

**Introduction to Anthropology**  
**ANTH 1101 – E600 [44768]**  
**Spring 2018**

**1 COURSE INFORMATION**

<i>Course Title</i>	Introduction to Anthropology
<i>Course Number</i>	ANTH 1101 – E600
<i>Class hours/credits</i>	3 class hours, 3 credits
<i>Prerequisite</i>	CUNY Proficiency in Reading and Writing
<i>Pathways</i>	World Cultures and Global Issues
<i>Course Description</i>	This course is a general introduction to the four fields of anthropology that looks at how anthropologists study cultural and physical aspects of humankind. We will explore a range of societies and methods anthropologists study. This course covers such topics as economic systems, population dynamics, kinship, political systems, religion, art, medicine, as well as globalization, power relations and ethics. This course covers cross-cultural ethnographic data including Africa, Meso-America, Australia, and Asia.
<i>Location</i>	Room 602A Namm Building
<i>Meeting Times</i>	Wednesdays 6.00 – 8.30 pm

**2 INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

<i>Instructor's Name</i>	Marta Pitts
<i>Instructor's Office</i>	TBA
<i>Contact Information</i>	MPitts@citytech.cuny.edu
<i>Office Hours</i>	By Appointment

### 3 REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S) AND MATERIALS

All material required for this class will be posted on the Blackboard.

### 4 METHOD OF GRADING

- 10% *Attendance and Participation*
- 20% *Exam 1*
- 20% *Exam 2*
- 30% *Poster presentation project*
- 20% *Final Exam– multiple choice and essay questions*

#### CITYTECH GRADE POINTS:

<b>A</b>	93-100	<b>B</b>	83-86.9	<b>C</b>	70-76.9	<b>WU</b>	Unofficial Withdrawal –more than 3 absents
<b>A-</b>	90-92.9	<b>B-</b>	80-82.9	<b>D</b>	60-69.9		
<b>B+</b>	87-89.9	<b>C+</b>	77-79.9	<b>F</b>	59.9 below		

#### *Attendance and Participation*

You are expected to attend and participate in each and every class. More than three (2) unjustified absences will affect your final grade. More than 2 absences will reduce your final grade by 10%.

Please be on time. Lateness is not only disruptive but it is also disrespectful. Chronic lateness will not be tolerated and will affect your final grade.

Please exchange your email addresses or phone numbers. You are responsible to make up for the missed class.

#### *Exams*

There will be two (3) in class exams. This includes final that is not a cumulative exam. The exams will consist of multiple choice/true-false, short answer and short essay questions. No make-up exams will be granted unless you have a justified reason.

#### *Poster Research project:*

The class will be divided into four groups based on each of the four fields of anthropology (Biological/Physical Anthropology, Archaeology, Linguistic anthropology, and Cultural Anthropology). Your objective is to describe what is anthropology?

#### **Week1:**

Sign up for poster groups. (Weeks 1-5 entail a lot of reading, so the emphasis on the poster projects will start after the first exam)

**Week 6:**

Brief description of your group's research topic for your presentation is due. Look at research topics within your group's field. For instance, if you are part of the Biological Anthropology group, you might look at primate studies, genetics, forensic anthropology, etc. Within the Archaeology group, consider looking at a particular research site, or new research methods used to analyze findings. Within linguistics you might look at studies that analyze language in terms of gender, technology, or globalization. For cultural anthropology, your group might focus on a particular cultural group, cultural expression, or practice. Another possibility is to focus on a famous anthropologist within the sub-discipline.

Turn in a list of each student and what assignment they will do for the project, with due date. At least 2 students per task: 1. Research methods, 2. Research article, 3. Research results and findings, 4. Thesis statement, 5. Abstract, 6. Bibliography, 7. Miscellaneous: such as PowerPoint, images, graphics, etc.

