

## Sample classes in Anthropology

### **ANTH 204 *Native Peoples of North America***

Focusing primarily on the Native peoples of Canada, this course examines the ecological, economic, social, and religious aspects of Native cultures. A representative society from each geographic area of Canada is studied. This course is primarily ethnographic in emphasis, but it also seeks to provide some of the social and historical background necessary to understand the current situation of Native communities.

### **ANTH 212 *Elements of Ethno-Linguistics***

This is an introductory course which explores the relationship between language and culture, and the use of language in society. Major issues and debates in linguistic anthropology and in the sociology of language are examined.

### **ANTH 231 *Culture and Commerce***

This course explores the influence of cultural values on the organization of the production, distribution or marketing, and the consumption of goods and services at both the local and global levels of the world economy. It also examines the social and environmental impact of the globalization of the consumer society.

### **ANTH 255 *The Caribbean: History and Political Economy***

As an introduction to the social and cultural history of the Caribbean, primarily since 1492, this course focuses on the diverse cultures of the region, the development and legacy of the political economy of plantation society, as well as empire and globalization, resistance and rebellion, decolonization, cultural creolization and the broad struggle for Caribbean freedom.

*NOTE: Students who have received credit for this topic under an ANTH 298 number may not take this course for credit.*

### **ANTH 276 *Gender and Society (also listed as SOCI 276)***

This course explores the social construction of gender categories both historically and in the present. The focus is upon examining the various theoretical perspectives which attempt to explain the ways in which society has organized "masculine" and "feminine" as the basis for social inequalities.

### **ANTH 302 *Art, Aesthetics, and Anthropology***

This course examines the relationship between art and society. It is mainly concerned with analyzing how art may function as a means of signifying and perpetuating a given social order. Examples of artistic practice are drawn from diverse North and South American, African, and Melanesian cultures.

### **ANTH 326 *Peoples and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa***

Prerequisite: See N.B. number (1). The course gives a broad historical and geographical survey of the region, and discusses, through case studies, older and contemporary topics, debates, and issues of African anthropology.

### **ANTH 353 *Questioning Community (also listed as SOCI 353)***

Community is a term that appears frequently in academic as well as everyday language but it is used to convey a wide variety of meanings. This course provides a critical review of some of the groupings, feelings, claims, ideas as well as types and qualities of relationships that can be associated with community. Can such an ambiguous term still be analytically useful?

### **ANTH 361 *Kinship***

This course addresses both classical and contemporary issues in kinship studies, with particular emphasis on the following areas: filiation, adoption, descent, genealogies; rules of residency, private and public spheres; incest, sex, and marriage; terminologies and attitudes.

**ANTH 378 *The Family (also listed as SOCI 378)***

Prerequisite: See N.B. numbers (1) and (3). This course examines the family as an institution in relation to its evolution from kinship societies up to the present. The course first introduces elementary structures of kinship and examines the family institution in the context of traditional societies. Special attention is devoted to the development of the modern family and to its current transformation.

**ANTH 384 *Food and Sustainability (also listed as SOCI 384)***

This course critically examines the existing food system by asking whether it is economically, socially and ecologically sustainable. It explores the politics of food by introducing students to existing and emerging social movements whose goal is to build a more sustainable food system.

**ANTH 385 *Globalization and Transnationality***

Globalization has been used generally to denote the increasingly rapid and far-flung circulation of people, money, commodities, and images around the world. This course introduces students to a sample of issues covered by anthropologists and sociologists in respect to this process, while at the same time also exploring transnational social networks that cross state borders but are not necessarily global in scope.

*NOTE: Students who have received credit for SOCI 385 may not take this course for credit.*

Class Schedule and the Departmental Handbook.

**ANTH 420 *Psychological Anthropology***

Prerequisite: See N.B. number (2). This course examines and critiques the theoretical concepts of Western academic and folk psychology from the perspective of the psychologies of other cultures. Topics considered include the cultural construction of the emotions, personality development, perception, culture-bound psychiatric syndromes (such as windigo psychosis, amok), and altered states of consciousness, and indigenous theories of dream interpretation.

**ANTH 423 *Political Anthropology***

Prerequisite: See N.B. number (2). This course examines the political process and political organization in cross-cultural perspective. The focus is on how order is achieved in the absence of the state, as well as questions of leadership, power, and authority in different social contexts.

**ANTH 427 *Thinking Beyond Humans***

This course begins with the premise that in order to fully understand the impact that people have had on the world around us, it is necessary to start by seriously questioning the idea of the "human." The course is an opportunity to explore emerging themes in anthropological research, from environmental studies to cybernetics alongside key works of philosophy, literature and social science in the "post-humanist" tradition.

**ANTH 441 *Material Culture* (also listed as SOCI 441)**

This course studies material objects and technologies and their role in the production of everyday social life and culture.

**ANTH 444 *International Indigenism***

This course reviews, examines and critically assesses the international indigenous peoples' movement and the articulation of indigenous identities, rights, communities and politics from a global perspective.

**ANTH 479 *Feminism and Anthropology***

This course explores the dialogue between feminist theory and anthropology. Topics discussed include "feminist standpoint" theory and the critique of "objectivity" in feminist philosophy of science; feminist contributions to the historical development of anthropological theory; and the relationship between feminism and postmodernism in current debates on ethnography and fieldwork.