

Anthropology 2025 Fall Course Information



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY®

Department of Anthropology

Introduction to Anthropology

ANTH 100

*MW 8:30-9:20 + online hybrid | MTHW 210 | Beasley
Distance Learning | Smith*



This course provides an overview of the diverse and dynamic discipline of anthropology. You will learn about: What primate research tells about humans- Six million years of biological, technological, biotechnological, social and cultural evolution- Understanding human biological diversity- Early complex Societies- Religion, ritual, culture, and society-Households, families, and kinship in the past and modern world-The roots of cooperation, conflict, and morality-Applying anthropological knowledge to problem-solving.



Anthropology 201 Introduction to Archaeology & World Prehistory

Fall 2025, Otárola-Castillo, Tue & Thu
3:00-4:15, HIKS G980D CRN22787

Introduction to archaeology and human prehistory beginning with the earliest *Homo sapiens* to the development of agriculture and states.

Illustrated lectures and films focus on methods of archaeology and case-studies understanding the most significant events of the human past from early stone tools to the first civilizations such as Egypt and the Inca Empire.

University Core – CLA Core – Cornerstone Certificate

ANTH 204: INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND HUMAN EVOLUTION

What makes us human? Is it the use of language, culture, or the fact that we are bipedal? The purpose of this course is to learn evolutionary theory in order to gain a better understanding of the past, present and future of the human species.



2 October 2009
Science



Ardipithecus ramidus

AAAS

Dr. Amanda Veile, TTH 1:30-2:20, **KRAN 140**, CRN 11043

ANTH 205 Human Cultural Diversity

Using concepts and models of cultural anthropology, this course will survey the principal cultural types of the world and their distribution, and will undertake a detailed analysis of societies representative of each type.



Instructor	Dates	Time	Room	CRN
Wirtz	MW	3:30-4:20	MTHW 210	48884
TBA	MW	12:30-1:20	STON 217+Hybrid	28382&28381
TBA	TTH	12:00-1:15	SCHM 112	23516
TBA		Distance Learning		59240
TBA		Distance Learning		54468
TBA		Distance Learning		16099

Fall 2025
Department of
Anthropology
Purdue University

ANTH 210: TECHNOLOGY & CULTURE

FALL 2025

TBA

TTH 8:30-9:20 WALC 2087/HYBRID

IS AI A JOB-KILLER?

TBA

CAN WE GEOENGINEER OUR
WAY OUT OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

TTH 3:30-4:20 STON 217/HYBRID

WHY WAS THERE A SPACE RACE?

TBA

SHOULD LIFE FORMS BE PATENTED?

DISTANCE LEARNING

HAS SOCIAL MEDIA CHANGED US?

WHY ARE PEOPLE AFRAID OF GMOs?

THESE ARE QUESTIONS OF FACT BUT ALSO VALUES, BELIEFS,
INSTITUTIONS, & CULTURE.

THIS COURSE EXAMINES THE WAYS THAT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SHAPE OUR
EVERYDAY LIVES & OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE FUTURE. WE CONSIDER A
RANGE OF CASES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF ANCIENT, MODERN, "POST-
MODERN" & IMAGINED SOCIAL WORLDS.

— ALL ARE WELCOME —

Anth. 212: Culture, Food, and Health

- Fall 2025
- MW 3:30-4:20 STON 217+Hybrid
- Instructor: Lindshield
- MW 4:30-5:45 TBA
- Instructor: TBA
- Distance Learning
- Instructor: TBA
- This course is designed to provide an introduction to the field of Nutritional Anthropology in which we will examine issues related to diet, health and illness from holistic anthropological perspectives.





ANTH 230
GENDER ACROSS
CULTURES

Fall 2025

MW 1:30-2:20 / Hybrid

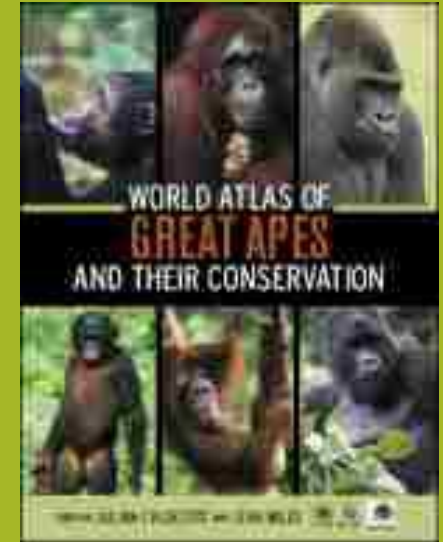
HIKS G980D

Wirtz

This course explores anthropological approaches to biological sex, gender, and sexuality. Taking a global perspective, we will examine how these categories have been constructed in the past and how these legacies influence the diverse genders we have in the contemporary world. We will examine how gender acts as a system of power that deeply shapes our societies and individual experiences.



