

ANTHROPOLOGY 1AB3 / RELIGIOUS STUDIES 1RO3

RACE, RELIGION, & CONFLICT

Summer 2020

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Wade

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Class Times: New materials posted weekly on Monday mornings.

Exams held online on July 14 and August 6

Office Hours: Email for Zoom video appointment

Office: CNH 515

Classroom: Online

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AODA Information

If you require this information in an alternate/accessible format, please contact Marcia Furtado at 905-525-9140 extension 24423 or email furtam1@mcmaster.ca

Course Description

This course will introduce students to the field of anthropology and its sub-disciplines through the discussion of some big questions that anthropologists investigate in contemporary and past societies. Some of the issues explored in this course include; religion and worldview, race and racism, power and inequality, and violence and conflict from archaeological, biological, cultural, and linguistic perspectives. Through this course you will develop an understanding of how the anthropological approach can be used to better understand the human condition, past and present.

Format Description

We will be using an asynchronous online format for this course. This means that you will cover the core course material through readings and recorded lectures at your own pace. Tests and assignments will be completed or submitted online at the times listed in this syllabus (see Course Evaluation - Details).

Course Objectives

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

- understand the diversity of research in anthropology
- understand the theories, methods, and techniques used by anthropologists
- examine the human place in nature from an anthropological perspective
- relate anthropological knowledge and practices to society as a whole
- think critically about contemporary issues and debates
- enhance analytic and critical thinking skills through readings and written assignments

Required Materials and Texts

The required text is:

- Introduction to Anthropology: Race, Religion, and Conflict – McMaster 3rd Custom Edition, Nelson Education Ltd

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. Race, Religion, Conflict, & Research [25%, due July 26]
2. Identity Reflection [25%, due August 7]
3. Midterm Exam [25%, July 14]
4. Final Exam [25%, August 6]

Course Evaluation – Details

Race, Religion, Conflict, and Research (25%), due July 26

This is a group of basic research tasks that you can complete in any combination, which will contribute points towards this component of your final grade. Each point is worth 1% of your final grade to a maximum of 25 points (25%) in this grade item. **Task submissions must be made online to the appropriate areas of Avenue indicated in the handout.**

Submissions will be accepted until 11:59PM on July 26.

Submissions made after July 26 will NOT be accepted.

Identity Reflection (25%), due August 7

On July 27, you will be provided with specific questions to direct your thinking and writing for a guided reflection on your experiences of identity. Your reflection will be 700-1000 words long and **must be submitted online to the designated Avenue Dropbox by 11:59PM on August 7.**

Midterm Exam (25%), July 14 @ 6:30PM online

The midterm exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions, covering material from our Introduction and Religion sections.

Final Exam (25%), August 6 @ 6:30PM online

The final exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions, covering material taught after the midterm exam.

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1 (June 23 – 27)

1. *Introduction to Anthropology* – Zoom Lecture - Tues June 23 @ 6:30PM

Welcome to Anthropology 1AB3 - What is anthropology?

**2. *Library Resources* – First Recorded Lecture on Your Own Time
*Critical Evaluation***

Readings:

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.17-47

Rekdal Article

Assignments:

Race, Religion, Conflict, and Research assignment begins

Week 2 (June 28 – July 5)

3 & 4. *Religion & Ritual*

What is worldview? What is religion?

How do anthropologists study religion?

How does ritual fit into our lives?

How do we appeal to greater powers?

Readings:

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.97-117

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.126-130

Gmelch Article

Week 3 (July 6 – 12)

5. *Religion & Ritual (cont'd)*

How do we resolve multiple religious influences?

Religious syncretism, transition, & resistance

6. *Midterm Exam Review*

Readings:

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.118-123

Worsley Article

Week 4 (July 13 – 19)

******* Midterm Exam – ONLINE – Tuesday July 14 @ 6:30PM *******

8. *Power & Conflict*

How do we order society?

How do we produce and maintain order?

Readings:

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.63-76

Week 5 (July 20 – 26)

9 & 10. Power & Conflict (cont'd)

Where does power reside?

How is power distributed?

How is power resisted? How is violence rationalised and justified?

What is the role of anthropology in international conflict?

Readings:

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.133-157

Bourgois Article

Gorski Article

Assignments:

Race, Religion, Conflict, and Research assignment ends

NO TASK SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED AFTER 11:59PM ON JULY 26

Week 6 (July 27 – Aug 2)

11 & 12. Race & Identity

Who are we? What is identity?

How do different cultures think about themselves & others?

What is race? What is ethnicity?

What is the role of privilege in racism?

Readings:

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.48-63

Bringa Article

Sanders Article

Assignments:

Identity Reflection assignment begins

Week 7 (Aug 3 – 7)

13. Race & Identity

What about the class, gender, and other social hierarchies?

What do our identities mean in a digital world?

***** **Final Exam – ONLINE – Thursday Aug 6 @ 6:30PM** *****

Readings:

1AB3 Custom Text – pp.76-96

Assignments:

Identity Reflection due by 11:59PM on August 7

Must be submitted online to the designated Avenue Dropbox

Course Policies

Submission of Assignments

All assignments will be submitted on Avenue. Race, Religion, Conflict, and Research task submissions must be made online to the appropriate areas of Avenue indicated in the assignment handout. The Identity Reflection must be submitted online to the designated Avenue Dropbox.

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

Unless otherwise noted, all unexcused late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 10% per day. Late assignments will not be accepted after 7 days beyond the original deadline without appropriate documentation from the Office of the Associate Dean of Social Sciences.

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”. Please note these regulations have changed beginning Spring/Summer 2015.

If you have any questions about the MSAF, please contact your Associate Dean’s office. <http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work>

Typically the MSAF assures you an extension on the assignment or the opportunity to write a make-up test or midterm exam. Grade items are only reweighted under extreme circumstances (e.g. long-term illness, bereavement, etc.).

Correspondence

Most questions can and should be asked in class or during office hours. However, if you have a quick question or comment and need to email me, please feel free to do so. I check my email regularly throughout the week, so you can expect a response within **~48 hours**. Please put **1AB3 in the subject line** of your email and **include your name and student number** at the end of all correspondence. I cannot respond to lengthy questions over email but will be happy to discuss them in person. If office hours conflict with your schedule please let me know and we can make other arrangements. If an emailed question is relevant to the rest of the class, I will post a response on Avenue or discuss it in the next class. Feel free to post questions relevant to course content in the discussion forum of the course web site.

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Echo360

All of the lecture videos will be accessible on Echo360 through the link on Avenue.

Turnitin.com

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please to go www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

Test Proctoring Software

This course may use proctoring software (TBD) for tests/exams. This software may require you to turn on your video camera, present identification, monitor and record your computer activities, and lockdown your browser during the exam. This software may be required to be installed before the exam begins. If you have questions about whether this software will be used, or concerns about the use of this software, please contact your instructor.

University Policies

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO)

The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student’s religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Please review the [RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences](#) about how to request accommodation.

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Privacy Protection

In accordance with regulations set out by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, the University will not allow return of graded materials by placing them in boxes in departmental offices or classrooms so that students may retrieve their papers themselves; tests and assignments must be returned directly to the student. Similarly, grades for assignments for courses may only be posted using the last 5 digits of the student number as the identifying data. The following possibilities exist for return of graded materials:

1. Direct return of materials to students in class;
2. Return of materials to students during office hours;
3. Students attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with assignments for return by mail;
4. Submit/grade/return papers electronically.

Arrangements for the return of assignments from the options above will be finalized during the first class.

Course Modification

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.