

Graduate Courses in Anthropology – 2015-16

Course Requirements:

Students in our MA program must complete 3.0 graduate course credits, the equivalent of taking 6 half-courses (one-term courses). (Note that Applied Archaeology students take only 5 half-courses since they must also do a practicum which requires a time commitment equivalent to another half-course.) Students in our PhD program must complete 2.5 graduate course credits, or the equivalent of 5 half-courses. Normally, first-year full-time graduate students would complete their coursework in the first two terms of their program (upcoming fall and winter terms).

Among their courses, full-time students entering the first year of the MA and PhD programs are generally expected to take one required course per term – one of the two Theory courses (9100A or 9200A) in the fall, and one of the two Research Methods courses (9101B or 9201B) in the winter term. PhD students who took these courses as MA students at Western may substitute other courses for these core courses.

With special permission, students may take and receive credit for up to two relevant half-courses in other graduate programs on campus. Consult departmental websites for information on graduate course offerings. Consult with your interim faculty advisor if you have questions regarding what courses in other programs might be relevant for you. Permission must be sought from both the course instructor and from your own supervisor. Undergraduate courses can only be taken for credit if they are a requirement of your program.

Students considering enrolling in collaborative graduate programs such as Migration and Ethnic Relations (MER) or Environment and Sustainability (E&S) – both of which are ‘add-ons’ to the anthropology program – will have other course requirements to consider.

- Students in the MER program must attend the non-credit MER colloquium and must take two half-courses from the list of MER-eligible courses, only one of which can be from Anthropology (the other will be from another department). For more information about this program and its requirements, see the MER website at: <http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/MER/MERprogram/index.asp>
- Students in the E&S program are required to take 1.5 course credits in Environment and Sustainability. For more information on this program and its requirements, speak to the anthropology grad chair and see the E&S website at: <http://www.uwo.ca/enviro/Graduate/Graduate%20Program.html/Research%20Based%20Grad%20Degree%20Stream.html>

Students should also enroll **to audit Anthropology 9010 – Graduate Research Seminar** in both fall and winter terms, in addition to their credit courses.

- Please note that, although enrolling in and attending the Research Seminar are requirements of our programs, this course does *not* count for credit (there are no shared readings or graded assignments). It appears as an audit on transcripts.
- **Full-time MA and PhD students are expected to enroll in and attend this seminar for a total of four terms during their programs. Part-time students** are only required to enroll for **two terms** (in recognition of their other commitments and time constraints), and the Research Seminar is scheduled on Friday afternoons to facilitate their attendance in terms when they are taking the Theory and Methods courses, which are offered on Friday mornings. We ask part-time students to attend as many additional sessions of the Research Seminar as feasible, in addition to their two terms of formal enrolment.
- Once they have research results, all graduate students must make a research presentation to their peers in the Research Seminar. This normally occurs in the second half of their programs – year 2 for full-time MA students, year 3 or 4 for part-time MA students and full-time PhD students.
- Formal meetings of the Research Seminar occur approximately six times each term (roughly every other week). On alternate weeks there may be other kinds of presentations in this time slot, such as workshops on specific issues. Attendance is not required at those optional sessions.

Please discuss your course selections with your interim faculty advisor.

First Term Courses – Beginning September 2015

(The first day of the term for graduate and undergraduate courses is Thursday, Sept. 10.)

Required First Term Courses

Anthropology 9100A – Archaeology Theory (Jean-François Millaire) – Fridays, 9:30-12:30

- Required for bioarchaeology and archaeology students, including applied archaeology (where appropriate to the research project, 9200A may be substituted)

This core graduate seminar is built around some central topics in anthropology, which vary from year to year (in past years they have included materiality, culture, individual and society, time, memory and the politics of the past, and space and place). It is designed not as a survey of theoretical positions on these topics, but rather as an exercise in critical reading and critical thinking about how these concepts have been, and can be, used. In other words, the objective is to train you to think theoretically, rather than to teach you theories. In addition to thinking through some ways that the selected themes have been used in archaeology and bioarchaeology, and what the implications are of different approaches, we will also be considering how sociocultural anthropologists use these concepts, and whether (or to what degree) we are all talking about the same thing when we engage them. This course crosses over several times in the term with Anthropology 9200A (below).

