

Department of Anthropology

ANTHRO 3378G-200 - Bio-Cultural Debates in Race and Ethnicity

BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE

Winter 2027

Date: June 15, 2026

Instructor and course information:

Instructor: Dr. Pamela Block

Method of delivery: blended

Credit value: 0.5

Antirequisites: None.

Prerequisites: Anthropology 2278A/B, the former 2278F/G, or permission of the instructor.

Please ensure you have the correct requisites by checking [the Academic Calendar](#).

Course Description:

This course addresses anthropological approaches to race and ethnicity in historical and contemporary literatures from 19th-21st centuries, studying experiences of racialized groups such as African Diaspora, Uyghur, Latinx, and Indigenous peoples. We will look at anthropology's troubled legacy and the voices of emerging scholars who are forging new approaches. The course will be structured so that readings are responsive to student areas of interest. Students are encouraged to focus on particular topics of interest to them and incorporate their interests into weekly discussions.

The course will be hybrid synchronous and asynchronous. Students will take turns as discussion leaders (both synchronous and asynchronous components), assignments will include weekly reflections and responses to each others' reflections (OWL discussion Forum), one essay and either another essay or an alternative format assignment.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

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Learning Outcomes:

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

- Analyze how racialized groups have been depicted in anthropology in the 19th through 21st centuries.
- Assess the methodologies used by anthropologists who have written about race and ethnicity and the ethical considerations involved.
- Propose alternative ways for anthropologists to research race and ethnicity

Course Materials:

Required readings will be available through the Course Readings tool on the course site

Evaluation:

Grades will be based on the following:

Essay or Alternate Format Assignment: By the end of week 2 each student develops a personal goal they want to accomplish during the class which will culminate in a project. **30%**

Weekly Provocations: On Monday for at least 10 weeks of the term students submit a 200–350-word (undergrad) 350-500-word (grad) personal reflection on how the week's readings are relevant (or not) to their personal goal and the progress toward their goal. **30%**

Discussion Leadership: undergrad groups or grad individuals pick the readings and lead the discussion). **20%**

Leadership Reflections: 200-350 words (undergrad) 350-500-word (grad) on the discussion leadership experience with undergrads detailing their individual contribution and reflections on group process. **10%**

Peer review and Self-evaluation: Form be submitted at the end class for at least 10 weeks of the term. **10%**

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