# ANTH 100 A01/A02

## Introduction to Anthropology

This course is an introductory survey of the sub-fields of anthropology: archaeology, biological anthropology, cultural and social anthropology and linguistic anthropology. Two broad principles underlie our understanding of human complexity: First, all individuals and groups possess certain commonalities - in particular, genetic and other biological traits, sociality, language and a powerful symbolising capability; and second, human culture is incredibly diverse and ever-changing. We will explore the sub-fields of anthropology through a range of themes including, but not limited to: evolution; early humans; development of agriculture; emergence of cities and states; culture, ethnicity and race; and families, kinship and gender.

## Course details

**Instructor:** Dr Erin McGuire (she/they), see details below.

**Dates:** 6 Sep – 4 Dec 2023

**Delivery:** In-person sessions on Tues/Weds with weekly self-paced online materials and tutorials. The Friday sessions are reserved primarily for exam reviews and exams.

## Sections

- ANTH 100 A01 (CRN 10101) meets T/W 11:30-12:20 in HHB 105
- ANTH 100 A02 (CRN 10102) meets T/W 1:30-2:20 in DTB A120

This course is a required course for the Anthropology BA and BSc degrees and the Anthropology Minor. It is an accepted elective across most departments and faculties at UVic.

## Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and respect the ləkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

Intended learning outcomes are what instructors hope students will be able to do after completing course activities. Assessment activities are meant to measure how successfully students have achieved course outcomes.

By the end of the course you should be able to:

1.  identify and explain the sub-fields and specializations of anthropology;
2.  critically discuss a range of key themes relevant to the study of anthropology;
3.  articulate what it means to be human and appreciate the past and present diversity of human life;
4.  challenge personal assumptions and preconceptions; and
5.  identify and evaluate factors that influence our interpretation and understanding of anthropology.

## Instructor

**Dr Erin McGuire (she/they)**

I have been teaching at UVic since 2010, after completing my PhD in archaeology at the University of Glasgow. I am a passionate believer in hands-on and experiential learning, working hard to make sure that these opportunities are as accessible as possible. I believe that all UVic students should have the chance to engage in experiential learning during their degrees.

## Communications

I can be reached via MS Teams and email. While it is possible to speak with me in class, please save it to the end as I need the minutes before class to get set up for the session. Please do not use the Brightspace message tool, as I typically do not receive those messages. I do not usually respond to communications outside of standard business hours.

**Email:** anth100-mcg@uvic.ca (You can typically expect a response within two working days)

**MS Teams:** Ask Dr McG (Often this is the quickest way to reach me on a working day)

**Office hours:** Tuesdays 2:45-4 or by appointment, in COR B225.

**Feedback:** Your learning matters to me. While there is a chance to submit feedback at the end of the course via the Course Experience Survey (CES), there will be anonymous surveys during the course to solicit feedback. I also hope that you will feel safe coming to me directly if you have concerns.

## Course resources

Click the icons below to go to the relevant course resources. Our Brightspace page combines both the A01 and A02 sections of the course. The title is: **Fall 2023 ANTH 100 A01 - A02 X**. (For more information, go to the Educational Technologies section below.)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brightspace page | MS Teams | Online textbook resources |

### Required textbook and readings

Muckle, R.J. and L.T. de Gonzalez (2022) *Through the Lens of Anthropology: An Introduction to Human Evolution and Culture,* University of Toronto Press. (Third edition preferred, as earlier editions are missing content. But, if you have an older edition, you can just use the copy of the newest one on reserve in the library to fill in missing elements.) Buy via the UVic Bookstore (new: $89.95, used $67.50, or e-text $67.95) or check SUBText for used copies.

There are online textbook resources for review questions, chapter outlines, and key terminology. Other readings will be assigned to you on the Brightspace site.

### Format and Learning Activities

Our Tuesday and Wednesday sessions are in-person on campus. We will have several guest speakers throughout the semester (see timetable). On days when I am leading the class, you can expect a largely interactive-lecture format with regular group discussions. My class sessions are meant to be participatory, so expect to be asked to talk to the people around you. Polling and other collaborative activities will be used in the classroom to foster student engagement on a regular basis (see below).

There will be weekly reading and viewing assignments from the textbook and Brightspace and questions to answer via Brightspace. Questions will also be raised for discussion via the polling tool.