Anthropology 9200A – Sociocultural Anthropology Theory (Andrew Walsh) – Fridays, 9:30-12:30

- Required for sociocultural and linguistic anthropology students (where appropriate to the research project, 9100A may be substituted)

This core graduate seminar is built around some central topics in anthropology, which vary from year to year (in past years they have included materiality, culture, individual and society, time, memory and the politics of the past, and space and place). It is designed not as a survey of theoretical positions on these topics, but rather as an exercise in critical reading and critical thinking about how these concepts have been, and can be, used. In other words, the objective is to train you to think theoretically, rather than to teach you theories. In addition to thinking through some ways that the selected themes have been used in sociocultural anthropology, and what the implications are of different approaches, we will also be considering how archaeologists and bioarchaeologists use these concepts, and whether (or to what degree) we are all talking about the same thing when we engage them. This course crosses over several times in the term with Anthropology 9100A (above).

Optional First Term Courses

Anthropology 9001A – Professional Development (Lisa Hodgetts) – Thursdays, 9:30-12:30

Anthropologists develop a suite of valuable transferrable skills that can be effectively applied in a wide range of job settings. This course aims to help students identify and strengthen their marketable skills and learn to present themselves effectively to prospective employers both within and outside of academia. These skills include time management, oral communication, grant writing, teaching, leadership, research, project management, editing, knowledge mobilization, interpersonal skills, and an appreciation of ethical and civic responsibility. The course emphasizes peer and participatory learning and includes a series of collaborative and individual projects that will not only serve to enrich students' skills, but also provide them with concrete experiences to add to their CVs. In 2015 these projects will include designing and implementing an anthropology-based program for the Thames Valley District School Board's itinerant gifted program, obtaining feedback from our former undergraduate students about their experiences in the department, and/or other similar activities.

- *This course is open to students in all fields of anthropology*

Anthropology 9103A – Regional Topics in Archaeology: Advanced Ontario/Great Lakes Archaeology (Chris Ellis) – Wednesdays, 9:30-12:30

The major focus in this course is the archaeology of First Nations peoples in Ontario with the aims of: 1) identifying the major gaps in our knowledge and questions that remain unanswered about that archaeology and 2) critically examining in detail the major interpretative debates that have characterized the history of archaeological research in the area. Our main concern

will be Ontario but to place our discussions in a wider substantive and theoretical context we can and will examine other literature on Great Lakes Archaeology. Also, the course will strive to relate Ontario/Great Lakes archaeology to a wider context of prominent theoretical, methodological and substantive debates of general archaeological/anthropological significance. Some have accused Ontario archaeology of being insular and not really concerned with such broader questions.

- *Cross-listed with Anthropology 4494F*

Anthropology 9104A – Special Topics in Bioarchaeology: Skeletal Biology (Alexis Dolphin), Mondays, 9:30-12:30

The goal of this lab-intensive course is to explore the field of biological anthropology known as Osteology, or the study of human skeletal (and dental) remains. Students will learn standard osteological techniques for identifying individuals and making connections between them and the populations from which they are derived. The methodological skills learned in this course will prove essential to anyone aiming to pursue studies in biological anthropology, bioarchaeology or forensic anthropology. This course will cover several topic areas including: 1) bone and tooth biology; 2) skeletal and dental growth/development; 3) data collection techniques; 4) estimations of identifying characteristics (e.g. age, sex, stature); and 5) an introduction to paleopathology. In order to build a thorough understanding of each of these topic areas several weeks of this course will be dedicated entirely to building students' familiarity with skeletal anatomy through hands-on work with remains during in-class lab periods. At the completion of this course students will be expected to have mastered techniques for conducting, interpreting, and reporting on osteological data.

- *Cross-listed with Anthropology 3338F*

Anthropology 9107A – Biomedical Anthropology and Evolutionary Medicine (El Molto) – Wednesdays, 2:30-5:30

This course explores the role bioanthropology has played in the genesis of the emerging field of evolutionary medicine. It examines the natural history of the diseases that impact modern western societies reconstructed from our ancestors' remains, historical texts, and modern epidemiology, with the overall objective of understanding the causes of modern diseases.

- *Cross-listed with Anthropology 3340B*

Anthropology 9217A – Topics in Anthropology & Embodiment: Contagion, Plague & Public Health (Regna Darnell) – Mondays, 2:30-5:30

This course will examine the reciprocal implication of individual bodies and society, moving between theory (e.g. Foucault, Camus, Stallybrass and White, Bakhtin, Judith Butler, Ruth Benedict), ethnography (the critical role of cross-cultural research in evolving public understandings of health and community), and potential applications of anthropological

perspectives in changing standards of public health. Issues of marginalization and social inequality play out in both policy and practice through social and cultural determinants of health (e.g., historical trauma and PTSD). The emphasis will differ considerably depending on the interests of students.