**Week 7:**

Once you have an initial topic idea you can look up scholarly articles found in peer reviewed journals to support your analysis, and this will help you further develop your topic. This will take time and you must verify the articles with me to make sure you have found a peer reviewed journal article by an anthropologist. Hand in a brief 2 page description using the article template on Blackboard of the 3 anthropological research articles your group has chosen from a peer reviewed academic journal (This is not information from a website. You can find academic journal articles on the City Tech Library databases. JSTOR, EBSCO, Wilson are good databases in which to search for an academic research article). I will post your groups' selected articles on Blackboard as all students will be expected to read them. The final exam will have questions related to these articles. (\*article worksheet posted on Blackboard as a template).

**Week 8:**

Write a detailed description of the research methods typically used by an anthropologist in your sub-discipline. (Must cover: Selection criteria, procedures, ethics). Given the topic you have selected, how would an anthropologist gather data to analyze it? Refer back to Kottak CH 3 "Ethics and Methods." (\*Methodology template worksheet posted on Blackboard).

**Week 9:**

Hand in your thesis statement. What, how, why? (\*Thesis template worksheet posted on Blackboard).

**Week 12:**

Hand in a description of your research results and findings. Present evidence you gathered that proves your thesis. What did you find? Why is this important? Relate to themes from class. Can you relate to your own experience?

**Week 13:**

Hand in your abstract. Brief 250-400 word summary with a. topic, b. research question, c. thesis statement, d. one sentence summary of methods, etc. (\* Abstract template worksheet posted on Blackboard)

**Week 14:**

Hand in your bibliography (should reference scholarly article(s), any thing used from the internet such as webpages & images, and any additional source used to prepare your presentation)

**Week 16 – POSTER PRESENTATIONS THIS WEEK**

(Attendance is mandatory; all posters must be set up at the start of class for the entire class to review before the ½ hour oral presentations)

Posters that address the question “What is Anthropology?”

1. Biological Anthropology. Group 1:
2. Anthropological Archaeology. Group 2:
3. Linguistic Anthropology Group 3:
4. Cultural Anthropology Group 4:

- The detailed assignment descriptions will be provided later in the semester.

**Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic “F” and a report to the Academic Integrity committee (see statement below).**

**5 ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY STATEMENT**

Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion.

**6 CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

Disruptive classroom behavior negatively affects the classroom environment as well as the educational experience for students enrolled in the course. Any serious or continued disruption of class will result in a report to the Office of Judicial Affairs. Public Safety will be summoned immediately if a serious disruption prevents the continued teaching of the class and you may be subject to disciplinary action. For disruptive behavior that does not prevent the continued teaching of the class, you will receive a warning after one such disruption. If the disruptive behavior is repeated in the same or subsequent classes, you may be asked to leave the classroom for the remainder of class and you may be subject to disciplinary action.

**7 STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES**

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities. If you have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible, but definitely before the date of the first quiz, so that your learning

needs may be appropriately met. If you have not already done so, you will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Center for Student Accessibility, which is located in A-237 in the Atrium Building.

## 8 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>
1. Have an understanding of Anthropological Fieldwork	1. Group Poster Presentation and questions on exams. Students learn about anthropological fieldwork and in their research poster projects learn the importance of describing “methodology.”
2. Have an understanding of classic Anthropological theories	2. Final Exam Essay question and Multiple-choice questions. The course is structured around the theory of “Cultural Materialism” but students also learn other theoretical approaches to study anthropology such as Darwinism, Sociobiology, Functionalism, Cultural Marxism, etc.
3. Have an understanding of basic Anthropological concepts (i.e. 4 fields of Anthro., emic/etic, culture, cultural relativism/ethnocentrism, Kinship, etc.)	3. Questions on exams and Group Poster Projects. The course covers important terms and concepts associated with Anthropology.
4. Have an understanding of a variety of cultures and societies	4. Questions on exams and essay question on final. In a broad perspective, students learn about basic types of societies (Foragers, Pastoralists, Horticulturalist, Agriculturalists, Post Industrial societies) as well as a broad range of cultural examples from Africa, South America, Asia, etc.

