

- INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY: SEX, FOOD AND DEATH –

ANTHROPOLOGY IAA3, Term 1, 2016-17

Instructor: Tristan Carter (Chester New Hall, Room 507)

Contact: stringy@mcmaster.ca

Office Hours: Mondays 4.30-5.30, and by appointment

Lecture Times & Location: Wednesdays, 7.00 – 10.00 pm – Chester New Hall Room 104 [CNH 104]

Course Outline

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 & written assignments

Required Text: *Sex, Food and Death – Anthropology IAA3*. 3rd Custom Edition for McMaster University.

- For details on which readings are associated with each lecture and tutorial, see course *Avenue* facility.

Note: The Government of Ontario requires that students be provided a no-extra-cost option for obtaining course credit. There are two copies of the required IAA3 textbook on reserve (on 2 hour loan) in Mills library.

Teaching assistants: four graduate TA's will grade your critical thinking assignments and are available for feedback by email or individual meetings on a weekly basis – details of their names, e-addresses, and when/where you can meet them will be posted on Avenue. All concerns re: grading should be directed to your TA (each of you will be assigned a specific TA).

Assessments: Course grades will be assigned based on the following learning assessments:

- Midterm Exam – 25% - held in class on 24th October
 - Critical Thinking Assessments – 40%
 - Assessment I – due in class on 17th October (20%)
 - Assessment I – due in class on 21st November (20%)
 - Final Exam – 35% - to be scheduled in the exam period (9th-22nd December) by the Registrar's Office.
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Exams: The exams will consist of multiple choice questions only. Tests will cover all lectures, assigned readings, films, guest talks, and other course material. **Mid-Term** – covers the material up until that date; **Final** – covers the second half of the class (plus major recurrent themes/concepts).

Critical Thinking Assessments: two written assignments designed to develop your engagement with critical thinking about various topics/issues covered in this course, and to improve your research and writing skills. Details on specific requirements will be posted in a separate PDF on Avenue to Learn and discussed in class.

Avenue to Learn: Lectures will be given using Power Point, a PDF version of which will be posted on Avenue. You must be registered in the course to access the 1AA3 site. **Please familiarize yourself with the Avenue system** which can be accessed at: <http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/?logout=1>

Lecture Capture/Podcasts: will be posted on Avenue after each lecture. NOTE: films and guest lectures (depending upon copyright agreements) may NOT be posted. The podcast system is not 100% accurate, so please do not rely on podcasts only. It is best to attend class regularly. Podcasts are available for online streaming and individual student use only.

Correspondence: your instructor and TA's will check email regularly and reply within 48 hours (weekends may not apply); please - I will check my email regularly throughout the week, so you can expect a response within put **1AA3 in the subject line** of your email and **include your name and student number** at the end of all correspondence. You **need** to use your McMaster email account when contacting us.

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 behaviour – 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**.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Lecture	Readings
1	7 th Sept	<p>What is Anthropology? Introduction to the course? What do anthropologists do and why? A holistic anthropology – Film – <i>Death of the Iceman</i></p>	Textbook 1-18 Syllabus on Avenue
2	19 th Sept	<p>Topic I – What is it to be Human? Human origins: Our earliest ancestors / what makes us human? <i>Homo erectus</i>, fire and the peopling of Europe Modern humans and Neanderthals – Kissing Cousins?</p>	See ‘Week 2 details’ on Avenue
3	26 th Sept	<p>Topic II – Sex and Gender How makes men and women different (or are they)? What is the difference between sex and gender? Distribution & explanation of critical thinking assessments</p>	See ‘Week 3 details’ on Avenue
4	3 rd Oct	<p>Topic II – Sex and Gender What are gender roles? Third gender Session on how to find peer-reviewed journal articles</p>	See ‘Week 4 details’ on Avenue
5	-	Mid-Term Recess (no classes)	
6	17 th Oct	<p>Topic II – Sex and Sexuality Gender inequality Archaeology and gender: The case of Çatalhöyük Film – <i>Guardians of the Flutes</i> SUBMIT 1st Critical Thinking Assignment at start of class</p>	See ‘Week 6 details’ on Avenue
7	24 th Oct	<p>MID-TERM EXAM short break TOPIC III – Food and Nutrition What are the different ways humans acquire food? Meat eating as an index of humanity? Fire & cuisine</p>	See ‘Week 7 details’ on Avenue
8	31 st Oct	<p>TOPIC III – Food and Nutrition The origins of agriculture: Why, when and how? First farmers case-study: SW Asia & the ‘Fertile Crescent’ Film – <i>Göbekli Tepe & The Domestication of Wheat</i></p>	See ‘Week 8 details’ on Avenue
9	7 th Nov	<p>TOPIC III – Food and Nutrition What was the significance of farming to human societies? Food consumption and taste Film – <i>Fast Food, Fat Profits: Obesity in America</i></p>	See ‘Week 9 details’ on Avenue
10	14 th Nov	<p>TOPIC III – Food and Nutrition Food fetishes – guest speaker – Alyson Holland Food taboos Film – <i>Big Sugar</i></p>	See ‘Week 10 details’ on Avenue

11	21 st Nov	<p align="center">TOPIC III – Food and Nutrition Food and globalisation</p> <p align="center">TOPIC IV – Illness, Disease and Death How do different cultures deal with illness? What factors influence health and access to health care?</p> <p align="center">SUBMIT 2nd Critical Thinking Assignment at start of class</p>	See 'Week 11 details' on Avenue
12	28 th Nov	<p align="center">TOPIC IV – Illness, Disease and Death What constitutes death? How do different cultures view death? Ebola in West Africa - guest speaker Lauren Wallace</p>	See 'Week 12 details' on Avenue
13	5 th Dec	<p align="center">TOPIC IV – Illness, Disease and Death What can we learn from the human skeleton? Part I What can we learn from the human skeleton? Part II <i>Film – Kennewick Man</i></p>	See 'Week 13 details' on Avenue
		<p align="center">REVIEW CLASS What kinds of diseases existed prior to European colonisation? What can I do with a degree in anthropology? Final exam review</p>	See 'Week 13 details' on Avenue
14-15	9 th -22 nd Dec	FINAL EXAM – date set by registrar	

NOTE THAT ALL WORK MUST BE COMPLETED: We do not re-distribute/re-weigh grades in the event of an MSAF. An MSAF simply gives you an extension on work missed. If the mid-term exam is missed a make-up exam has to be taken (in the form of an essay), if the final is missed, this is rescheduled by the Registrar for winter break week 2017.

Late Assignments

Assignments must be handed to your instructor at the start of the class on the assigned date. Late assignments are penalized 10% of the mark per 24 hour period or part thereof with a maximum of 72 hours (3 days and 30%) after which a zero grade will be submitted. Extensions can only be gained if the student provides an appropriate note/letter from SAS, or other university certification system (e.g. MSAF – see below). **You CANNOT email your assignment, or slide it under any office door.** Any late submission needs to be placed in the Dept. of Anthropology drop box (5th floor CNH opposite elevators) which is checked at 4pm each business day. Assignments received after 4pm will be dated the following day.

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF) policy

- The MSAF should be used for medical and non-medical (personal) situations.
- Approval of the MSAF is automatic (i.e. no documentation required)
- 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 their relief.
- Policy: The MSAF policy can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar under General Academic Regulations > Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work or here: [http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work](http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests_for_Relief_for_Missed_Academic_Term_Work)

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

Website: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca>

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, <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

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.

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

USE OF COMPUTERS: Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture or tutorial. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture or tutorial.

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)