

Anthropology UWW online courses Summer 2022

Human Nature

Summer CS1 | Summer CS2 | ANTHRO 100

Introduces the full range of human cultural and biological diversity. Human evolution, rise and fall of civilizations, non-Western cultures, and the human condition in different societies today. Emphasis on the relationships among biological, environmental, and cultural factors. (Gen.Ed. SB, DG)

Human Origins and Variation

Summer CS1 | ANTHRO 103

The biological aspects of being human. Evolution, how and where the human species originated, and biological similarities and dissimilarities among contemporary human groups. (Gen.Ed. BS)

Culture, Society and People

Summer CS1 | Summer CS2 | ANTHRO 104

The nature of culture and its role in creating forms of social, economic, and political life in diverse historical and geographical contexts. Readings drawn from contemporary ethnographies of various peoples, analyzing the persistence of cultural diversity in the midst of global social and socioeconomic forces. (Gen.Ed. SB, DG)

Culture, Society and People

Summer CS1 | ANTHRO 105

Language is an important cultural and political force that shapes all aspects of our individual lives and shared experiences as communities. This class explores the causes and consequences of how people learn to use language, of common beliefs about "accents", and of how language changes over time. We will investigate the power of language in many current issues such as health, climate change, racism, and transphobia. (Gen.Ed. SB, DG)

Culture Through Film

Summer CS2 | ANTHRO 106

Exploration of different societies and cultures, and of the field of cultural anthropology through the medium of film. Ethnographic and documentary films; focus on gender roles, ethnicity, race, class, religion, politics, and social change. (Gen.Ed. SB, DG)

Ancient Civilizations

Summer CS1 | Summer CS2 | ANTHRO 150

The emergence and character of the world's first civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley, Shang China, the Olmec and Maya of Mesoamerica, and the Chavin of Peru. Topics include the Neolithic background to the rise of civilizations and theories on the rise and fall of civilizations. (Gen.Ed. HS, DG)

Human Ecology

Summer CS2 | ANTHRO 208

The study of human/environmental interactions. Emphasis on biological and cultural responses by contemporary human groups to pervasive environmental problems. Examples from mountains, grasslands, deserts, and tropical forests. (Gen.Ed. SB, DG)

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Food and Culture

Summer CS2 | ANTHRO 258

This course surveys how cultural anthropologists have studied the big questions about food and culture. How and why do people restrict what foods are considered "edible" or morally acceptable? How is food processed and prepared, and what does food tell us about other aspects of culture like gender and ethnic identity? How have power issues of gender, class, and colonialism shaped people's access to food? How has industrialization changed food, and where are foodways headed in the future? Along the way, students will read and see films about foodways in Europe, Africa, Asia, the United States, and Latin America. (Gen. Ed. SB, DG)

North American Archaeology

Summer CS1 | ANTHRO 269

This course is a survey of archaeological approaches to the Indigenous history of North America prior to European contact. Surveying contexts across this vast continent, our main goal is to explore how different societies and cultures developed, how they adapted to and transformed local environments, and how they built massive trade networks, social institutions, and monumental structures. In addition to exploring the archaeology of ancient North America, this class will also critically reflect upon the history of archaeology itself in North America, and how archaeologists have approached and harmed the living descendants of the people whose material records they excavate, analyze, interpret, and display. (Gen.Ed. HS, DU)

Medical Anthropology

Summer CS1 | ANTHRO 312

The course is designed to introduce students to the concepts, approaches, methods, and goals of medical anthropology. In doing so we will undertake an examination of the interplay between biology and culture and how health, illness, medicine and therapy exist in different cultures. Central to this concern is the idea that culture plays a central role in definitions of health and illness. After establishing a base for examining and defining medical anthropology, as well as taking a look at health, illness, and medicine within a range of different cultures, we will take a closer look at health issues in North America. There will also be particular emphasis on the diversity (plurality) of therapeutic and philosophical approaches to the body and medicine, and how these are culturally infused and reflective. This latter point will involve a critical analysis of biomedicine and various alternative therapies currently in practice in North America.