### Workload

Generally, at UVic you are expected to do approximately two hours of homework (e.g., reading and studying) for every hour of scheduled activities – that is, up to eight hours each week for ANTH 100. For this course, you will find that the workload varies a bit, but tends to include one chapter of the main text, one extra reading per week, a weekly quiz, and a weekly tutorial activity.

## Tentative timetable (subject to change)

This is a tentative list of topics and associated chapters. Please check Brightspace for more details for each module, including learning outcomes, activities, readings, etc. The midterm date is firm and will not change. Readings are meant to be completed in advance of the class session, so that we can move beyond what your textbook says.

There are a number of guest speakers for ANTH 100. They come from various sub-disciplines of Anthropology and their contributions to the course matter. Please aim to be present and attentive to our guests. (Highlighted guest talks not yet confirmed)

| Week of: | Topic | Textbook Readings | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| 04-Sep-23 | Introduction | Chapter 1 | |
| 11-Sep-23 | Culture | Chapter 8 | 13 Sep: Dr Happynook – *Indigenous ways of knowing* |
| 18-Sep-23 | Primates | Chapter 2 | |
| 25-Sep-23 | Evolution | Chapter 3 | |
| 02-Oct-23 | Human Evolution | Chapter 4 | 4 Oct: Dr Decrausaz – *What's in a skeleton?* <br> Fri, 6 Oct: Optional exam review (11:30; 1:30) |
| 09-Oct-23 | Archaeology: General | Chapter 5 | Fri, 13 Oct: Midterm (11:30; 1:30) |
| 16-Oct-23 | Archaeology: 40000-5000 years ago | Chapter 6 | 17 Oct: Dr Mackie – *Pseudoarchaeology* <br> 18 Oct: Dr Thom – *Collaborative archaeology in Cordova Bay* |
| 23-Oct-23 | Archaeology: Recent | Chapter 7 | 31 Oct: Last day to drop classes |
| 30-Oct-23 | Marriage, Family, & Gender | Chapter 11 | Guest talk: L. Toorenburgh – *Walking-with wellness* |
| 06-Nov-23 | Food/Economics | Chapter 10 | 7 Nov: Dr Rudnyckyj – *Anthropology of money* |
| 13-Nov-23 | Reading Break | n/a | No lectures this week |
| 20-Nov-23 | Political Relations | Chapter 12 | Guest talk: Dr Burnett – *Medical Anthropology* |
| 27-Nov-23 | Anthropology and Sustainability | Chapter 14 | Fri, 1 Dec: Optional exam review (11:30; 1:30) |
| TBA | FINAL EXAM | n/a | The date and location of the final exam will be posted in October |

## Assessment strategies

There are five sets of assessment for the course. Short descriptions are below and longer descriptions in Brightspace. While efforts have been made to ensure inclusivity, please talk to me if there are any barriers for you regarding these activities.

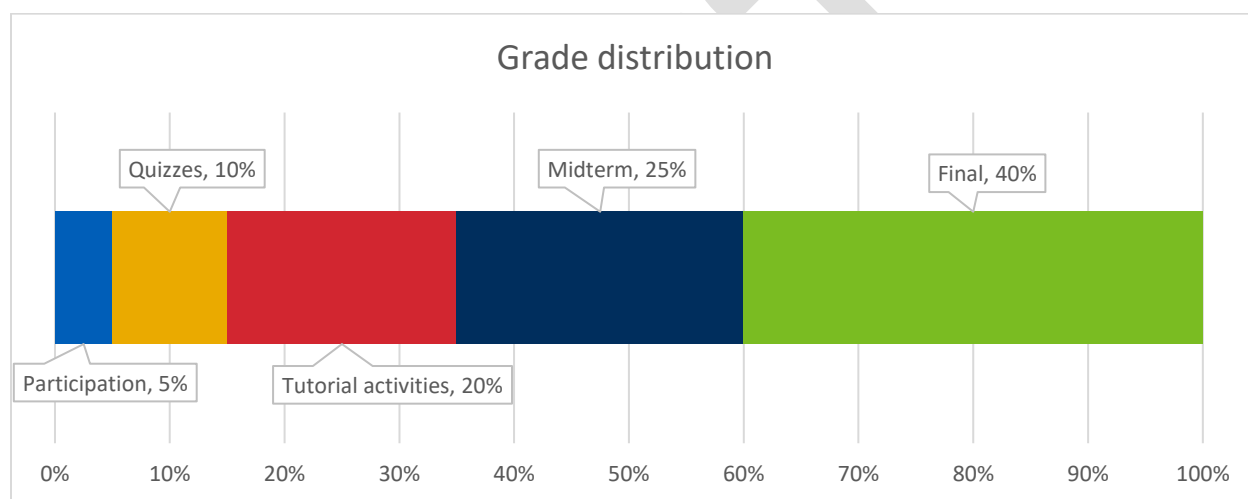| Assignment | Date | Value | ILO alignment |
|---|---|---|---|
| Participation | Weekly | 05% | All ILOs |
| Brightspace quizzes | Weekly | 10% | Primarily ILO 1 |
| Tutorial activities | Weekly | 20% | Primarily 2, 3, and 5 |
| Midterm exam | Oct 13 | 25% | Primarily 1 and 5 |
| Final exam | December | 40% | All ILOs |



