



ANTH-101 – Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025

Course Outline Review Date: 2030-04-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course examines the concept of culture. Through the cross-cultural study of Indigenous and other Peoples around the world, both past and present, students explore human diversity regarding ethnicity, language, marriage, family, gender, supernaturalism, politics and economics.

Students also investigate the interconnections between globalization, colonization and environmental sustainability.

The course also addresses how ethnography is used to gain anthropological knowledge, identifies the importance of research ethics, and encourages students to engage in self-reflexive examination of their own worldviews.

Program Information:

This course can be used as an elective in the Arts, Education or Science Certificate and Diploma programs. Refer to the College Program Guide for additional information.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face), Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Social Sciences

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

None

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 [Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Please Note: Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date, the following textbooks were in use:

Taubell de González, L. (2024). *Through the Lens of Cultural Anthropology*. 2nd ed. Toronto University Press.

This textbook can be purchased through the COTR Bookstore and is available for rent or purchase as an online textbook.

Please note that only current editions of this textbook can be used. Other resources including additional readings are available through the online course page.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

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

- recognize and challenge their own culture, worldviews, biases and assumptions;
 - analyze the influence of cultural patterns on human behaviour;
 - critically evaluate key themes in an ethnography;
 - explain various anthropological research methods and the principles of ethical research;
 - articulate impacts of colonization on Indigenous cultures;
 - apply critical thinking to integrate experience, knowledge and reasoning into a well-considered judgment; and
 - demonstrate reflexivity, and holistic, comparative and cross-cultural perspectives.
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Course Topics:

- Introduction to Anthropology
- Anthropological Research Methods and Ethics
- Awareness of your Culture, Worldview, Privilege, and Biases
- Concept of Culture
- Language
- Food
- Adaptation and Economic Systems
- Marriage and Family
- Gender and Sexuality
- Power and Religion
- Anthropology of Health
- Indigenous Peoples & Impacts of Colonization
- Anthropology and Sustainability

See instructor's Syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Auto-Ethnographic Project	10%
Written Assignment	25%
Participation in Discussions, Activities, Assignments	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%
Group Project	10%
TOTAL	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor’s Syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as breakdown of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and the use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities

- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
 - Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
 - Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
 - Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
 - Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
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Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.