ANTH 235 THE GREAT APES



MW 2:30-3:20

STON 217/Hybrid

Instructor: Dr. Lindshield

Great apes are our closest relatives and highly threatened. Students discuss how ape studies have changed our understanding of what it meant to be human. We explore the role of gender in science and the ethics of habituating wild animals as we examine the writings and work of primatologists. We focus on the current conservation problems apes face and the ways in which their future is linked to our own.



Case file: ANTH 254—Archaeological Hoaxes, Myths & Frauds

Inspector: Prof. Ian Lindsay

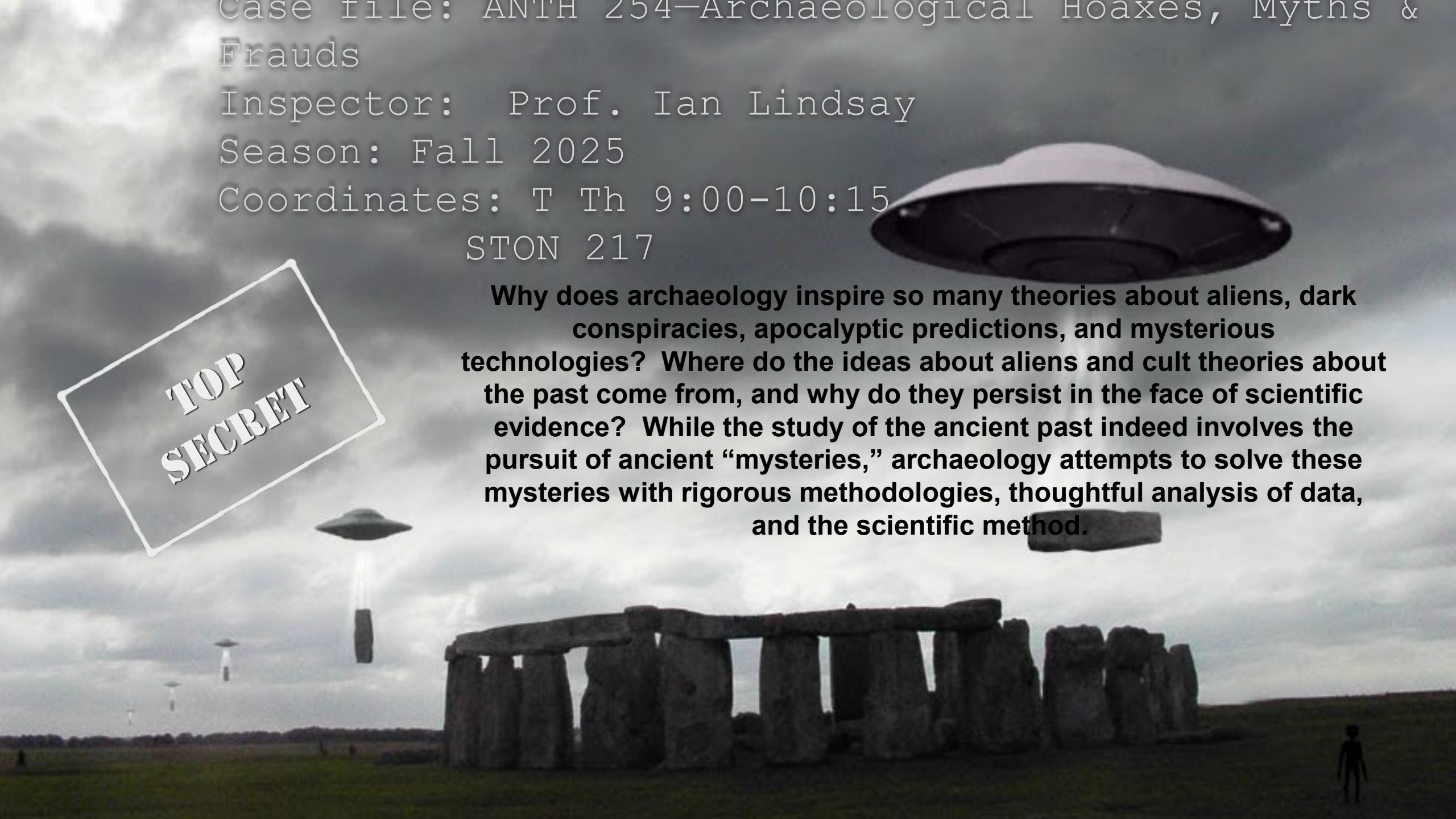
Season: Fall 2025

Coordinates: T Th 9:00–10:15

STON 217

Why does archaeology inspire so many theories about aliens, dark conspiracies, apocalyptic predictions, and mysterious technologies? Where do the ideas about aliens and cult theories about the past come from, and why do they persist in the face of scientific evidence? While the study of the ancient past indeed involves the pursuit