*Figure 1: Comparative values of assignments*

## Participation (5%)

We will be using the Echo360 classroom response system in class. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using mobile devices and laptops, or through text message.

## Quizzes (10%)

On Brightspace, you will find ten weekly quizzes based primarily on the assigned chapter of the textbook, though if additional readings are to be included, they will be noted in the quiz description. Be aware that each quiz is due by 7pm on Sunday and **extensions are not usually possible** beyond the 24hr grace period. **Note: Quizzes are part of your preparation. They come** *after* **you complete the readings and** *before* **the relevant class sessions.**

## Tutorial activities (20%)

The tutorial activities for ANTH 100 have been moved to online and in-class activities this year. There will be a set of graded activities on Brightspace for you to complete. Details will follow via our Brightspace page.

## Exams (Midterm 25%, Final 40%)

**The midterm will be on Friday, Oct 13th** and will cover the first part of the course. The final exam will focus on the material covered *after* the midterm, but will contain selected material from the entire course. The date of the final exam will not be posted until mid-Oct. Do not make any travel plans that require you to leave before the exam period ends on Dec 20th. Please check the attendance policy about missed exams.

## Grading

We use the standard UVic Undergraduate Grading Scale for exams and assignments.

# University policies and supports

The following set of policies are a blend of university-wide ones and those specific to my course. Please review them carefully, as they may be different from what you have seen in other courses. Where relevant, there is a link to the official university policy for you to follow.

## Communication Policy

My contact information. I try to reply to email within 24-48 hours, during working hours. I will deal with general administrative business, quick questions regarding class assignments etc, via Teams or email. I will not answer bigger questions over email (such as questions about your marks or course content questions). Please visit during office hours or make an appointment. **Make sure you include ANTH 100 in your subject line, along with the subject of your message, otherwise your email may skip the inbox and be rejected as junk mail.**

## Educational Technologies and Privacy

Our primary learning tools will be Brightspace, Echo360, and MS Teams. These are UVic resources and your privacy is protected when you use them in association with your netlink ID. If you need tech support, start with the Student Guide to Online Learning.

## Brightspace

Used for course information, announcements, assignments, tutorial activities, and all grades. Please check it regularly. To access our course Brightspace you will need a Netlink ID and password (netlink.uvic.ca).

## Echo360

Used for slide decks, recordings of in-person lectures, and polling activities. To access the ANTH 100 Echo360 resources, follow the link on our Brightspace page.

## MS Teams

Used for discussion and in-class group activities. To access Teams, go to onlineservices.uvic.ca and sign up for Office 365.

## Attendance, Deadlines, and Accommodations

In the spirit of collegiality, I ask that you come to class on time. In the large lecture halls, it can be really disconcerting to have people wander in and out, especially as the doors can be loud. If you do come late, please try to find the nearest available seat. Although I have provided mini summaries of university policies, please follow the links and review carefully. The university policies are followed by those specific to this course.

- Attendance: You are expected to attend classes if you are able.
- Medical documentation: Not required for short-term absences.
- Academic concessions and deferrals: For long-term issues or issues affecting final exams and/or ability to complete a course.

