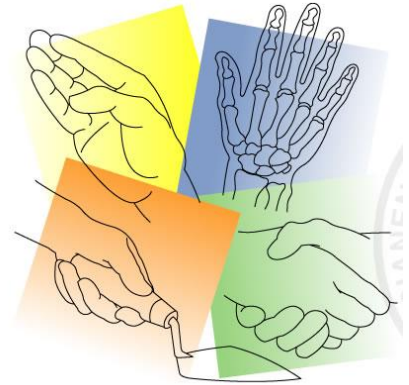


# Introduction to Anthropology

ANTH 101, Section 003  
St. Mary's College of Maryland  
Fall 2013  
Tuesday and Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:50 pm  
Kent Hall 222



## **Instructor**

Mahri Irvine

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Website: [www.mahri-irvine.com](http://www.mahri-irvine.com)

Phone: 240-462-6214 (mobile)

Campus Extension: 4387 (only during office hours)

Office: Kent Hall 303

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:45 – 5:45 pm

*I will do my best to respond to your emails or phone calls in a timely manner. However, please plan for at least a 24-hour response time. This means you need to plan ahead when you contact me. I do not usually answer phone calls or emails on the weekend.*

## **Course Description**

This course provides an overview of anthropology's approach to understanding humanity and the human condition from a holistic perspective. Students examine the four subfields of anthropology: archaeology, biological anthropology, linguistic anthropology and cultural anthropology. Students learn how anthropology provides useful knowledge, perspectives and skills to better understand and meet contemporary challenges facing humanity. This course satisfies the Core Curriculum requirement in Social Sciences. (*From the SMCM College Catalog*)

## **Additional Information:**

This course will introduce students to anthropology, which is the study of humans and cultures. We will learn about the theories, ideas, and methods of each subfield of anthropology, as well as the concept of applied anthropology, and we will explore the major topics examined in the discipline. We will also learn about how these different subfields overlap and have similar methodological approaches and goals. The primary theme of this class is "Power and Inequality," and, using a four-fields approach, we will learn to critically examine how power imbalances and social inequalities are produced, explained, and naturalized in different cultures.

## **Campus Resources**

*I want you to succeed in this class! If you start feeling overwhelmed or anxious from this class or because of other life events, please consider contacting these resources:*

### Counseling Services

You can receive unlimited free counseling at SMCM! The Counseling Center also offers support groups and many other resources:

Chance Hall

240-895-4289

Walk-In Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Appointments: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

### Disability Services

If you have a disability and would like to talk with someone about making arrangements for accommodations, or if you have questions, please contact Academic Support Services:

Glendening Hall, Suite 230

240-895-4388

[academic\\_services@smcm.edu](mailto:academic_services@smcm.edu)

### Sexual Assault Resources

If somebody sexually assaults you, there are many people who can give you help and support:

SMCM's First Responder Network: 301-904-2015 (call or text)

Student Counseling Services: 240-895-4289

Public Safety: 240-895-4911

National Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (online chat: [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org))

Police and Hospital: 911

### Writing Center

If you would like to work on your writing skills, you can find a tutor at the Writing Center:

[apheatwole@smcm.edu](mailto:apheatwole@smcm.edu)

<http://www.smcm.edu/writingcenter/> (online appointments)

## **Learning Objectives**

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

- Understand the basic concepts and methods of the four subfields of anthropology
- Understand the concepts and methods of applied anthropology
- Explain the differences and overlaps between the four subfields of anthropology
- Recognize how anthropological concepts apply to the world around you
- Gain an understanding of the various research topics and careers that anthropologists often pursue
- Be able to synthesize information and knowledge from different sources
- Think critically about cultural issues, including issues of power and inequality
- Explain how your cultural background(s) have influenced you and your perceptions of the world

## **What you can expect from me**

I should:

- Provide you with information in an organized and clear manner
- Help you learn by using a diverse range of assignments and teaching strategies
- Give you clear guidelines for how to succeed in this class
- Encourage you to learn and critically think about new ideas and concepts
- Encourage you to critically think about how cultural values have influenced your life, your self-identity, and your perceptions of other people
- Provide you with feedback about your writing and your ideas
- Meet with you to discuss your work when you request assistance or guidance
- Clearly communicate with you via email if anything on the syllabus changes
- Silence/turn off my cell phone. If it rings in class, I will bring dessert for the class during our next meeting.

## **What I will expect from you**

You should:

- Read the syllabus carefully and plan out your schedule to meet all deadlines
- Refer to the syllabus and assignment sheets if you have questions about due dates or course requirements
- Commit to following the course guidelines and meeting the course objectives
- Complete your assignments on time and to the best of your abilities
- Interact with other students and with me in a respectful, mature, and thoughtful manner
- Be prepared for class by doing the readings and taking notes
- Refrain from plagiarism and other forms of cheating
- Contact me *immediately* if you are having difficulties with the course materials or if you are having personal problems that might affect your success in class
- Silence/turn off your cell phone. If it rings in class, you will bring dessert for the class during our next meeting.

