# Introduction to Anthropology |ANTH 1010.400

# Your Teaching Team

## Course Instructor

Dr. Jamie K. Johnson *(she, her)*

Office location: 125 Sycamore Hall. Appointments will held online unless otherwise specified.   
Office hours: MWF 11:00am – 12:00pm. Email to schedule an appointment

Phone: (940) 369-5403. Email is the best way to reach me.   
Email: [jamie.johnson@unt.edu](mailto:jamie.johnson@unt.edu)

## Instructional Assistants

The Instructional Assistants (IAs) will be grading your work and holding office hours for questions. Their contact information will be available in Canvas by the first week of class. Make sure to find out who your IA is!

## Communication:

* Use your **Canvas** or **UNT email account** to contact us and to schedule appointments.
* Include “**ANTH 1010 Online**” in the subject line. Emails lacking this may not be answered.
* Emails are not text messages, even if sent from your mobile device. **Be professional.**
* **Allow 24 hours** for a response. If there is no reply in 24hrs, kindly resend your email.
* Check **Course Announcements** regularly.
* Check your **UNT email account** regularly.

## Who to email with questions about:

* Assignment instructions: Instructional Assistant
* Missing assignments and tests: Dr. Johnson cc: Instructional Assistant
* Grades Instructional Assistant cc: Dr. Johnson
* Grade appeals: Dr. Johnson cc: Instructional Assistant
* ODA, personal matters: Dr. Johnson
* Majoring in Anthropology Dr. Johnson
* Problems with Canvas Course Dr. Johnson
* Technical difficulties [Student IT Helpdesk](https://techsupport.unt.edu/), (<https://techsupport.unt.edu>) and email Dr. Johnson

# About this Course

## Course Description and Structure

Intro to Anthropology invites Anthropology majors and students of all disciplines to learn about and participate in the discipline of Anthropology. The course is offered in 16-week (Fall/Spring), 5-week and 8-week (Summer), and 3-week (Winter) semesters, with 100% online, asynchronous instruction. Within Canvas, you will see that ANTH 1010 is divided into four (4) main **Units**, each containing **Topics** which correspond to the discipline’s four major subfields: **biology, archaeology, language, and culture**. By participating in each of these Units, you will learn how *all* anthropologists utilize a holistic approach that considers human biology and evolution, history and prehistory, geography and the environment, language, culture and society, in order to understand the human condition. Moreover, you will learn the value of ***applying* anthropology** towards solving problems!

## What is Anthropology and what do Anthropologists DO?

Anthropology is a comparative social science often called “**the study of the human experience**”- a holistic accounting of humanity across past, present, future, biological, linguistic, material, and cultural aspects of life. The **anthropological perspective** allows researchers to survey peoples and cultures from all around the world to explain human differences and similarities – including our physical health and appearance, language and communication, social organization and subsistence practices, as well as beliefs, values, and customs. As Lavenda and Schultz – the anthropologists who wrote your textbook say, anthropology addresses the fundamental question: “**What does it *mean* to be human**?”

The famous anthropologist Ruth Benedict (1887-1948) pointed out, **anthropology makes the world safe for human differences.** With an open mind to learning about others, we can also learn a great deal about ourselves and discover that even amidst such diversity, all human beings are biologically and culturally interlinked. This course helps us think and act with the following maxim in mind: **we are all the same; we are all different**.

## Course-level Learning Objectives:

* Explain the significance & processes of human origins using key anthropological terms and theories.
* Describe our human past, from our earliest human ancestors to the development of cities and states.
* Evaluate the significance of key cultural and linguistic concepts.
* Establish connections between how humans make their worlds meaningful, both in the past and contemporary times.

There are no prerequisites for this course. ANTH 1010 satisfies the **Social and Behavioral Sciences** requirement of the **University CORE Curriculum.**

## Required Materials

Textbook: Lavenda, Robert, and Emily Schultz. 2021. Anthropology: What Does it Mean to be Human?. 6th edition. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN paperback: 9780197534434. ISBN eBook: 9780197534465.

The course is delivered 100% remotely through Canvas, but the textbook is separate, and is required. You can rent it or purchase it, online or in a hard copy, respectively. **The publisher add-ons are not required.**

How to obtain:

1. purchase a physical copy at the UNT Barnes and Noble,
2. rent a physical copy, or
3. [rent the e-book on “RedShelf.”](https://www.redshelf.com/book/1697044/anthropology-1697044-9780197534465-robert-h-lavenda-emily-a-schultz) ([www.redshelf.com](http://www.redshelf.com)) Note: this is the least expensive anthropology textbook on the market; hence, students are responsible for obtaining the newest edition.