of ancient “mysteries,” archaeology attempts to solve these mysteries with rigorous methodologies, thoughtful analysis of data, and the scientific method.

**TOP
SECRET**



This course takes us through a history of anthropological thought. We will examine theoretical developments from a critical lens, asking:

- How has anthropology taken shape as a discipline?
- How do social, cultural, and political constructs shape anthropological theories?
- How has anthropological knowledge shaped our understanding of humanity's story?
- What impact do these theories have on the world around us?



ANTH 307

**The Development of
Contemporary Anthropology
Theory**

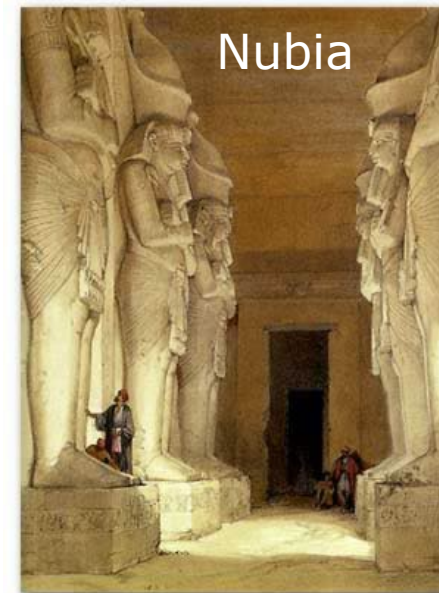
Fall 2025
MW 11:30-12:20 / Hybrid
STON 217
Wirtz

Fall 2025

ANTH 31200:

Archaeology of Ancient Egypt and the Near East

- Dr. Michele Buzon
- TTH 12:00-1:15 STON 217
- Explore the origin and expansion of civilizations in ancient Egypt and Nubia through the examination of archaeological and historical evidence



