**Introduction to Anthropology Rene Studer-Halbach**

**Anthropology 100 (01:070:100) Summer 2017**

**Session 1:** May 30—June 23

**Meeting times:** M & W 10:50-1:45 pm, and online **Location:** Scott Hall 214, College Ave

**Contact information:** rks109@rci.rutgers.edu **Office location:** Bio 306

**Office hours:** by appointment

**Course description:** Anthropology is the comparative study of human physical and cultural diversity, past and present. This course is intended to provide an introduction to the central approaches, concepts, and methods of anthropology's four subfields: archaeology and biological, cultural, and linguistic anthropology. The course provides a background for students seeking a firm foundation in the discipline before moving on to higher level courses.

**Course objectives:** Over the course of the semester, students will:

* gain familiarity with the history of anthropological theory and practice, including key people (*e.g.* Charles Darwin) and methodologies (*e.g.* participant observation).
* be able to identify and describe various primate and hominin species.
* learn about the major archaeological sites that provide information about pre-modern humans.
* analyze the broad range of modern human behavior in terms of adaptation and natural selection.
* be introduced to anthropological literature and learn to analyze and critique primary sources.
* polish their academic writing skills with feedback from the instructor.

**Required texts:**

Because of the four-field nature of this course, there is no textbook. Students will instead read a variety of primary sources in order to gain familiarity with the nature of anthropological research. Required readings will be uploaded to the course Sakai site (**http://sakai.rutgers.edu**).

**Academic integrity:** <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/>

You are responsible for knowing this information. Please come speak with me if you have any questions about what this policy entails.

**Course format:** This is a hybrid course, which means that although we will only meet in the classroom two days a week, there will be additional online assignments and activities. Make sure that you check the syllabus and the Sakai site to ensure that you do not miss any online assignments. Each assignment must be completed on time. Work is due by 6:00pm on the listed date. Please let me know if you have any problems accessing Sakai or are unsure how to navigate the site.

**Grades**

**Grading scale:** A: 90-100; B+: 85-89; B: 80-84; C+: 75-79; C: 70-74; D: 60-69; F: 0-59.

I will round up any final grades that are less than half a point from the next letter grade. For example, a final grade of 84.8 will be rounded up to a B+; a final grade of 84.4 will be a B.

**Assignments and evaluation:** Grading breakdown will be as follows:

Exams: 30% (15% each)

Online Work: 30%

Ethnography: 10%

Geology Museum: 10%

Zoo report: 10%

Attendance & Participation: 10%

Total: 100%

All work will be handed in and graded through Sakai. Please familiarize yourself with Sakai if you have not used it before. “Sakai wouldn’t let me submit” is not a valid excuse for late work. If you are unable to submit work through Sakai, you must email it to me before the deadline.

**Exams:** There will be two exams, a midterm and a final. These will consist of open-book essay questions. You may use your notes and any readings assigned during the semester, but you **may not** use the internet, your friends, or any other outside resources.

**Ethnography:** You are to write a short (2-3 pages) ethnography of your own culture in the style of Miner’s “Nacirema.”

**Zoo report:** You are to write a short (2-3 pages) field primatology report based on a trip to a local zoo. The Bronx Zoo and the Philadelphia Zoo both have many primates for you to observe. Other zoos are also acceptable so long as you clear it with me ahead of time. If making a trip to the zoo is not possible for you, please speak with me **within the first week of class** to make arrangements for an alternate assignment.

**Geology Museum report:** You are to write a short (2-3 page) report on a human evolution topic covered at the Rutgers Geology Museum. Feel free to visit another museum (AMNH, etc.) instead, just please let me know. If making a trip to a museum is not possible for you, please speak with me **within the first week of class** to make arrangements for an alternate assignment.

**Online work:** Please check Sakai regularly. You will have assignments due multiple times a week. Assignments are due by 5pm on the date listed on the syllabus, unless otherwise noted. The lowest grade will be dropped.

**Policies**

**Attendance:** Because summer courses are shorter than those held during the regular academic year, we will be condensing a significant amount of material into only four weeks. Regular attendance is vital. You are allowed **two** absences by Rutgers. After your third absence, your final course grade will be lowered by one full letter grade. After your fourth absence, you will automatically fail the course.

The Office of Academic Services (http://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu) is an excellent resource and will be able to help you with any personal difficulties—please do not hesitate to get in touch with them.

**Participation:** Readings will be discussed extensively in class. I expect everyone to do the readings and to come to class prepared to participate in discussions.

**Make-ups:** I will not accept any late work or allow any make-ups without a note from a Dean.

If you know **in advance** that you will have a conflict with completing work or attending class, please let me know as soon as possible.

**Extra credit:** There is no extra credit.

**Grading transparency:** I will post all grades on Sakai throughout the semester. There should be no surprises as to final grades. If you think that an assignment has been graded unfairly, speak with me within **one week** of receiving the grade in question.

Please do not email me at the end of the semester to request a higher grade. If you need a certain grade for whatever reason, start working towards that at the start of the semester.

**Email:** I will reply to email within 24 hours during the week, or within 48 over the weekend. If more than that time has passed and you have not heard from me, please re-send your email—they sometimes go astray.

If you think that your question is one that other students may also have, please post it on Sakai instead of emailing it to me personally. I will answer it there so that everyone can benefit.

**Classroom behavior:** You are all adults. While in class, please do not text, sleep, browse Facebook/Snapchat, answer your phone, or otherwise behave in a disrespectful and disruptive manner.