



# ANTH 2351 - Cultural Anthropology

Course Syllabus: Fall 2019

*"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities."*

**Kimberly A. Hinson**

**Office: Adjunct Office**

**Email:**

| Office Hours | Monday   | Tuesday            | Wednesday | Thursday           | Friday    | Online                |
|--------------|----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
|              | By Appt. | Before/After class | By Appt.  | Before/After class | By. Appt. | Monday through Friday |

*The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.*

**Course Description:** This course provides an introduction to the discipline of Anthropology, the study of human cultures. Topics may include social organization, institutions, diversity, interactions between human groups, and ethics in the discipline.

**Required Textbook(s):**

2016 Haviland, William A., Harald E.L. Prins, Dana Walrath, and Bunny McBride,  
*The Essence of Anthropology (Fourth Edition)*, Cengage Learning Solutions, USA.  
 ISBN Number: 978-1-305-25898-3

**Recommended Reading(s):**

Ruth Benedict, *Patterns of Culture* (Classic Anthropology, Not Required)

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Describe key concepts and methods of cultural anthropology.
2. Explain the concept of culture, cultural diversity, and culture change.
3. Demonstrate how anthropological concepts apply to addressing human and global challenges.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To introduce students to the perspectives, field methods, and theories of the four major subfields of Anthropology (Biological Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology, Archaeology, and Linguistic Anthropology).
2. To evaluate the role of culture in shaping human behavior, past and present.
3. To explore human diversity and the complexity of the human species.

**Lectures & Discussions:**

See course schedule below

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

Final grades will be based on participation/attendance, 2 assignments, 2 quizzes, and 2 exams (mid-term and final).

|                                   |            |                |
|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Participation/Attendance          | 10%        | 100 pts        |
| 2 Quizzes (5%, 50pts each)        | 10%        | 100 pts        |
| 2 Assignments (20%, 200 pts each) | 40%        | 400 pts        |
| Mid-term Exam                     | 20%        | 200 pts        |
| <u>Final Exam</u>                 | <u>20%</u> | <u>200 pts</u> |
| Total:                            | 100%       | 1,000 pts      |

*Grading Scale:*

|         |   |                    |
|---------|---|--------------------|
| 90-100% | A | Superior Work      |
| 80-89%  | B | Good Work          |
| 70-79%  | C | Average Work       |
| 60-69%  | D | Below Average Work |
| 0-59%   | F | Unsatisfactory     |

**Tests/Exams:**

Quizzes/exams will be administered in class according to the schedule. Material covered includes the textbook, class lectures/discussions, reference materials, and video clips. Questions will be in multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and long answer format. Make-up quizzes/exams will only be allowed in exceptional cases. The mid-term exam will cover Chapters 1 through 8, and the final exam will cover Chapters 9 through 16. Please use the restroom before or after a quiz/exam.

**Assignments:**

Students will complete two small assignments/exercises: an artifact analysis of the Margaret Hinton Caddo Pottery Collection, and an ethnographic interview.

For the first assignment, students will complete a preliminary artifact analysis of a small representative sample of the Margaret Hinton Collection (This collection is on display in the NTCC library). Students will be provided reference materials on Caddoan pottery. From these reference materials, students will describe the pottery collection in terms of decoration, form, and function, and then draw some preliminary conclusions on the sample population's relative age, use life, and style. Students will be expected to submit notes from their analysis (forms provided), as well as a short write-up based on directed questions from the instructor.

For the second assignment, students will conduct a short ethnographic interview. The goal of this assignment is to interview a local person, i.e. informant, regarding a cultural activity they engage in or cultural event they recently attended. Students will summarize the interview as well as consider the values, attitudes and assumptions of the informant. Students will be expected to submit notes from their interview (suggested questions provided), as well as a short write-up in the form of directed questions from the instructor.

**Student Responsibilities/Expectations:**

Research by those in education development reveals the strong relationships between attendance and grades; those who "actively" attend class on a regular basis earn far higher grades than those who are tardy and absent. It is the responsibility of each student to attend all scheduled class meetings in the courses in which he/she is enrolled. More than two absences will result in a 100 point deduction. All students are expected to read the assigned chapters before class. Please try not to be tardy.

Cellphones should remain on silent. Please send/receive text messages before or after class.

**NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:**

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

**Academic Ethics:**

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

**ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with Katherine Belew, Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in the College Connection. She can be reached at 903-434-8218. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the NTCC website - Special Populations.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (Ferpa):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Course Schedule:**

| <b>Date</b>        | <b>Topic/Chapter</b>   | <b>Reminders</b> |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| Tuesday, Aug. 27   | What is Anthropology?<br>Chapter 1                           | Handout syllabus |
| Thursday, Aug. 29  | Four Subfields of Anthropology<br>Chapter 1 (continued)      |                  |
| Tuesday, Sept. 3   | Genetics<br>Chapter 2  |                  |
| Thursday, Sept. 5  | Evolutionary Forces and Populations<br>Chapter 2 (continued) |                  |
| Tuesday, Sept. 10  | Living Primates<br>Chapter 3                                 |                  |
| Thursday, Sept. 12 | Human Evolution<br>Chapter 4                                 |                  |
| Tuesday, Sept. 17  | Human Evolution<br>Chapter 4 (continued)                     |                  |
| Thursday, Sept. 19 | Handout and discuss Assignment 1                             | Quiz 1           |
| Tuesday, Sept. 24  | The Neolithic and Domestication<br>Chapter 5                 |                  |

|                    |   |                        |
|--------------------|---|------------------------|
| Thursday, Sept. 26 | Southeastern Archaeology and the Moundbuilders of North America |                        |
| Tuesday, Oct. 1    | The Emergence of Cities and States<br>Chapter 6                 |                        |
| Thursday, Oct. 3   | Modern Human Diversity, Race, and Racism<br>Chapter 7           |                        |
| Tuesday, Oct. 8    | The Characteristics of Culture<br>Chapter 8                     |                        |
| Thursday, Oct. 10  | Discuss Assignment 1  | Turn in Assignment 1   |
| Tuesday Oct. 15    | Review for Mid-Term Exam  |                        |
| Thursday, Oct. 17  |   | Mid-Term Exam          |
| Tuesday, Oct. 22   | Language of Communication<br>Chapter 9                          |                        |
| Thursday, Oct. 24  | Social Identity, Personality, and Gender<br>Chapter 10          |                        |
| Tuesday, Oct. 29   | Subsistence and Exchange<br>Chapter 11                          |                        |
| Thursday, Oct. 31  | Sex, Marriage, and Family<br>Chapter 12                         |                        |
| Tuesday, Nov. 5    | Kinship and Other Forms of Grouping<br>Chapter 13               |                        |
| Thursday, Nov. 7   | Politics, Power, and Violence<br>Chapter 14                     |                        |
| Tuesday, Nov. 12   | Handout and discuss Assignment 2                                | Quiz 2                 |
| Thursday, Nov. 14  | Spirituality and Religion<br>Chapter 15                         |                        |
| Tuesday, Nov. 19   | Spirituality and Religion<br>Chapter 15 (continued)             |                        |
| Thursday, Nov. 21  | Global Changes and the Role of Anthropology<br>Chapter 16       |                        |
| Tuesday, Nov. 26   | Ethnographic Film   |                        |
| Thursday, Nov. 28  |   | Break for Thanksgiving |
| Tuesday, Dec. 3    | Discuss Assignment 2  | Turn in Assignment 2   |
| Thursday, Dec. 5   | Review for Final Exam   |                        |
| TBD                |   | Final Exam             |