## **Academic Honesty and Ethical Conduct**

Please do not commit any acts of academic dishonesty, as outlined in your “To the Point” student handbook. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, falsification, and resubmission of work. All of these forms of dishonesty ultimately hurt you, because you will not actually be learning our course content or strengthening your writing skills if you just steal someone else’s ideas or words. Additionally, when you act dishonestly, you will weaken other people’s trust in your character and your abilities. Being dishonest will ultimately do you more harm than good: it’s not worth it! If you have questions about how to properly paraphrase other people’s ideas or statements, if you do not know how to properly use citations/references, or if you do not know when to use quotation marks, please ask me, a librarian, or someone else for help. Please refer to “To the Point” student handbook for more detailed information about academic honesty and your rights and responsibilities as a student.

<http://www.smcm.edu/tothepoint/policiesprocedures/2012-2013%20handbook%20FINAL.pdf>

## **Textbooks and Course Materials**

*All of the articles are posted on Blackboard. You can purchase the textbooks at the campus bookstore or online.*

Lynott, Mark J.

1997 Ethical Principles and Archaeological Practice: Development of an Ethics Policy. *American Antiquity* 62(4):589-599.

Park, Michael Alan

2012 *Introducing Anthropology: An Integrated Approach*. Fifth edition. New York: McGraw-Hill. (“PARK” in class schedule)

Podolefsky, Aaron, Peter Brown, and Scott Lacy

2012 *Applying Anthropology: An Introductory Reader*. Tenth edition. New York: McGraw-Hill. (“AA” in class schedule)

Prince, Sabiyha

2006 Manhattan Africans: Contradiction, Continuity, and Authenticity in a Colonial Heritage. *In Afro-Atlantic Dialogues: Anthropology in the Diaspora*. Pp. 291-327. Kevin Yelvington, ed. Santa Fe, NM: School of American Research.

Prince, Sabiyha

2002 Changing Places: Race, Class, and Belonging in the “New” Harlem. *Urban Anthropology* 31(1):5-35.

## **Film List**

Berman, Jaron

2013 Two American Families. 83 min. Boston, MA: WGBH Educational Foundation.

Carver, Kyle and Ryan Purcell

2001 Kennewick Man: Epic Drama of the West. 86 min. New York: Filmmakers Library.

Ohl, David D.

2003 Healers of Ghana. 58 min. Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences.

Rubin, John

2008 Ape Genius. 52 min. Boston, MA: NGHT, Inc. and WGBH Educational Foundation.

Simmons, Jeremy

2005 Transgeneration. 300 min. New York: New Video Group.

Stange, Eric

2008 Collateral Damage. 29 min. San Francisco: California Newsreel.

Stauffer, Zachary, Vicente Franco, and Andres Cediell

2013 Rape in the Fields. 53 min. Boston, MA: WGBH Educational Foundation.

Strain, Tracy Heather

2008 When the Bough Breaks. 29 min. San Francisco: California Newsreel.

Zou, Roger J. and Elizabeth Dukal Flander

2007 Kingdom of Women: Matriarchal Mosuo of China. 55 min. New York: Films Media Group.

## Assignments and Due Dates

You will receive an assignment sheet and a grading rubric with detailed information about each assignment. Early submissions for your written assignments are always welcomed.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Percentage of Final Grade</b>
Attendance and Participation*	ongoing	10
Subfield Reports (4 x 10 percent) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Garbology</li><li>• Biological Anthropology</li><li>• Participant-Observation</li><li>• Linguistics</li></ul>	Oct. 1 Oct. 16 Nov. 12 Nov. 26	40
Exams** (2 x 20 percent) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exam 1</li><li>• Exam 2</li></ul>	Oct. 10 Dec. 18	40
Personal Reflection essay	Dec. 12	10
<i>Total</i>		100

\*You are allowed two free unexcused absences; more than two unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade.

\*\*You must complete both exams in order to pass the class.

Late Policy: Please make an effort to turn your work in on time. You will lose one full letter grade (10%) for each 24-hour period that your assignment is late. *I do not accept work that is more than 48 hours past the due date except in the case of documented emergencies.*

## Grading Scale

93% - 100%	A	(excellent)	73% - 76%	C	(satisfactory)
90% - 92%	A-		70% - 72%	C-	
87% - 89%	B+		67% - 69%	D+	
83% - 86%	B	(good)	63% - 66%	D	(poor)
80% - 82%	B-		60% - 62%	D-	
77% - 79%	C+		0% - 59%	F	(failure)

## Extra Credit

You will have several extra credit opportunities. Any earned extra credit will be added on to your final exam at the end of the semester. See the Extra Credit sheet for specific details.