## 9 GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT METHODS

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## 10 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (week by week)

### *SECTION 1 – Introduction to Anthropology*

#### **WEEK 1 – W 1/31 - Introduction to the class – What is culture? What are 4 fields of Anthropology?**

Lassiter, Luke Eric Chapter 2. Anthropology and Culture (Blackboard)  
Mandatory Reading: Read “UNIT 1: Introduction to Anthropology”

### *SECTION 2 – 4 field Anthropology*

#### **WEEK 2 – W 2/7 – Physical/Biological Anthropology**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: Finish Reading the section on Biological Anthropology in “UNIT 2 (week 2): 4 fields of Anthropology”

#### **WEEK 3 – W 2/14 – Primate studies, PaleoAnthropology, Tool Industries**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: Read the section on Primate and Paleo Anthropology in “UNIT 2: (Week 3) 4 fields of Anthropology”.

#### **WEEK 4 – W 2/21 – Archaeology and Linguistic Anthropology**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: Read and interact on section for Archeological Anthropology in “UNIT 2 (Week 4).  
Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: Read and interact on section for Linguistic Anthropology in “UNIT 2 (Week 4).

#### **WEEK 5 – W 2/28 – Methodology and Cultural Anthropology**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: Read the sections on Cultural Anthropology in “UNIT 2: 4 fields of Anthropology” (week 5).

### *SECTION 3 – Analyzing Societies*

***Part 1 - INFRASTRUCTURE – Mode of Production (material constraints such as environment, technology, forms of exchange), and Mode of Reproduction (material constraints of demography & population dynamics such as birth rates, death rates, migration). Infrastructure is considered the foundation of societies that predicts or influences all other aspects of that society (structure and superstructure). Types of societies include: Foragers, Pastoralists, Horticultural societies, Agricultural Societies, Post Industrial societies.***

#### **WEEK 6 – W 3/7 - Mode of production: Environment, Technology, Exchange (Economic Systems); mode of reproduction (Demography)**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: “UNIT 3: Infrastructure and Forager Societies”.

**WEEK 7 – W 3/14 – Exam 1 – Unit 1 and Unit 2**

*Part 2 - STRUCTURE: Domestic Economy (Forms of family organization, kinship, marriage patterns), Political Economy (Forms of leadership, political organization, warfare). The infrastructure influences what type of structure will be found in a particular type of society. Structure deals with how the individual connects to the group (group cohesion).*

**WEEK 8 – W 3/21 - Domestic Economy. Overview of general characteristics of Pastoral Society**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: “UNIT 4: Structure Domestic Economy week 8”.

**WEEK 9 – W 3/28 - Political Economy (Forms of leadership, Systems of conflict/control, Etc.**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: “UNIT 4: Structure Pastoral Society” (Week 9).

**WEEK 10 – W 4/4 – SPRING RECESS – NO CLASSES**

**WEEK 11 – 4/11 – Conversion Day – CLASSES FOLLOW FRIDAY SCHEDULE**

**WEEK 12 – W 4/18 – EXAM 2 – Unit 3 and Unit 4**

*Part 3 - SUPERSTRUCTURE: (Belief systems, magic, witchcraft, religion, worldview, Cultural Expressions, Art, Music, Dance, Folktales, Myths, Sports, Food, Television, Movies, etc.) The Infrastructure influences the type of superstructure that will be found in a particular society. Superstructure deals with the expression of values and beliefs. (*

**WEEK 13 – 4/25 - Religion, Symbols, Myth, Magic, Witchcraft.**

Mandatory Reading Assignment: “UNIT 5: Superstructure : Religion and Belief Systems”

**WEEK 14 – W 5/2 - Art and Expressive Culture**

Mandatory Reading Assignment: “UNIT 5: Superstructure : Art & Expressive Culture”

Geertz, Clifford (1973) “Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight”

**WEEK 15 – W 5/9 - Applied Anthropology: Medical /Psychological**

Mandatory Textbook Reading Assignment: “UNIT 5: Superstructure: Medical Psychological Anthropology”

**WEEK 16 – W 5/16 – POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

**WEEK 17 – W 5/23 – FINAL EXAM**