ANTH 337

Human Diet: Origins & Evolution

Fall 2025

MW 9:30-10:20

STON 217/Hybrid

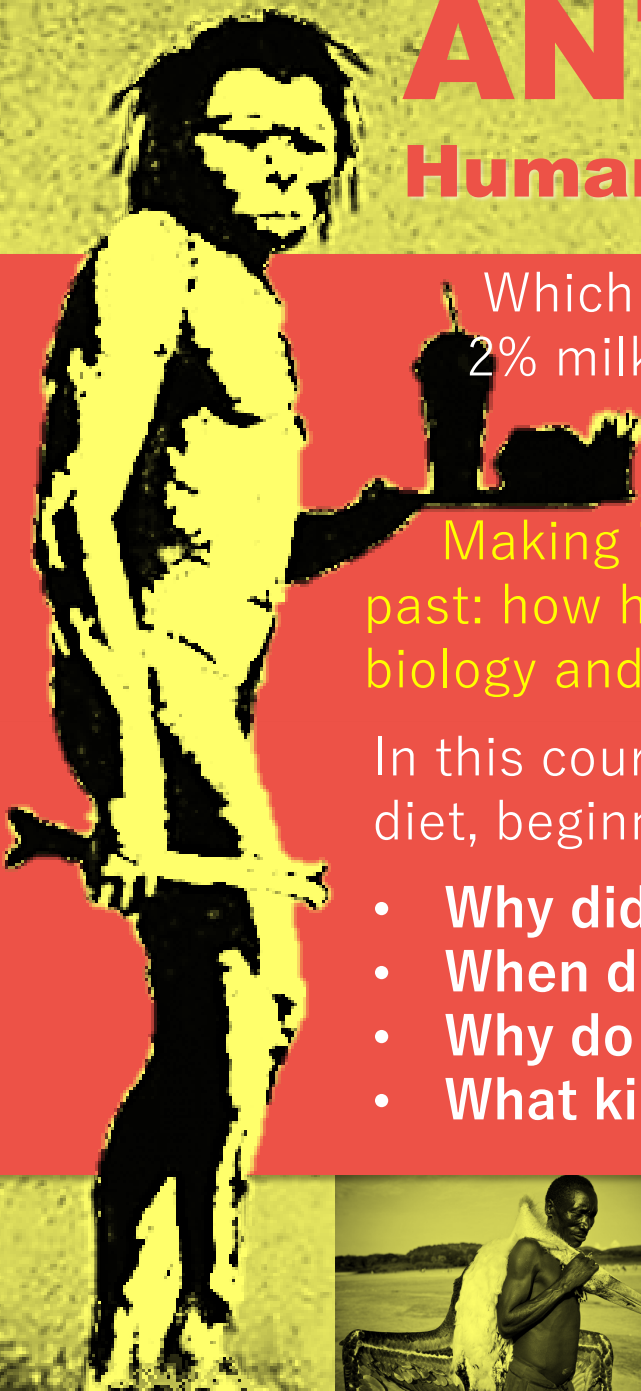
Which is better for your diet? “free-range” or “cage-free” chicken? Skim or 2% milk? Organic or local apples? Should you follow a *paleo diet*? WHY?

**As consumers, we face such questions
everyday.**

Making informed dietary decisions today requires understanding our evolutionary past: how have the foods we consumed for hundreds of generations shaped our biology and influenced our cultural institutions?

In this course, we will examine “**what humans eat and why?**” by reviewing the human diet, beginning with our tree-dwelling ancestors to our grocery shopping present.

- Why did our ancestors begin to eat meat, and when?
- When did our ancestors first begin to cook, and why?
- Why do we farm? And who were the first farmers?
- What kind of diet(s) have we as a species evolved to eat?



Dr. Melanie Beasley



ANTH 340 GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON HEALTH

Rubaii | TTH 1:30-2:45 | WALC B091
TBA | MW 2:30-3:20 | WALC B093/Hybrid
TBA | Distance Learning

This course examines health issues and risks faced by individuals around the world, but especially in resource poor geographical areas. We will explore in-depth the gendered, ethnic, cultural, and class dimensions that underlie the patterning of disease and illness worldwide.

ANTH 341
CULTURE AND PERSONALITY
MYRDENE ANDERSON
TTH 12:00-1:15 NLSN 1195

A cross-cultural survey of the interplay between, and of the processes linking, culture and adult personality. Attention will focus on childrearing practices and birth order; the social construction of "self", ethnicity, gender; affect, emotion, sensation, perception, cognition; economies and ecologies; epigenetics, microbiomes, culture-bound syndromes, and cross-cultural psychology; and the perils of stereotyping.

Inquires into how people understand (or at least acknowledge) the similarities and differences among themselves and others, in their matrices of particular historical sociocultures, their psychologies, their languages, their cosmologies, and even their biologies, near and far in space and time. How do sociocultures and psychologies change and/or remain the same, through "accident" (semiotic evolution) and "necessity" (semiotic development)? What enabling and limiting constraints shape our individual and collective insertion in these vast yet nondeterministic systems?

Stereotypes about both culture and personality will not likely entirely disappear by any application of relativism. Nonetheless, the situation inclusive of stereotypes presents an opportunity to argue against spurious judgment and linear deterministic thinking. Culture and personality feed into and out of each other. One among many windows on such processes lies in child-rearing practices, coming full-circle. Finally, we will digest and dismiss the so-called nature-nurture "debate".

