

# ANTHROPOLOGY

## Academic Year

2011-2012

## School

School of Humanities and Social Science [School Web site](#)

## School Dean

Janet Dizinno, Ph.D. [hssdean@stmarytx.edu](mailto:hssdean@stmarytx.edu)

## Department

Anthropology

## Department Chair

Grace Keyes, Ph.D. [gkeyes@stmarytx.edu](mailto:gkeyes@stmarytx.edu)

## Department Courses and Descriptions

### Cultural Anthropology (3)

AN 2331

An examination of the unity and diversity of cultural patterns in both simple and complex societies, including consideration of their political, intellectual, technical, aesthetic, and other social institutions in cross-cultural perspective.

### Introduction to Archaeology (3)

AN 2332

Introduction to scientific study of past human life through material remains. Insights into the evolution of civilization, past cultural, economic, and organizational systems, etc.

### Special Topics in Anthropology (3)

AN 3300

Topics vary from semester to semester. AN 3300 may be retaken for additional credit when a different topic is offered.

### North American Indians (3)

AN 3301

Survey of Indians from the time of European contact through the present, emphasizing the situation of contemporary Native Americans.

### Ancient Civilization Americas (3)

AN 3302

Survey of prehistoric civilizations of the Americas, particularly the Aztecs, Mayas, and Incas. Deals with

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their development and histories, political and economic structures, religion, etc.

## **Human Origins (3)**

AN 3303

This course covers some of the major components of biological anthropology with a major focus on human evolution. It presents scientific data tracing the emergence of humans as a culture-bearing species. It examines evolutionary processes, taxonomic principles, the fossil record and the early developments of human culture.

## **Qualitative Research Methods (3)**

AN 3306

An introduction to the methods used to conduct qualitative research in natural social settings. An examination of the methods of ethnography, participant observation/non-participant observation, focus group, interview, and use of documentary sources will be included. Students may have the opportunity to engage in hands-on research. Additional topics include data coding, data analysis, and research ethics. Prerequisite: Junior standing and have completed nine hours of psychology or sociology related courses.

## **Sociology of Religion (3)**

AN 3308

An introduction to basic issues in the sociology of religion, including alternative definitions of religion, the relationship of religion to economic, political and other social institutions, and the influence of religion on personal development, social order, conflict, and change. Religious institutions are viewed in historical and cross-cultural perspective.

## **Medical Anthropology (3)**

AN 3309

This course examines a variety of issues related to health, illness, and health care from an anthropological perspective. It explores how people in various cultures, both Western and non-Western deal with illness, disease, birth, death, curing and maintaining health.

## **Language and Culture (3)**

AN 3312

Examines the dynamics between language and culture in cross-cultural perspective. It explores the functions and use of language in society, the symbolic nature of language, theories regarding the evolution of human language, linguistic change, and how humans use language in social contexts.

## **Social Stratification (3)**

AN 3320

An analysis of social stratification utilizing social class as the unit of study. The course will focus on the structure of social classes in the U.S. as a major factor influencing individual and group life chances with regards to education, crime, health, and disease, world views and life styles.

## **Criminology (3)**

AN 3325

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## **Social Organization&Social Sys (3)**

AN 3342

An analysis of human behavior in organizations viewed as social systems. Topics include formal and informal structures, corporate cultures, organizational goals and problems, communication, interpersonal relations, adaptation, and change.

## **The Family (3)**

AN 3343

A study of the family as an institution and social system, including discussions of dating and mate selection, premarital and extramarital sex, birth control, abortion, illegitimacy, family planning, spousal relationships, interracial and interfaith marriages, socialization, social control, and change.

## **Social Psychology (3)**

AN 3351

Theories and research on social factors in behavior, including such topics as attitudes, perception, leadership, and attraction.

## **Internship in Anthropology (3)**

AN 3355

Experiential education related to the theoretical and research topics studied in sociology. The experience consists of pre-professional work in social agencies, community programs, and other appropriate settings approved by the department. Junior/Senior status and at least 9 hours of upper-division sociology are prerequisites. Involves written sociological analysis. 3 to 6 semester hours of credit, with a maximum of 3 hours per semester.

## **Urban Sociology (3)**

AN 3361

An analysis of cities, their historical development and social organization. Topics include urbanization in developed and developing societies, urban stratification and lifestyles, and urban, metropolitan and regional planning.

## **Demography and Ecology (3)**

AN 3362

The demographic study of human populations, including fertility, mortality, migration, age, sex, class composition. The ecological study of relations between human societies and their environments. Analysis of environmental problems and proposed solutions.

## **Minority Relations (3)**

AN 3371

A study of ethnic, religious and racial relations in the U.S. and other countries. Topics include power relationships, prejudice, discrimination, ethnic stratification, migration, assimilation and pluralism. Minorities to be considered include Blacks, Mexican-Americans and Native Americans.

## **Introductory Statistics (3)**

AN 3381

An introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics designed for the student of behavioral sciences.

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## **Social Gerontology (3)**

AN 4300

A study of the aging process, with emphasis on its social, cultural and psychological aspects. Topics include the effects of aging on personality, intelligence, sexuality and maturity; family relationships; the demography of aging; and the relevance of gerontology theory and research for social policy.

## **Death and Dying (3)**

AN 4305

A holistic treatment of the dying person and his/her environment. Topics include cross-cultural differences in grief and mourning behaviors, psychological process of the terminally ill, funeral practices, hospice alternatives, and ethical problems related to the medical extension of life.

## **Department Faculty**

[Anthropology Faculty Website](#)

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