Required and recommended supplementary readings are found throughout the course Modules.

# Technology Requirements

This course has digital components. To fully participate in this class, students will need regular, reliable internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System.

## Minimum computer skills and digital literacy:

This course defines digital literacy as the ability to use technology to find, evaluate, and communicate information. Your successful completion of this course requires basic digital literacy, where you must either know, or be able to learn, how to navigate Canvas, including posting discussion and assignments, linking out to course readings, watching required videos, or viewing films through the UNT Digital Library. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at [Learn Anywhere](https://online.unt.edu/learn) (<https://online.unt.edu/learn>).

How to be successful in this course:

Online classes move quickly and require good organization and planning skills. **Remember to check Canvas regularly for class announcements, course updates, additional readings, and supplemental material**.

Troubleshooting:

If you run into technical issues with Canvas, immediately take a screenshot and then contact the **Student Helpdesk**. Once you have a ticket number from the [UNT Helpdesk](https://aits.unt.edu/support), (<https://techsupport.unt.edu>) email your Instructional Assistant, and cc. Dr. Johnson. If you contact your Instructional Assistant and/or Dr. Johnson without FIRST completing this procedure, we’ll likely just redirect to this section of the syllabus and the matter will remain unresolved.

# Assessments & Grading

## Discussions, Assignments and Tests:

This class will require you to complete eight (8) **Topic Discussion** activities, four (4) **Unit Assignments,** four (4) **Unit Tests**, one (1) **optional Final Exam** that you can choose to take to replace your lowest test grade, and two (2) **CORE Assessments**. There are extra credit opportunities throughout the semester, so stay tuned to course announcements.

1. Topic Discussion Boards: You will be prompted to engage in discussion with your peers, regarding eight (8) discussion board questions which correspond with specific Topics within the 4 Units. Each discussion will be scored out of 10 points. There are specific rubrics detailing the point breakdown.   
     
   For each discussion, you will be expected to post one short but substantial ORIGINAL paragraph, and substantially respond to (at least) one of your classmates’ posts. If you ONLY submit your post, then your highest possible discussion grade is 60% (6/10 = D). If you follow instructions and respond to someone else’s post in each of the exercises, then your Discussion grade will go up to between an 80% (8/10 = B) and 100% (10/10= A). By “substantial” we mean more than just “I agree” or “good point.” Elaborate and explain by referring back to the corresponding topic. You will receive feedback from IAs on these assignments to help you improve the content and analysis of your work.   
     
   NOTE ABOUT DISCUSSIONS: Discussion topics are NOT political/religious platforms. They correspond to Course Learning Objectives and are designed to demonstrate that you understand and can effectively articulate well-known anthropological concepts and facts. Only incorporate outside reading material or anecdotal information if it is relevant to the Topic. Only relay personal beliefs or opinions if prompted by assignment instructions.
2. Unit Assignments: You will be required to complete four (4) unit assignments throughout the course, worth 10 points each. The first assignment will be a written debate about genetics, due the 2nd week of class. The other three will be film responses. Please read and follow instructions carefully. A grading rubric and writing guide will be provided under the Assignments tab. You will receive feedback from IAs on these assignments.
3. Unit Tests: Throughout the semester, there will be four (4) Unit tests which you will have 90 min each to complete. Each Unit Test consists of multiple choice and short answer questions over material within the Canvas topics, textbook readings, and films and is worth up to 70 pts. You will receive feedback from IAs and the Professor on the short answer responses.  
     
   Instructions: Once you begin a test, you have 90 minutes to complete it. Do not begin a test unless you’re sure you can finish it. DO NOT wait until the last minute. If you begin your test after 10:30pm and your computer happens to crash, the test will automatically end at 11:59 PM and you will earn the grade you received for the answers you have completed up to that point. Plan on taking the Optional Final Exam to replace the grade you receive for that Test. Students are responsible for securing a stable internet connection prior to beginning any Unit Test. We do not recommend testing from any mobile device!
4. Optional Final Exam: The Final Exam is an optional, comprehensive exam worth up to 70 pts. Should you score higher on the Final Exam than any previous test, then the Final Exam score will replace your lowest test score in the final grade calculations. If you score lower on the final than any of the four previous tests, then the Final Exam grade won’t count against you. In other words, it can’t hurt you, it can only help.
5. CORE Assessments: This class is part of the UNT “CORE,” which means it has two short, required assessments at the end that measure your progress in “competency areas” that UNT figures are important (e.g.- “critical thinking,” “empirical skills,” “social responsibility,” etc.). These assessments are worth 8 points each.
6. Extra Credit Assignments: The last will be the “SPOT” evaluation for this course. But there may be other Extra Credit opportunities made available periodically throughout the semester. Check course announcements frequently to learn more!