ANTH 346: Pregnancy, Birth and Babies

Dr. Amanda Veile/Fall 2025/T TH 9:00-10:15pm/SCHM 114



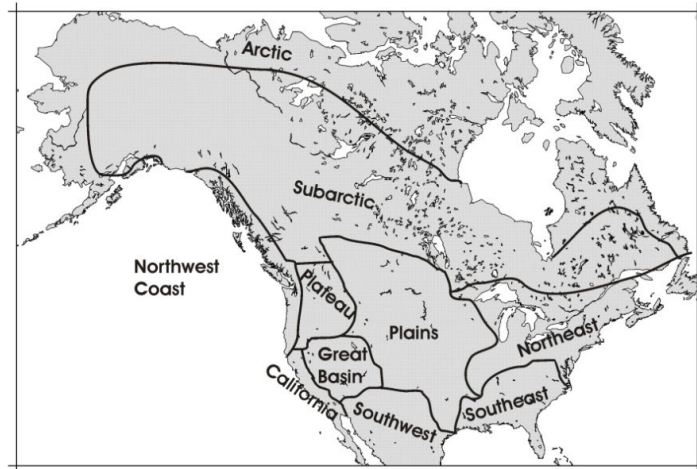
This course examines human universal patterns and cross-cultural variation in pregnancy, birth, and infant care practices, using evolutionary and biocultural perspectives.

Students will connect course themes to current events and controversies, such as medical models of birth, public breastfeeding, and parent-infant co-sleeping.

Anthropology 379 Native American Cultures



This course introduces students to the numerous and diverse Native American Cultures in North America. Topics include but are not limited to: identity; the relationship between technology, the environment and spirituality; relations with European colonizers; land and subsistence rights; and the legal position of Native people in the U.S. and Canada today.



Prof. Cooper
MW 12:30-1:20
HIKS G980D/Hybrid



ANTH 380 USING ANTHROPOLOGY IN THE WORLD

MW 4:30-5:45 | STON 217 | Renkert



The use of anthropology in practical contexts. What anthropological practice is, how it originated, how it can be applied in non-academic and interdisciplinary contexts and careers. The main contemporary issues surrounding anthropological practice, including training, ethics, relevance, and rigor. For majors and non-majors.


DESIGN INNOVATION

WHAT IS IT?

ANTH 38400 is a 3-credit course about human-centered design. You will spend time observing, asking questions, and listening to a user group to better represent their views, and recommend innovative design solutions.

“It is a fun course with a real world application, focusing on...a mindset, that employers are looking for.”

- Former class student

 MW Lecture 1:30-2:20 LILY 3118
M Lab 2:30-4:20 LILY 3118

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will work in collaborative teams to:

- hone critical thinking and problem scoping skills
- develop creative solutions
- mock-up design ideas
- combine social science and technology thinking
- create a better designed, more inclusive world for people

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Dr. Sherylyn Briller
Department of Anthropology
sbriller@purdue.edu



ANTH 392: HOW WE FEED THE WORLD

CRN 22294 | TR 1:30-2:45 | STON 217 | PROFESSOR FLACHS

Food and farming reveal both the deep inequalities of contemporary life and the fierce commitment of communities working to nourish life on earth. This class explores the evolution of our food producing and eating systems, the world we've inherited, and the future we're creating through lectures, student-led discussion, and creative exercises



ANTH 392 AI and ML for the Life and Social Sciences

Fall 2025
Otárola-Castillo
Tue/Thu 10:30-11:45 AM
Lyle 1150 CRN 22277



Want to harness the power of AI & Machine Learning (ML) for real-world problems? This course introduces AI and ML predictive modeling, text analysis (NLP), large language modeling (LLM), and data-driven decision-making to analyze trends, uncover insights, and improve predictions. No advanced coding is required. Perfect for **life and social sciences** students looking to apply ML in their field.

ANTH 410- SENIOR CAPSTONE IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Culminating experience required for all anthropology majors. Course synthesizes four-field anthropology coursework and training and discusses academic/career options that benefit from anthropological training. Major elements of the course will include the senior portfolio, a career development project, and extensive professional preparation CRN-15187



ANTH 507
History of Theory in Anthropology
Wednesday 9:30-12:20
STON 154

Through this course we will explore the historical context of anthropological thinking, wade into contemporary conversations around anthropological theory and praxis, and learn how our Purdue faculty use theory to approach their work. This course connects the theoretical foundations of anthropology throughout the development of the discipline and related disciplines (CRN-20853)



Fall 2025 | Department of Anthropology | Purdue University

**ANTH 514 / LING 598
ANTHROPOLOGICAL LINGUISTICS**

Myrdene Anderson

FALL 2025 Tu+Th 3:00-4:15 STON 217

PREREQUISITE-Any course or informed interest in language and culture.

