



ANTHROPOLOGY 1021B-001 & 002

Introduction to Sociocultural and Linguistic Anthropology

Department of Anthropology

Course Outline

Winter 2023

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Instructors:

Sociocultural Anthropology

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Linguistic Anthropology

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Mode of Delivery: This course is planned for in-person delivery. Lectures are on Mondays. Tutorials are Wednesdays. You must attend the tutorial section for which you are enrolled.

Class day/time: LECTURES

Section 001: Mondays 9:30 am-11:30 am

Section 002: Mondays 1:30 pm-3:30 pm

TUTORIALS

Wednesdays at a range of times (please check your enrollment information)

Credit value: 0.5

Requisites:

Prerequisites: none.

Antirequisites: Anthropology 1020 (formerly Anthropology 1020E), Anthropology 1025F/G.

Please note: if you are interested in pursuing a module in Anthropology, you should pair this course with Introduction to Biological Anthropology and Archaeology, either Anthropology 1022A/B (non-essay) or Anthropology 1026F/G (essay).

Course Description:

This course offers an introduction to anthropological approaches to the study of humanity. Taking into account the diversity of human experience across time and space, this course will emphasize two subfields of anthropology: sociocultural anthropology, which focuses on variation in social and

cultural systems including kinship, politics, identity, economics, and belief systems; and linguistic anthropology, which explores the role of language use, transmission, and symbolism in culture and social life. This course is intended to provide students with a comparative and critical framework with which to understand contemporary social issues.

Note: a weekly schedule of topics and readings will be available separately on the course OWL site.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the methodology, concepts, and approaches used in the anthropological study of humanity.
- Apply critical thinking and analytical skills to representations of human and cultural diversity.
- Reflect on the connections between diverse social processes (economic and political systems, language, social organization, beliefs, etc.).
- Reflect on the purpose and usefulness of anthropological practice in the world.
- Illustrate how language and culture influence each other.
- Critically examine sociocultural contexts in which particular varieties of language are used.
- Describe the relationship between language and identity in political and cultural terms.
- Demonstrate how linguistic practices are linked to social meaning and categories such as race, gender, ethnicity, and class.

Course Materials:

The text for Sociocultural Anthropology is: John Monaghan and Peter Just, Social and Cultural Anthropology: A Very Short Introduction (Oxford University Press, 2000). This course textbook can be accessed free of charge through Western Libraries, or you can purchase it at the Campus Bookstore.

Readings for Linguistic Anthropology, supplementary readings for Sociocultural Anthropology, as well as any other assigned materials such as blogposts, films, or audio, will be made available on the course OWL site.

Evaluation:

Sociocultural Anthropology quizzes (5 quizzes, lowest mark dropped, leaving 4 quizzes x 1.5% each)	6%
Sociocultural Anthropology short assignments (5 assignments, lowest mark dropped, leaving 4 assignments x 6% each)	24%
Linguistic Anthropology quizzes (5 quizzes, lowest mark dropped, leaving 4 quizzes x 1.5% each)	6%
Linguistic Anthropology short assignments (5 assignments, lowest mark dropped, leaving 4 assignments x 6% each)	24%
Cumulative final exam covering Sociocultural and Linguistic Anthropology	40%
Total	100%

Weekly Quizzes – 6% + 6% = 12%

For each 6-week subfield segment of the course, there will be 5 weekly quizzes. Your best 4 grades out of the 5 quizzes will be counted in each half of the course, at a value of 1.5% each, for a total of 6% for each 6-week subfield segment.

The weekly quizzes will assess your understanding of the course readings and must be completed online on the OWL course website before the lecture. The underlying goal of the quizzes is to give you an incentive for preparing properly for class, which will deepen your understanding of the week's learning materials. While the grade weight of each quiz is low, missing too many quizzes can make a significant difference to your final grade.

Weekly Assignments – 24% + 24% = 48%

The weekly short assignments should be done after the Wednesday tutorial session, and will be due on Friday night each week. For each 6-week subfield segment of the course, there will be 5 weekly assignments. Your best 4 grades out of the 5 assignments will be counted in each half of the course, at a value of 6% each, for a total of 24% for each 6-week subfield segment.

To repeat, for each 6-week subfield segment of the course, your lowest quiz mark and your lowest assignment mark will be dropped. We encourage students to use this opportunity wisely. Detailed information about course assessments and expectations will be available on the course OWL site.

See the Anthropology 1021B OWL webpage labelled "I Need Help!" for information on how Self-Reported Absences will affect quizzes and assignments.

Cumulative final exam – 40%

The final exam will cover both Sociocultural Anthropology and Linguistic Anthropology. More information about the format of the exam, and study materials to help you prepare, will be available later in the term. The final week of classes has also been set aside for course review and preparation for the final exam, which will give students a chance to consolidate their learning and synthesize key course material. The exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office sometime during the April exam period.

The final exam is planned as an in-person exam. However, if public health conditions require, the university may deem it necessary to conduct the final examination using a remote proctoring service. University policy states "By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide personal information (including some biometric data) and the session will be recorded. Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western's Remote Proctoring website at: <https://remoteproctoring.uwo.ca>."

All written assignments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All assignments submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

Academic Statements and Policies

For **course-specific policies** about academic considerations, and what to do when you need help with a range of issues, please see the webpage labelled "**I Need Help**" in the **Anthropology 1021B OWL website**. You should be familiar with all of the information posted there. The statements below are general academic policies.

Statement on Seeking Academic Consideration:

It is important that you contact the instructor as soon as possible **in advance of any due dates** if you are seeking academic consideration. Please consult [university policies on procedures for seeking academic consideration](#).

Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. **Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.** See link below for more details on the penalties for plagiarism. All assignments will be evaluated using Turnitin in the Assignments portal. Please visit Western Libraries to read about [What is Plagiarism?](#)

Institutional Statements and Policies:

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined in Western's academic policies by clicking on this link: [Western's academic policies](#).

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