## Class recordings

I will attempt to record the guest speakers and lecture components of this course, but cannot guarantee the quality of the recordings. The recordings will be available via Echo360. If you have an academic accommodation that normally allows you to record classes, you may want to consider making your own recordings for those sessions.

## Late Work

There is a grace period for quizzes and tutorial activities in this course. If you submit your work within 24hrs of the assigned deadlines, there will be no late penalty, but you will get less feedback. Following the grace period, late work will be penalised by 5% per day. If there are valid reasons for requiring an extension beyond the grace period, you can apply for one via the In-course Extension form (PDF). Examples of possible reasons for needing extensions can be found on the Request for Academic Concession page.

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

It matters that you feel like you belong in this course. If you feel that you are being excluded from the course in any way, please talk to me.

## Inclusivity and Equity

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members [Senate resolution, January 13th, 1999]. As part of our commitment to equity, the Department of Anthropology has established an Equity Committee. If you have concerns regarding equity issues in the classroom, you may contact a member of the Equity committee or the Chair of the Department. The Department Secretary can provide you with the names of the committee members.

## Accessibility Accommodations

As much as possible, I try to employ the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). One of the goals for UDL is to address academic accommodations in the design of the course from the beginning, so that the majority of student accommodations are automatically met. On Brightspace, I provide a list of common accommodations and how I meet them. I encourage you to review these and if need be, discuss your needs with me directly.

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) as soon as possible. CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations.

## Sexualised Violence Prevention

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously. Learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting www.uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR; Phone: 250.721.8021; Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca)

## Mental Health

A note to remind you to take care of yourself. The UVic Student Wellness Centre provides cost-free and confidential mental health services to help you manage personal challenges that impact your emotional or academic well-being.

## Conduct and Ethics

The following policies lay out expectations for everyone's behaviour as UVic students and members of this course community. Although I have provided mini summaries of relevant points, please follow the links and review carefully.

1. Online Conduct Policy: Guidelines for interacting online at UVic
2. Policy on Intellectual Property: Applies to students and faculty both. Do not distribute course resources like slides, handouts, etc.
3. Academic Integrity Policy: Students are required to abide by all academic regulations set as set out in the University calendar, including standards of academic integrity. Violations of academic integrity (e.g. cheating and plagiarism) are considered serious and may result in significant penalties.

### Artificial Intelligence (AI)

UVic is still working on developing policies in relation to the use of Artificial Intelligence by students and faculty. There are a number of tools that fall into this category and people don't

always realise that they are using them. AI is part of our everyday lives now and we will all need to learn how to work with AI with integrity. It is important to me that when you use AI, you do so consciously and with a clear effort to understand the implications of your decisions. Equally, I require you to acknowledge the use of AI in your work. Assignments will include instructions and limitations for the use of AI. Here are some broad policies that I am working with right now:

- You may use AI to assist with editing when the tool you use is one that makes recommendations but does not do the work for you. For example, a grammar checker is usually ok, but copying your work into ChatGPT and asking it to fix your grammar is not.
- You may use AI to assist with developing work flows and to help you come up with ideas, but be aware that you may be limiting your own cognitive gains in doing so.
- You must acknowledge any AI tools that you use and how you have used them. See the end of this syllabus for an example.
- One of the problems with AI tools like ChatGPT is that they falsify materials. If you use an AI tool, you will be the one held accountable for any falsification that occurs. If you are unaware of the issues with AI, you might want to start with this article: Marr, B. (22 Mar 2023) ChatGPT: What are hallucinations and why are they a problem for AI systems.

# Feedback

I value your feedback on this course. In-course feedback has the potential to help me adjust the course as we move through it, while the CES affects future instances of the course.

## In-course Feedback

During the course, I will use an anonymous survey to check in with you. It will be delivered using Brightspace. If anything comes up before or after that survey that you wish to discuss with me, please feel free to do. You can email me and/or arrange a meeting with me.

## Course Experience Surveys (CES)

At the end of term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding ANTH 100 and helps the department improve the overall program for students.

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### *AI tools used for this syllabus*

MS Word's built-in spelling and grammar checkers were used to check the writing; ChatGPT was used to organise the policy section into categories.

You made it to the very end of this document. Well done!