## Point Distribution and Grading Scale:

**Assessment Type** **Possible Points**

Unit Assignments 40 (4 x 10)

Topic Discussions 80 (8 x 10)

Unit Tests 280 (4 x 70)

Core Assessments 24 (8 x 3)

**Total:** 424 points (plus any extra credit you earn along the way)

### Calculating your grade:

Point Conversion to a Letter Grade

381 – 424 points (90-100%) = A

339 – 380 points (80-89%) = B

296 – 338 points (70-79%) = C

254 – 295 points (60-69%) = D

0 – 253 points (< 59%) = F

# Course Policies

## Important Academic Dates

* [Registration Guides by Semester](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration-guides-by-semester)
* [Online Academic Calendar](https://calendar.unt.edu/event-calendar/categories/academics)
* [Final Exam Schedule](https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule)

## Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences

### [University Policy on Student Academic Integrity:](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003) **(**<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003> **)**

Academic Misconduct: “Academic Misconduct,” in this policy, means the intentional or unintentional action by a student to engage in behavior in the academic setting including, but not limited to: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic misconduct, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage.

1. Cheating: “Cheating,” in this policy, means the use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to: 1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes, or other assessments; 2. use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; 3. use, without permission, of tests, notes, or other academic materials belonging to instructors, staff members, or other students of the University; 4. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor; 5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.
   1. Course policy 1: in addition to the University policy, navigating away from the Test page while testing will render your Test score null and void. We will be checking View Logs.
   2. Course policy 2: Using AI to construct any posts, submissions, or responses to classroom material is prohibited. This includes the use of proprietary editing software.
2. Fabrication: “Fabrication,” in this policy, means falsifying or inventing any information, data, or research outside of a defined academic exercise.
3. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty (e. collusion): “Facilitating academic dishonesty,” in this policy, means helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.
4. Forgery: “Forgery,” in this policy, means intentionally falsifying or altering a score, grade, or official academic University record or the signature of another.
5. Plagiarism: “Plagiarism,” in this policy, means use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to: 1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment or citation, or 2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.
6. Sabotage: “Sabotage,” in this policy, means acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

### **Department of Anthropology Policy on Student Academic Integrity:**

The Department of Anthropology expects its students to abide by the high ethical standards of practicing professionals within the field of anthropology. The Department does not tolerate cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, or sabotage. This includes the use of unauthorized professional writing/editing services and generative AI for assignments. Students are expected to follow the [American Anthropological Association’s code of ethics](https://ethics.americananthro.org/category/statement/) (<https://ethics.americananthro.org/category/statement/>): “In their capacity as researchers, anthropologists are subject to the ethical principles guiding all scientific and scholarly conduct. They must not plagiarize, nor fabricate or falsify evidence, or knowingly misrepresent information or its source” (http://ethics.americananthro.org/category/statement/).

Students are encouraged to use the [UNT Writing Center](https://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<https://writingcenter.unt.edu/>). For additional resources to help with paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism and how to use citations, see the [Department of Anthropology Writing Guide](https://anthropology.unt.edu/resources/writing-guide) (<https://anthropology.unt.edu/resources/writing-guide>). For information on the University’s policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT [Student Academic Integrity policy](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003%20Student%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf) (<https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003%20Student%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf>)

**All assignments must be original to the semester enrolled**. Tests must be completed alone and without the aid of others, this includes online websites such as Chegg, etc, any virtual assistants, chatbots, or other AI (incl. Google, Gemini, Siri, Claude, Chat GPT, Microsoft CoPilot, etc..). The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or collusion (helping others to cheat). Students suspected of any of these will be provided the opportunity for a hearing; a guilty finding will merit an automatic “F” in the course.   
  
Acceptable Student Behavior:  
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/>). The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

The [Dean of Students Office](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) enforces the [Code of Student Conduct](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-012). The Code explains what conduct is prohibited, the process the DOS uses to review reports of alleged misconduct by students, and the sanctions that can be assigned. When students may have violated the Code they meet with a representative from the Dean of Students Office to discuss the alleged misconduct in an educational process.