### Schedule of Class Meetings

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Readings Due</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
<b>September 3 (Tuesday)</b>	Welcome Course Overview			
<b>September 5 (Thursday)</b>	Introductory Concepts	Lecture	PARK chapters 1 and 2 AA chapter 29	
<b>September 10 (Tuesday)</b>	Archaeology at SMCM	Historic St. Mary's City tour: meet in classroom		
<b>September 12 (Thursday)</b>	Archaeological Ethics and Values	Discussion Film ("Kennewick Man")	AA chapter 18 Lynott article	
<b>September 17 (Tuesday)</b>	Archaeological Concepts and Methods	Guest Speaker: Jordan Riccio	PARK pages 85 – 96 AA chapters 14 and 21	Garbology data sheet
<b>September 19 (Thursday)</b>	Evolution and Humans as Primates	Lecture Film ("Ape Genius")	PARK chapter 3 PARK chapter 5	
<b>September 24 (Tuesday)</b>	History of Humans	Lecture In-Class Activities	PARK chapter 6	
<b>September 26 (Thursday)</b>	History of Humans <i>and</i> Life and Death in 17 <sup>th</sup> Century MD	Lecture/Activities <i>and</i> Lecture at Historic St. Mary's City		
<b>October 1 (Tuesday)</b>	Constructing Identities: Race and Ethnicity	Lecture Film "(When the Bough Breaks")	PARK chapter 8 AA chapter 8	Garbology report
<b>October 3 (Thursday)</b>	Constructing Identities: Gender and Sexuality	Lecture Film ("Transgeneration")	PARK chapter 7 AA chapter 36	
<b>October 8 (Tuesday)</b>	Exam Review			
<b>October 10 (Thursday)</b>	Exam 1			
<b>October 15 (Tuesday)</b>	NO CLASS: Fall Reading Day			
<b>October 16 (Wednesday)</b>	Visiting Anthropologist Public Lecture	Meet at Cole Cinema		Biological Anthro. report

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Reading Due</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
<b>October 17 (Thursday)</b>	Visiting Anthropologist: Dr. Sabiyha Prince		Prince articles (2)	
<b>October 22 (Tuesday)</b>	Cultural Anthropology: Concepts and Methods	Lecture	PARK chapters 2 (review) and 13	
<b>October 24 (Thursday)</b>	Food Production and Economic Systems	Lecture In-Class Activity	PARK chapter 9	
<b>October 29 (Tuesday)</b>	Economic and Political Systems	Lecture Film (“Two American Families”)	AA chapter 44	
<b>October 31 (Thursday)</b>	Families and Kinship	Lecture Film (“Kingdom of Women”)	PARK chapter 10 AA chapter 34	
<b>November 5 (Tuesday)</b>	NO CLASS: Advising Day			
<b>November 7 (Thursday)</b>	Gender and Sexuality	Film (“Straightlaced”) Small Group Work	AA chapters 37 and 42	
<b>November 12 (Tuesday)</b>	Linguistics: Theories and Concepts	Lecture Film (“The Linguists”)	PARK chapter 11 AA chapter 27	Participant-Observation report
<b>November 14 (Thursday)</b>	Linguistics: Power and Inequality	Lecture Small Group Work		
<b>November 19 (Tuesday)</b>	No In-Class Meeting	Work on Linguistics report		
<b>November 21 (Thursday)</b>	No In-Class Meeting	Work on Linguistics report		
<b>November 26 (Tuesday)</b>	Language in the Public Domain	Linguistics Report Presentations		Linguistics report
<b>November 28 (Thursday)</b>	NO CLASS: Thanksgiving Break	Enjoy your (tofu) turkey!		
<b>December 3 (Tuesday)</b>	Religion and Worldviews	Lecture Film (“Healers of Ghana”) Small Group Work	PARK chapter 12 AA chapter 49	



<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Reading Due</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
<b>December 5 (Thursday)</b>	Globalization, Development, and Inequality	Lecture Film (“Collateral Damage”)	AA chapter 50	
<b>December 10 (Tuesday)</b>	Globalization, Development, and Inequality	Film (“Rape in the Fields”) Discussion		
<b>December 12 (Thursday)</b>	Exam Review			Personal Reflection essay
<b>December 18 (Wednesday) 7:00 – 9:15 pm</b>	Exam 2			

## Some final thoughts about anthropology...

Anthropology is the science which tells us that people are the same the whole world over – except when they are different.

– Nancy Banks Smith

Anthropology is the most humanistic of the sciences and the most scientific of the humanities.

– Alfred L. Kroeber

The purpose of anthropology is to make the world safe for human differences.

– Ruth Benedict

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*

*- Margaret Mead*