



**MERCER**  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# COURSE OUTLINE

**Course Number**  
ANT 101

**Course Title**  
Introduction to Anthropology

**Credits**  
3.0

**Lecture/Lab/Other:**  
3/0/0

**Co- or Pre-requisite**  
ENG 101

**Implementation**  
Fall 2022

**Catalog description:**

Anthropology is the study of humanity across all places and times. This course will explore the “four fields” of anthropology: biological anthropology; archaeology; linguistic anthropology; and cultural anthropology. Students will also be introduced to various topics of anthropological study.

**General Education Category:**

Goal 5: Social Science  
Goal 8: Diversity and Global  
Perspective

**Course coordinator:**

Edward Avery-Natale  
X3339  
AVERYE@MCCC.EDU

**Required texts & Other materials:**

Kottak, Conrad Phillip. *Anthropology: Appreciating Human Diversity*. McGraw Hill.

The instructor may choose to replace this book with another book or with all OER materials with the course coordinators approval.

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):**

***Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:***

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the four fields of anthropology and their relationships to one another and to other social and natural sciences. (Supports ILG #1, 3, 5, 6).
2. Understand major anthropological theories and methods as well as their criticisms. (Supports ILG #1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11).
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the evolutionary history of the human species and humanity’s relationship to other primates (Supports ILG #1, 3, 5, 10).
4. Show familiarity with the importance of language to humans including the significance of language to culture, the foundation of verbal/written language, criticize ethno/sociolinguistics, and the theories or language origins and divergence (Supports ILG #1, 5, 6, 7, 8).
5. Understand and demonstrate knowledge of the historical trajectories and contemporary developments of diverse human cultures (Supports ILG #1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11).

**Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):**

**Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English.** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

**Institutional Learning Goal 3. Science.** Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.

**Institutional Learning Goal 5. Social Science.** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

**Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities.** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

**Institutional Learning Goal 7. History.** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

**Institutional Learning Goal 8. Diversity and Global Perspective:** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples

**Institutional Learning Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action.** Students will understand ethical frameworks, issues, and situations.

**Institutional Learning Goal 10. Information Literacy:** Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

**Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking:** Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

### **Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:**

#### **Unit One – Nature of Anthropology and the Concept of Culture (Supports Course SLO #1, 2, 5)**

The student will be able to:

- Describe the four fields of anthropology.
- Define and critically engage with the concept of culture.
- Explain the similarities and differences between the major anthropological methods of research and their ethics.
- Understand the difference between anthropology and the other social sciences.

#### **Unit Two – Primate Evolution (Supports Course SLO #1, 2, 3)**

The student will be at to:

- Understand Mendelian genetics
- Explain the concept of natural selection
- Explain process of evolution from australopithecine to homo sapien-sapien.
- The effects of the agricultural revolution / domestication on homo sapiens.
- Understand archaeology and paleo-archaeology including the development of farming and the first cities and states.

#### **Unit Three – Language and Communication (Supports Course SLO #1, 3, 4, 5)**

The student will be able to:

- Understand the nature of language and its importance to humans.
- Understand and explain the basic component of and differences between descriptive linguistics, historical linguistics, and various methods of communicating such as code switching, gender-speak, paralanguage, kinesics, etc.

#### **Unit Four - Subsistence, Economics, and Politics (Supports Course SLO #1, 5)**

The student will be able to:

- Describe various human subsistence patterns.
- Understand and critically engage with the gendered division of labor.
- Understand different methods of distribution and exchange
- Explain the differences between different historical and contemporary human systems of political rule.
- Understand and critically engage with theories of change at the individual, local, national, and species level.

## **Units X – Specific Subfields of Anthropology (Supports Course SLO #1, 2, 5)**

*Each section of class after Unit 4 will cover a specific subfield of anthropology. Examples of these include, but are not limited to, racial oppression, religion/spirituality/the supernatural, patriarchy, homophobia and transphobia, crime and violence, etc. Professors may add or remove topics as they see fit. Therefore, the number of sections and what each section covers may vary slightly from class to class.*

*At a minimum, topics covered must include: race and ethnicity; religion; family and kinship.*

The student will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the history of the anthropological subfield under study.
- Apply anthropological thought to the issues of study.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the history and the contemporary status/nature of the issues in the subfield.

**Evaluation of student learning:** No single assignment should be worth more than 20% of a student's final grade.

**Reading Assignments:** Textbooks and/or other provided materials should be assigned to students on a regular basis.

**Engagement:** Students engagement should be evaluated based on a combination of attendance, participation, and other forms of communication as the professor sees fit.

**Quizzes and/or Exams:** Students should show proficiency in the above SLOs using written/essay exams and/or quizzes to be designed by the professor. Multiple choice assignments may be implemented at the professor's discretion but should not make up a majority of the assignments.

**Writing Assignments:** All students should be required to complete a research or term paper and will make use of appropriate peer-reviewed/academic sources. At least some of the students' quizzes or exams should also be in an essay format. Length and details of writing assignments will be determined by individual professors.

**Application and Research:** Students should be required to apply anthropological thought and theory through research or field work assignments.