25<sup>th</sup> Lecture – The Archaeology of Death**

**Readings:** None

**Notes:** Optional test review session, May 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:30-7:30pm on zoom;

\*\*\*Test 1 administered online on May 25<sup>th</sup> \*\*\*

**Week 5 (May 30<sup>th</sup>- June 5<sup>th</sup>)**

**Asynchronous Material: Paleoanthropological Methods**

**Readings:** Chapter 2

**June 1<sup>st</sup> Lecture: Human Origins & Evolution**

**Readings:** Chapter 3; Chapter 4

**Notes:** None

**Week 6 (June 6<sup>th</sup>- June 12<sup>th</sup>)**

**Asynchronous Material: The Emergence of Agriculture**

**Readings:** Chapter 12

**June 8<sup>th</sup> Lecture: Food and Culture**

**Readings:** Chapter 13, Chapter 14

**Notes:** \*\*\*Assignment 3: Essay on Death or Food due June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm to A2L \*\*\*

**Week 7 (June 13<sup>th</sup>- June 17<sup>th</sup>)**

**Asynchronous Material: Food Taboos**

**Readings:** Chapter 19

**June 15<sup>th</sup> Lecture: Careers in Anthropology and Movie Night**

**Readings:** None

**Notes:** Optional test review session, June 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30pm on zoom;

\*\*\*Test 2 administered online on June 15<sup>th</sup> \*\*\*

## **Course Policies**

### **Submission of Assignments**

All assignments should be submitted electronically to the Avenue to Learn drop box in PDF or Word format by the due date/time.

### **Assignment Reappraisal**

Your assignments are marked by TA's using the grading rubric that has been provided on Avenue to Learn. Grades are not awarded on the basis of effort, but on demonstrated achievement. It is normal for assignment grades in university classes to be somewhat lower than high school grades.

If you disagree with a grade on an assignment, take the following steps:

- 1) Wait 24 hours after viewing your assignment. Re-read the rubric and expectations thoroughly and reflect on where you went wrong.
- 2) Seek additional feedback. Contact your grading TA to ask for further feedback
- 3) Formally request a re-appraisal via email to the course instructor (Beatrice Fletcher, [fletchba@mcmaster.ca](mailto:fletchba@mcmaster.ca)). Write a 300-word (max) statement explaining why you believe the grader's assessment was mistaken and submit it along with the original assignment (with TA feedback). Your statement must directly reference the rubric.
- 4) Your work will be re-assessed using the same rubric as the TA grader.

Please note that requesting a re-appraisal does not guarantee that your mark will go up. Most re-appraisals do not produce a different mark than the original assessment, and some produce a lower mark.

### **Grades**

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

<b>MARK</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

### **Late Assignments**

A 1-hour grace period will be applied to account for any technical difficulties. After that, late assignments will be penalized at -2% of **the course grade** per 24 hours late (or portion thereof) to a maximum of **5 calendar days late** (-10% of the course grade). Assignments submitted more than 5 calendar days late will not be graded without prior approval. Please note that you cannot use a regular

MSAF for assignments as each essay is worth 25%, and MSAFs cannot be used on work worth 25% or more in any course.

Similarly, if you miss a test, you will need to try to obtain a faculty issued MSAF exception. Please go to your faculty office.

Note that under no circumstance will I re-weigh course work. All mandatory assignments and tests will be factored into your final course score at the weightings listed in the syllabus.

### **Absences, Missed Work, Illness**

Please get in touch with your course instructor, Beatrice Fletcher ([fletchba@mcmaster.ca](mailto:fletchba@mcmaster.ca)) if you are absent due to illness for an extended period.

Regardless of any illness or other absences, all students must complete all assigned course work (both assignments and both tests). If you receive a faculty issued MSAF, then you still must complete all work within one week of the original due date. We **do not re-weigh** any assignments or tests.

### **Avenue to Learn**

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, usernames 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.

### **Turnitin.com**

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 to go [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

## **University Policies**

### **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.

### **Privacy Protection**

In accordance with regulations set out by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, the University will not allow return of graded materials by placing them in boxes in departmental offices or



classrooms so that students may retrieve their papers themselves; tests and assignments must be returned directly to the student. Similarly, grades for assignments for courses may only be posted using the last 5 digits of the student number as the identifying data. The following possibilities exist for return of graded materials:

1. Direct return of materials to students in class.
2. Return of materials to students during office hours.
3. Students attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with assignments for return by mail.
4. Submit/grade/return papers electronically.

Arrangements for the return of assignments from the options above will be finalized during the first class.

### **Course Modification**

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 his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

## ADVISORY STATEMENTS

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

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. **It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.**

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour 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. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/), located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- improper collaboration in group work.
- copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

### **AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION**

**Some courses may** use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. **All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld** (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

### **COURSES WITH AN ON-LINE ELEMENT**

**Some courses may** use on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, usernames 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 a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the course instructor.

### **ONLINE PROCTORING**

**Some courses may** use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

## **CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS**

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**. It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

## **REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK**

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): 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”: <https://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=44&navoid=9020#requests-for-relief-for-missed-academic-term-work>

## **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 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.

## **COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING**

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors. The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

## **EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES**

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.