Anthropology 9225A – Special Topics in Sociocultural Anthropology: History of Anthropological Thought (Kim Clark) – Thursdays, 8:30-11:30

We are standing on the shoulders of giants – some of anthropology’s most brilliant minds have grappled with how to understand social organization. In this course we will explore the history of some important anthropological theories about social organization, analyzing how anthropological concepts and categories have been constructed and reconstructed over time. We will do so by examining the work and lives of some foundational figures in sociocultural anthropology from the late-19th and 20th centuries. We will read examples of their original (primary) work, in order to understand how particular kinds of anthropological questions or perspectives emerged out of the intersection of specific life circumstances and interests, intellectual networks and formation of schools of thought, and particular ethnographic circumstances in specific political and historical contexts. The intention is not to try to cover all major figures – *many* are left out! – but rather to turn an anthropological eye on anthropology itself, exploring both a series of anthropological concepts and the social processes through which anthropological perspectives are actively produced. This course will be of special interest to students who do not have a strong background in the history of anthropological thought, or simply want to enjoy reading/re-reading and discussing some foundational works.

- *Cross-listed with Anthropology 3301E (first term only)*

Anthropology 9227A – Gender and Development: Engaging with Theory, Practice, and Advocacy (Bipasha Baruah), Mondays, 10:30-1:30

This course seeks to provide an introduction to ‘gender and development’ as a domain of theory, practice, advocacy and interaction. The course is informed by the needs and interests of future ‘practitioners,’ i.e. students who hope to engage in research, project design and implementation, policy analysis, advocacy and/or networking in the ‘gender and development’ field or a closely related domain. To best serve the needs of such students, a few lectures of the course are devoted to providing students with a historical perspective on the evolution of the theory and practice of gender and development discourse, and rest of the course focuses almost exclusively on key contemporary and emerging gender issues and debates. Students who do not intend to work as gender and development ‘practitioners,’ but who want to acquire an up-to-date understanding of the field are welcome in the course, which is open to all graduate students with an interest in the contemporary theory and practice of gender and development.

- *Cross-listed with Women’s Studies 9592A and Anthropology 4493F*

Second Term Courses – Beginning January 2016

(The first day of the term for graduate and undergraduate courses is Monday, Jan. 4)

Required Second Term Courses

Anthropology 9101B – Research Methods in Archaeology/Bioarchaeology (Neal Ferris) – Fridays, 9:30-12:30

- Required for bioarchaeology and archaeology students, including applied archaeology (where appropriate to the research project, 9201B may be substituted)

This course will examine methodological conceptions and challenges to undertaking archaeological and biological anthropological research, the way methodologies flow from theory and can shape or be shaped by data, and the process of envisioning methods from research design, to data collection, to understanding and interpreting findings of anthropological relevance. The class will also explore issues around balancing intellectual curiosity and academic freedom with broader societal accountabilities and ensuring ethical research. This course will not cover basic methodologies in archaeology and biological anthropology, but rather help students develop a preliminary research design related to their specific interests, as well as explore and discuss in class the methodological challenges that their research poses, and ways the student can meet those challenges. In other words, this class will very much be shaped by your specific interests and needs as you begin to plan for undertaking your research. As opportunities allow, this class will interact with students in 9201B.

Anthropology 9201B – Research Methods in Sociocultural Anthropology (Adriana Premat) – Fridays, 9:30-12:30

- Required for sociocultural and linguistic anthropology students (where appropriate to the research project, 9101B may be substituted)

This course offers an introduction to a range of issues related to the practice of anthropological and ethnographic research. Among the topics we will be addressing through readings, presentations and discussions are: the nature and ethics of anthropological work, research design, and the advantages and limitations of different approaches to data collection and analysis. The course will have a strong hands-on component that will include the use of qualitative data analysis software.

Anthropology 9110B – Principles of Applied Archaeology (Pete Timmins) – Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30

- Required for applied archaeology students

This course will examine the principles and concerns that are integral to the practice of applied archaeology in North America, and the role of applied archaeology in heritage management in

general. The course will review legislation and professional practices that govern applied archaeologists, and in particular the form of archaeology carried out by consultant archaeologists hired by third parties to undertake archaeological investigations in advance of land development or resource extraction (commonly called Cultural Resource Management - CRM). While the readings will draw on the experience of applied archaeology from across North America and beyond, the course will focus on applied archaeology as currently practiced in Ontario.