OBJECTIVES—

After surveying the philosophy, evolution, structure, function, content, and varieties of human communication and signification, this course focuses on:

- (1) the role of language in all sociocultural research; and
- (2) the types of research on and with language and languages and linguistics, as these are realized in, and realizing, culture, society, and cognition.

Special emphasis is given to the nature and uses of classification in general, on universal patterns evident in languages and languaging, on translation and translatability, and on the nondeterminate properties of emergence in dynamical systems generally.

TOPICAL SYNOPSIS—

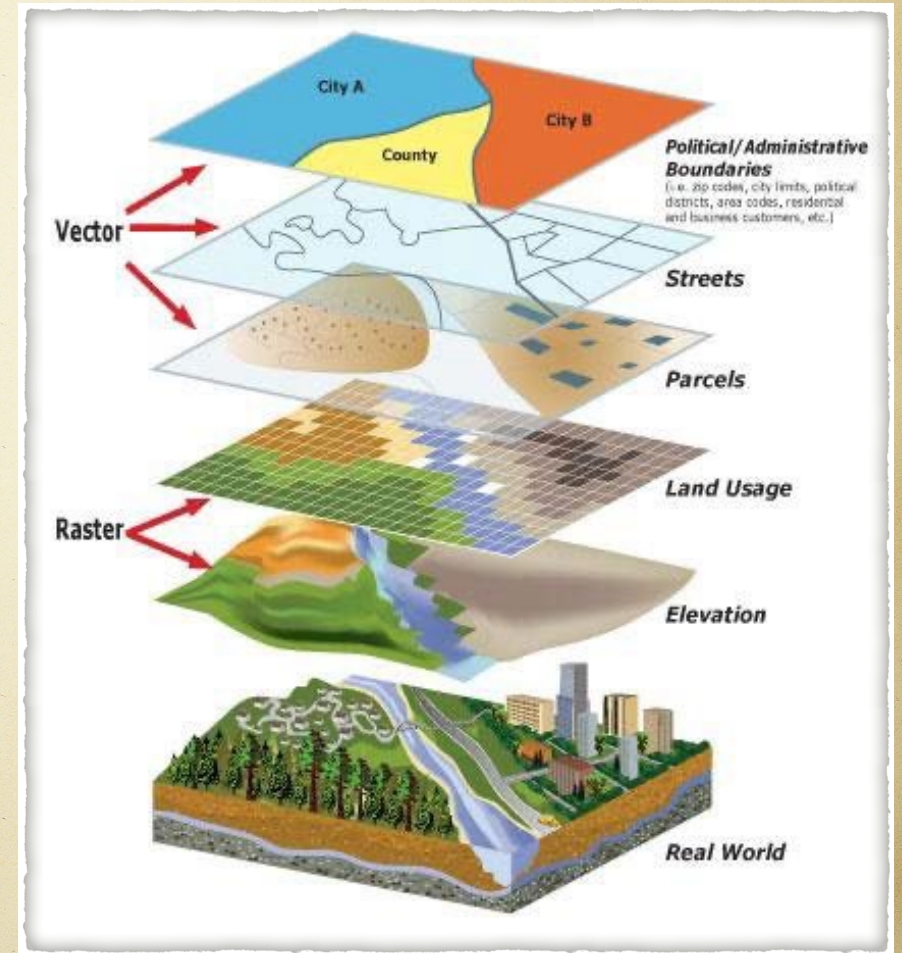
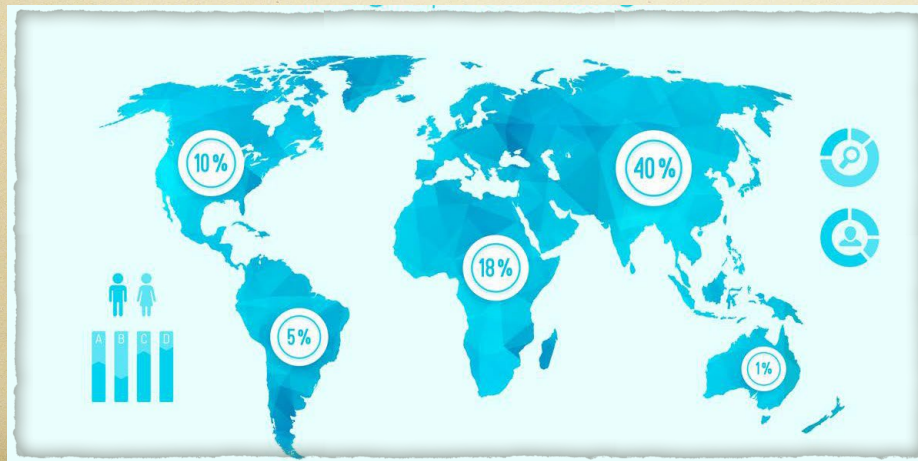
Ontogeny and phylogeny of language and speech; Continuity and change; Socioculturological construction of 'reality', 'subjectivity', 'objectivity', and 'power'; Orality and literacy; Relativity and universality in language, culture, and cognition; Semiotic considerations of induction, deduction, abduction, and the behavior of signs.

