

**ANTH 1013 (section 007)**  
**Introduction to Anthropology**

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00-9:15, Room: SB 2.02.02

**Professor:** Dr. Jamon Halvaksz, II  
**Office:** HSS 4.03.24  
**Office hours:** Tues & Thurs 11:00 -12:30

**Phone:** 458-5872  
**Email:** jamon.halvaksz@utsa.edu

**Description:** (From the course guide)

“The study of human culture, past and present; its origin, development, and contemporary change; and the exploration of human physical and cultural differences using the paradigm of adaptation.”

**Objectives**

Anthropology is concerned with the many ways that humans have adapted to their physical and social environments, including the systems of meaning and social organization that they use, as well as the historical development of those adaptations. This course will introduce you to the four major subfields of American Anthropology: Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Linguistics, and Cultural Anthropology. While specializing in different aspects of ‘being human’ each seeks to understand human diversity through the intensive study of a single cultural group and/ or through careful comparisons. They accomplish this through a mix of scientific and humanistic methods of study and representation. In this course, you will learn about anthropological approaches to human prehistory, biology, evolution, linguistic capacity, and social and cultural life.

**Required Texts:** (*BRING ASSIGNED READING to CLASS*)

1. Endicott, Kirk and Robert Welsch. 2009. Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Anthropology, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. McGraw Hill.
2. Podolefsky, Aaron, Peter Brown, and Scott Lacy. 2009. *Applying Anthropology: An Introductory Reader*. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. McGraw Hill

**Recommended for Reference:**

Kottak, Conrad. 2009. *Anthropology: Explorations in Human Diversity*. 13<sup>th</sup> edition McGraw Hill.

**Grading:**

Exams: The exams will consist of multiple choice and a few short answer questions. They will be based on lectures, readings and videos. Some will be directed at reading comprehension, so you do need to read everything even if it is not emphasized in class.

Participation	100 pts
Research Proposal	100 pts
Exam 1	100 pts
Exam 2	100 pts
<u>Exam 3</u>	<u>100 pts</u>
Total Points	500 pts

*Goal: to test student comprehension of course materials and assess learning*

### Participation

This will be evaluated based on active participation during 10 of the 12 in-class activities / discussions and film guides. Your two lowest grade will be dropped (10 points each).

*Goal: to learn through actively participating in activities or explaining to others main concepts from the class.*

### Contrasting abstracts

For each set of debate articles from *Taking Sides* students can fill out a summary sheet. Each student must turn in 8 of these by the end of the term. You can turn in up to 10 and the lowest grades can be dropped. These will include the following:

1. describe the article by responding to a set of questions
2. for each article, write short, three sentence summaries of the main points.
3. identify agreements and disagreements

These are due on the day the articles are assigned. Copies are available on blackboard.

*Goal: to encourage critical thinking and improve comprehension of academic debate and writing.*

### Research proposal

A proposal can be submitted on any area of anthropology that is of interest to the student. Proposals will include: 1) an initial research question and proposed reference list, 2) an annotated bibliography with at least 10 peer-reviewed references, and 3) a brief 3 page statement (double spaced, standard font and margins). The references must be formatted using American Anthropology Association style guide (a variation on Chicago Manual of style). You will be grade on formatting, grammar, style, organization (intro, thesis, body, conclusion) and content. Further direction will be given. A session will be scheduled with the library to introduce you to the materials and collections specific to anthropology.

*Goal: to develop basic research skills and formulate basic research questions / goals.*

Final grades will be determined using a standard scale (A = 90-100, B = 80-89, etc.), with the highest overall score setting the maximum points possible for a final class curve. **Completion of all assignments** is required for passing the course. Late work will be accepted at the instructor's discretion. Except in extraordinary circumstances, any late work that is accepted will be reduced by at least 20%. Grades will be posted as soon as possible, neither the office staff nor I will report grades by telephone, fax, or email.

This syllabus is subject to modification by the instructor. Videos are subject to change due to availability.

## Class Policies



www.wired.com

### Cell Phones, Text Messaging, use of the

Internet: Please be sure to **turn off all cell phones and refrain from surfing the web, emailing, playing MMORPGs, etc.** during class. You and your fellow students are here to learn and such distractions are disrespectful. If your computer is turned on, I expect that you will only use it for class specific purposes. If students complain about your use, or if you are caught repeatedly using one for these purposes during class you will be penalized 10 participation points each instance.