- *Cross-listed with Anthropology 4496B*

Optional Second Term Courses

Anthropology 9002B – GIS in Anthropology (Jean-François Millaire) – Mondays, 9:30-12:30

This course is an introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in anthropology. A GIS is a platform designed to store, analyze, and present all types of spatial data, such as artefact scatters on an archaeological site, crowdsourced ethnographic data, or remotely sensed information. GIS analysis can reveal important sites and linkages between material culture, people, and places, broadening the scope of data available through traditional collection practices, enhancing data analysis and interpretation, and producing innovative ways of communicating research results to stakeholder communities. A combination of lectures and laboratory assignments will introduce the basic concepts of GIS mapping and spatial analysis in both archaeological and ethnographic contexts. Students will develop their own GIS research project using the skills, concepts, and models examined during the term.

- *This course is open to students in all fields of anthropology*
- *Cross-listed with Anthropology 4497B*

Anthropology 9102B – Regional Topics in Bioarchaeology: Bioarchaeology of the Baja Peninsula (El Molto) – meeting time to be determined with students who enroll.

In the late 1800s the Cape Region of the Baja Peninsula received considerable anthropological notoriety with the discovery of the elaborate cave burial mortuary ceremonialism and the unique hyperdolichocranic characteristic of the indigenous population. In the 1940s the first professional archaeological research was conducted by William Massey. In the past 25 years I have been conducting bioarchaeological research on all the skeletal remains thus far recovered on the Peninsula. This course focuses on the latter and overviews the research in paleodemography, paleogenetics (morphology and ancient DNA), paleonutrition (isotopes and dental pathology) and paleoepidemiology. Students will learn how to construct and interpret lifetables, compute biological distance and paleoepidemiological statistics (e.g., odds ratios and Bayesian stats) and interpret isotopic data for radio-carbon dating and paleodiet reconstruction, all wedded within the unique archaeological and ethnohistorical background of the Peninsula.

Anthropology 9214B – Memory/History and Reconstructions of Identities (Randa Farah) – Wednesdays, 9:30-12:30

The course examines the reproduction of the past, whether professional historical productions or popular memory, as entwined to present givens and interests. It similarly assumes that identity constructions inevitably invoke the past. The course includes readings on how memory is reproduced in the context of migration/diaspora, the political aspect of memory, and the struggle for and against power.

- *This course can be taken for credit towards the MER Collaborative program.*

Anthropology 9223B – Anthropology of Migration (Sherrie Larkin) – Tuesdays, 9:30-12:30

This course will use ethnographic and historical accounts to examine some of the theoretical attempts to describe, explain and predict human migration. Specific issues, such as racism, ethnicity, transnationalism, globalization, legal/illegal status, identity and border politics will be included. Although I will provide basic reading lists for these issues, students will play a leading role in the selection of additional topics and reading materials that meet their interests.

- *This course can be taken for credit towards the MER Collaborative program.*

Anthropology 9900B – Special Topics in Anthropology: Biocultural Anthropology (Alexis Dolphin) – Thursdays, 9:30-12:30

The holistic approach to understanding human kind has long been lauded as one of the most unique and powerful aspects of Americanist, four-field Anthropology. Seeing beyond entrenched dichotomies of self/other, science/art, body/mind, individual/society, nature/culture, is at the fundamental heart of the anthropological enterprise, and provides anthropologists with a distinctive ability to engage, understand, and act alongside those with whom we work. Yet, many would argue that, with pressures to specialize, and the drawing and re-drawing of epistemological and methodological boundaries, it is difficult to actually “do” biocultural anthropology. With this course we will explore various ways by which anthropologists have successfully carried out important biocultural work on a multitude of cultural/biological issues. We will begin with a review of biocultural concepts and histories, with an eye to imagining how they might be expanded and applied to topics of interest to students in the class. Such topics could include: biotechnology and reproduction, epigenetics, personalized and/or racialized medicine, modification of the human life cycle, cosmetic surgery, the ‘stress’ concept and human adaptation, mind-body holism, emotion, emerging diseases, animal-human relationships, body commodification, embodiment, disability, obesity, mental health, sexuality, and pain/suffering, among many possible others.

- *This course is open to students in all fields of anthropology*