ANTH 523: GIS for Humanities and Social Science Research

➤ Tues/Thurs 1:30-2:45, WIHR214 (CRN# 20459)

➤ Instructor: Prof. Ian Lindsay

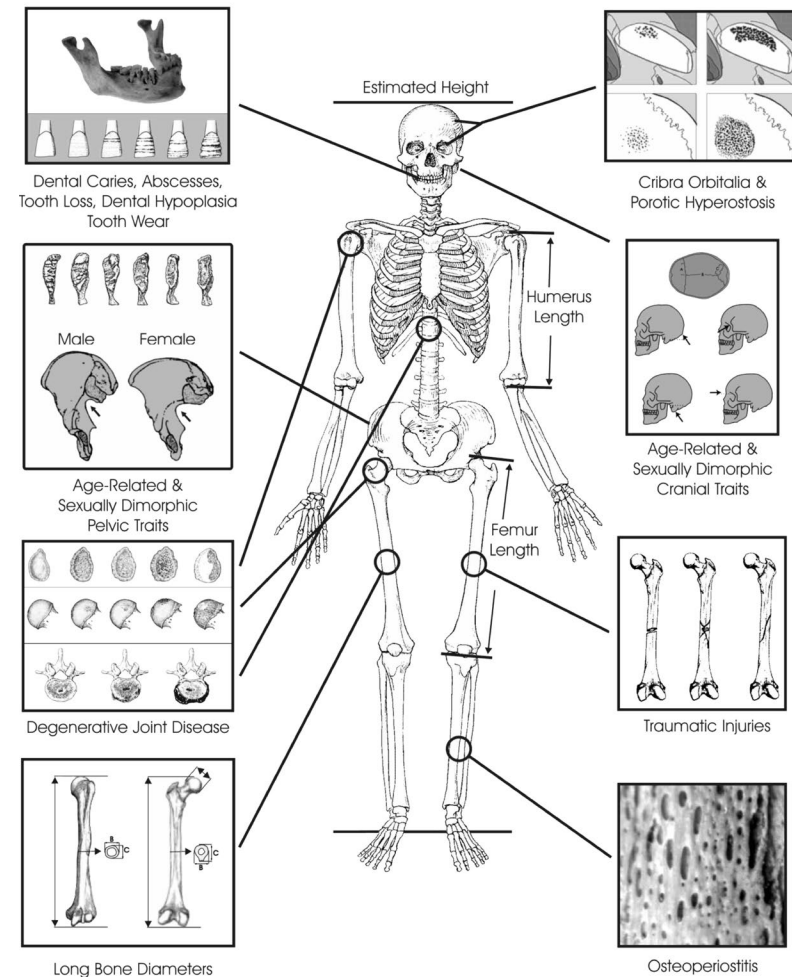
➤ This course will introduce you to the skills of spatial thinking, basic functions of Geography Information Systems (GIS), and spatial research methods that are relevant to humanities, social science, and related fields. The course will start with introduction to basic GIS concepts and technology, then move onto GIS applications in the research process, including research design, data collection, management, visualization, and basic spatial analysis techniques. Practical work will be completed using ArcGIS Pro software.