**Academic Policies, including Misconduct:** The University of Texas at San Antonio has clear policies concerning disruptive classroom behaviors, plagiarism, and other forms of misconduct (see [www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.cfm](http://www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.cfm)). Plagiarism can be as simple as collaborating with a classmate on an assignment that is intended to show individual effort. A common form in this class is failure to appropriately cite sources in the ethnography paper. More serious forms include cheating or copying another's work as your own. Cutting and pasting from internet sources is particularly problematic as the material on-line is not always accurate, and this is plagiarism. The college's policies regarding this and other misconduct are available in written form, and you are expected to know them and follow them. You can also refer to the UTSA Student Code of Conduct on scholastic dishonesty and disciplinary action (<http://www.utsa.edu/OSJA/index.cfm>). There are clear procedures for instructors and students to follow in the event of misconduct, harassment, or other unwanted behaviors, along with appropriate consequences for infractions. Students who ignore these policies will minimally receive an F on the associated assignment, but could receive an F for the course at my discretion.



www.thesimpsons.com

### Access/Accommodations:

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities and learning needs. If you need accommodation in order to fully participate in the course, information about the Disability Services can be found at their web site ([www.utsa.edu/disability/](http://www.utsa.edu/disability/)), or call them at 458-4157. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do as well.

### Other college services include:

*Writing Center:* [www.utsa.edu/twc/index.html](http://www.utsa.edu/twc/index.html)

*Counseling:* (210) 458-4140, RWC1.810

*Academic advising (general):* (210) 458-8000

*Tomás Rivera Center:* [www.utsa.edu/trcss](http://www.utsa.edu/trcss)

or (210) 458-4694

## Schedule

---

### THEME: Introduction Anthropology

---

Week 1 August 27

*Syllabus and introduction to anthropology*

Thursday TS Introduction pgs xx-xxviii

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 1-2

---

### THEME: Biological Anthropology

---

Week 2 September 1 and 3

*Race, Ethnicity, Genotype and Phenotype*

Tuesday AA 10, 20, 26, 35

Thursday TS issue 1

Group Activity

Recommend: Kottak Chapter 14

---

Week 3 September 8 and 10

*Natural Selection and adaptation*

Tuesday AA pgs 3-5 and Chapter 1, 2 and 7

Thursday TS issue 2

Group Activity

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 5 and 6

---

Week 4 September 15 and 17

*Primates*

Tuesday AA Chapters 4 and 5

Thursday TS Issue 6

Film: *The New Chimpanzee*

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 7

---

Week 5 September 22 and 24

Tuesday

Thursday AA pgs, 69-71

**EXAM 1**

Group Activity

---

---

**THEME: Archaeological Record**

---

Week 6 September 29 and October 1

*Archaeology and human lineage*

Tuesday AA Chapters 3, 6 and 9

Thursday AA Chapters 12, 13, 14 and 15

Group activity

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 4, 8 and 9

---

Week 7 October 6 and 8

*Archaeological record*

Tuesday TS issue 4

Thursday TS issue 5 / AA Chapters 17

Film: TBA

Recommend: Kottak 10 and 11

---

**THEME: Linguistics**

---

Week 8 October 13 and 15

*Linguistics*

Tuesday AA pgs 123-134, and chapters 22, 23 and 24

Thursday TS Issue 7

Group Activity

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 13

---

**THEME Cultural Anthropology**

---

Week 9 October 20 and 22

Research Question and References due

*Culture and Methods*

Tuesday AA pgs 155-157 and Chapters 25, 27, 28 and 33

Thursday TS Issue 8

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 1-2

---

Week 10 October 27 and 29

Tuesday

Thursday TS issue 11

**EXAM 2**

---

---

Week 11 November 3 and 5

*Gender and Social Relationships*

Tuesday AA Chapters 29, 30, 32  
 Thursday TS 9 and 12

Film: *Mosuo*

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 17, 18 and 19

---

Week 12 November 10 and 12

*Religion and Political economy*

Tuesday TS issue 13  
 Thursday TS issue 16, AA Chapters 42, 43 and 47

Group Activity

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 16, and 20

---

Week 13 November 17 and 19

*Political Economy*

Tuesday AA Chapters 40, 41, 46 and 48  
 Thursday TS issue 14

Film: *Ongka's Big Moka*

Recommend: Kottak Chapters 15

---

Week 14 November 24 and 26 (no class on Thursday – Thanksgiving)

*Political Economy*

Tuesday TS issue 10  
 Thursday No Class

Class *Moka*

Recommend: Kottak Chapters

---

Week 15 December 1 and 3

December 1

*Applying Anthropology*

Tuesday TS issue 15, AA Chapter 36 and 37  
 Thursday

**EXAM 3**

Recommend: Kottak Chapters

---

**FINAL RESEARCH PROJECT DUE December 10 by 10:00AM**