## ODA Accommodation

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) website (http://www.unt.edu/oda ). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

## Important Notice for F-1 Students Taking Distance Education Courses

### Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please visit the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations](http://www.ecfr.gov/) website. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

### University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

* Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
* Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office.  ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the [UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office](https://international.unt.edu/content/international-student-scholar-services) by telephone 940-565-2195 or email [internationaladvising@unt.edu](mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

## Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship  
violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Visit [Title IX Student Information](https://edo.unt.edu/title-ix-student-information) for more resources.

## Undocumented Students

Please see UNT'S [Resources for DACA Students](https://www.unt.edu/daca) web page for more information.

## Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called [Eagle Alert](https://www.unt.edu/eaglealert) to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please  
refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

## Assignments and Tests:

Late Assignments and Make-up Work: Because all student work is submitted through Canvas, only students with University-excused absences are able to make-up missed work without penalty.

A University-excused absence for this course includes:

* Contagious or potentially contagious illness (allergies do not fall under this category)
* Lasting illness or physical limitation, including concerns about mental health
* Personal or family emergency, accompanied by reasonable documentation
* Religious observance (in which case students may be allowed to test or submit assignments early)
* Other University-excused academic or athletic event, accompanied by official documentation
* Military orders

An Unexcused Absence for this course includes:

* Missing an assignment or test without emailing the professor in advance of the due date
* Confusion about assignment due dates
* Waiting until the last minute to submit an assignment or test (We can see when you log in!)
* Work-related absences
* Personal travel-related absences

IF you miss a deadline for any reason other than those which are excused, you may submit late assignments or tests up to one week after the deadline at the discretion of the professor and your Instructional Assistant.

1 day late = 1/2 letter grade; 2 days late = 1 letter grade; 3 days late = 1.5 letter grade; 4 days late = 2 letter grades; 5 days late = 2.5 letter grades; 6 days late = 3 letter grades.

Only one late assignment or test will be allowed per student.

## How to be successful in this course:

1. Manage Your Time Wisely  
   You must stay up-to-date in this course! I recommend scheduling designated times to read and work on the assigned Topics and textbook readings, assignments, discussions and tests – and sticking to them. The course is structured so that everyone is simultaneously viewing the same Topic and participating in the same discussions.
2. Read the Required Textbook Chapters and Related Canvas Units and Topics  
   This class accommodates multiple learning styles. You can choose to purchase or rent the “physical” required textbook, or you can rent it online. The choice is yours, but you cannot succeed in this class without reading!
3. View the Required Films   
   In addition to reading the online Topics and textbook content, you will be required to view three films. ALL links to the films can be found both in the individual Topics themselves and through the University Library. You must first login with your EUID and password, then the video will pop up. The library’s Video-On-Demand page will also open in the background and display all the films that are available to you through in the Video-on-demand system. After viewing each film, you will complete the corresponding assignment or discussion.

### Pay attention to Canvas Announcements

And as part of this, make sure that your Canvas announcements and emails get forwarded to your UNT email. If I send an email out through Canvas, you need to make sure you’re going to be able to see it.

1. Stay in touch with your Instructor and Instructional Assistant.

If you encounter any problems keeping up with assignments, it’s imperative that you stay in touch. Email us!

### Always remember the core rules of “netiquette:”

Rule 1. Remember the human; be kind. Never forget that the person reading and responding to your posts is, indeed, a person, with feelings that can be hurt.

Corollary 1: It is unkind to hurt other people's feelings.

Corollary 2: Be kind. Never email or post anything you wouldn't say to your reader's face.

Rule 2. Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life.

Corollary 1: Be ethical. Don’t Google answers or use ChatGPT, cheat, or collude (help others cheat). This goes for behavior on any course-related GroupMe App.

Rule 3. Know where you are in cyberspace.

Corollary 1: Netiquette varies from domain to domain, and even class to class. In Anthropology, we prefer to understand problems holistically and practice cultural relativism.

Rule 4. Respect other people's time and “bandwidth”.

Corollary 1: It's OK to think that what you're thinking or doing at the moment is the most important thing in the universe, but don't expect anyone else to agree with you.

Corollary 2: Post appropriate messages to the discussion group and pay attention to others’ posts.

Corollary 3: Do your homework. Avoid asking your instructor, IAs, or other students questions whose answers are already on the course syllabus or in the class itself.

(Abstracted from Albion.com <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/book/0963702513p32.html>)