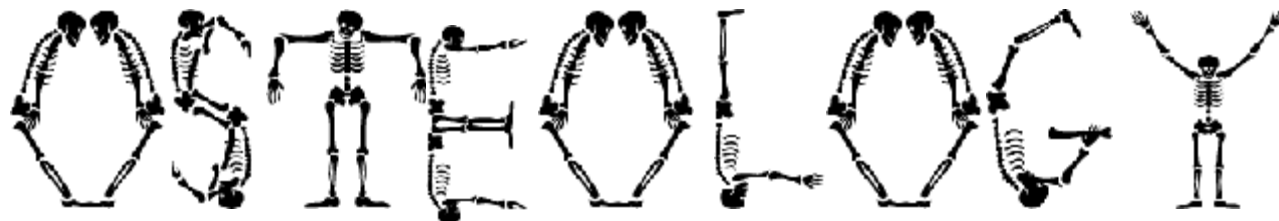
Fall 2025

Anth 534: Human Osteology

- Dr. Michele Buzon
- TTH 9:00-10:15, STON 154
- Learn about
 - Human skeletal anatomy
 - Identification of bone fragments
 - Reconstruction of age/sex, ancestry, growth, health, nutrition, and biocultural adaptation



Fulfills credit for the Forensic Science Minor



Anth 204 required

ANTH 589 (590)/MSE 597A: Archaeology and Materials Science

This course provides instruction in the methods and theories used by archaeologists and materials scientists to study ancient and historic technology. The course will focus on the analysis and interpretation of archaeological artifacts such as ceramics and metals and provide opportunities for hands-on learning. Course will meet with Materials Science Engineering 597A. Limited to graduate and junior and senior undergraduates. Instructor permission required. For additional information contact Prof. Cooper at hkcooper@purdue.edu

Lecture M 1:30-3:20 STON 154 Lab W 1:30-3:20 STON 154

CRITICAL ETHNOGRAPHY

Method, Ethics, and Performance



THIRD EDITION
D. Soyini Madison



ANTH 605 SEMINAR IN ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

TTH 4:30 - 5:45 PM

STON 154

PROFESSOR COURTNEY WITTEKIND

Anthropology ProSeminar
ANTH 608

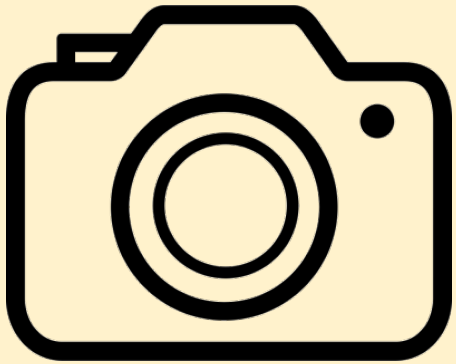
Tuesday 10:30-12:20

STON 345

Instructor: Melissa Remis

Open to first and second
year Anthropology
Grad Students



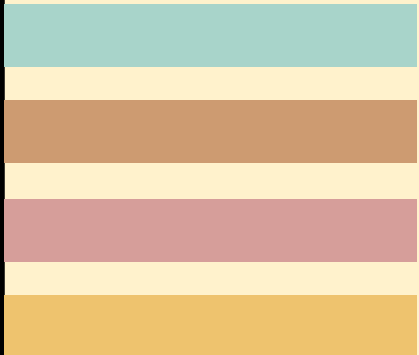


ANTH 620

VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY

TH 10:30-1:20, STON 154, Docot

The course introduces visual anthropology to students to critically orient them on issues of visual production, representation, and visual and media research. Visual anthropology examines a broad range of multimedia platforms such as film, photography, online games, museum displays, etc. The course pairs visual anthropological works with academic texts to help students understand the intellectual and socio-political contexts that surround the production of said works. Students' final project for this class is an anthropologically-informed public-facing creative project that will be exhibited at The ALab, the new multimodal laboratory/gallery space in the Department of Anthropology. Students from all disciplines are welcome.



ANTH 640 FOUNDATIONS AND FRAMEWORK: APPLYING ANTHROPOLOGY

Monday
1:30-4:20
LILY 1101
INSTRUCTOR: Renkert

This course focuses on using anthropology to address social issues. The course examines topics including: the history of anthropologists working in applied settings, the relationship between theory and practice, professional ethics, job opportunities, and skills needed as anthropological practitioners. CRN-15202