Department of Anthropology  
Fall 2016 Undergraduate Course Descriptions

APY 104LEC  
Great Sites and Lost Tribes  
Instructor Dr. Ezra Zubrow

Reg.#23652  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 1:00–1:50pm  
NSC 225

Examines the romantic element in archaeology in the great sites of the world, such as Troy, Olduvai Gorge, Stonehenge, and so forth. Since the sites cannot be separated from their discoverers and excavators, we also consider the lives of the most famous and romantic archaeologists, including Schliemann, Leakey, and Kenyon.

APY 105LEC  
Introduction to Anthropology  
Instructor Kathryn Allen

Reg.#22130  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 3:00–3:50pm  
Capen 262

This class is a general introduction to the field of anthropology, the study of humanity. It is designed to pique your interest in the broad diversity of human behavior and lifestyles across the world and throughout time. This course will take a look at our four major subfields - archaeology, linguistic anthropology, physical anthropology, and cultural anthropology - and include discussions on our "youngest" subfield, applied anthropology. The goal of this class is to understand the wide range of issues covered by the fields of anthropology, the ways in which these issues are studied by specialists in the field, and the practical effects of the questions covered by anthropological study. In order to survey such a wide range of issues, the class is structured in a standard lecture format, with small group exercises and class discussions.

APY 106LEC  
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology  
Instructor Dr. Phillips Stevens

Reg.#22131  
Tuesday/Thursday 12:30–1:50pm  
Talbert 107

What is culture and how does it affect our understanding of the world and the ways we behave? How do cultural anthropologists approach the study of human societies and what methods do they use to do research? These are some of the questions that we will examine in this class. The course introduces students to ethnographic methods and theories of cultural anthropology. The aim is to enhance our knowledge of our own culture and of other cultures around the world. All majors are welcome.
APY 107LEC
Introduction to Physical Anthropology
Instructor Dr. Noreen von Cramon-Taubadel

Reg. #22133
Tuesday/Thursday 3:30—4:50pm
Clemens 322

For centuries preceding modern times, our uniqueness as a species was taken as a sign of special creation; we were not seen to be a part of nature. But as knowledge of human evolution, our closeness to other primates, and our adaptations to specific environments emerged, we have taken our place in the animal kingdom. Here, we learn how those insights developed, and about current methods of understanding human origins and the natural forces that have shaped us.

APY 108LEC
Introduction to Archaeology
Instructor Dr. Douglas Perrelli

Reg. #24014
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 12:00—12:50pm
Fillmore 170

This course is designed to provide the student with a general introduction to the field of archaeology, including the methods and techniques that archaeologists use to identify and investigate archaeological sites. The course will focus on some of the key issues in archaeology, from human evolution and origins of agriculture, to the beginning of the modern age, including examples from the Old World and the New World. Students will learn how archaeologists use material culture to construct interpretations of human behavior in the past.

APY 168LEC
Myth & Religion in the Ancient World
Instructor Dr. Roger Woodard

Reg. #22587
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 1:00—1:50 pm
Knox 104

In this course, we will investigate mythic and religious traditions of ancient Greece and Rome. Our study of myth and religion will, however, be comparative in emphasis. We will thus have a twofold goal: (1) to encounter the Greco-Roman traditions themselves and (2) through our comparative investigations, to attempt to identify the mythic and religious traditions which the Greeks and especially the more conservative Romans inherited from their Indo-European ancestors. We will also turn our full gaze upon comparative materials, but even as we are engaged in discovering the mythic and religious traditions of the ancient Indic, Iranian Celtic, Germanic and Hittite cultures, we will continue to encounter new materials and motifs from Greece and Rome.
APY 198SEM
UB Seminar: Magic, Sorcery and Witchcraft
Instructor Dr. Phillips Stevens

Reg. #24430
Tuesday 3:30—4:20pm
Fillmore 354
Requisite: Incoming UB transfer student.

Magic, sorcery, and witchcraft are widely used terms, in a variety of intriguing “occult” contexts, but there is little agreement on their meanings. In anthropology, the terms refer to ways of thinking and corresponding social behaviors that are absolutely universal, motivating people in all societies and at all stages of recorded human history. Understanding them and their social implications gives us deep and unique insight into what it means to be human.

APY 199SEM-KLA
UB Seminar: Why Have Wealth?
Instructor Dr. Frederick Klaits

Reg. #24016
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 12:00—12:50PM
Capen 260
Requisite: Incoming freshman student.

Does money buy happiness, and if so in what forms, for whom, and under what circumstances? Does the world owe you a living regardless of what you do or don’t do? Who really owes what to whom? In this course, we explore how our ideas about accumulating and distributing wealth shape our ideas about the nature of society, and about what society ought to be. We will explore some of the perspectives offered by the discipline of anthropology, the cross-cultural study of human thinking and behavior, on how our ideas about what to do with wealth influence our collective moral projects, such as those involving religion, family, the nation, and the global environment.

APY 199SEM-NEO
UB Seminar: Contemporary Warfare
Instructor Dr. Vasiliki Neofotistos

Reg. #23653
Tuesday/Thursday 2:00—3:20pm
Talbert 112
Requisite: Incoming freshman student.

This seminar explores war as a contemporary social and political issue, and the effects of war on social life. Questions we will examine include the following. Is war intrinsic to human nature? Does “culture” cause war? How has the use of technology, especially drones and robots, altered the conduct of war? Why are women used as “weapons of war”? How do people in war-torn societies endure violence? The course will also explore debates about the so-called War on Terror and about recent attacks by ISIS and other militant groups. Our case studies will be drawn from many areas of the globe, including Rwanda, Iraq, Afghanistan, Colombia, Indonesia, and the United States.
APY 199SEM-PER
UB Seminar: A World of Stone
Instructor Dr. Douglas Perrelli

Reg. #24015
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10:00—10:50am
Fillmore 319
Requisite: Incoming freshman student.

A World of Stone is a mixed seminar and laboratory-oriented course that focuses on the importance of stone as a natural resource and aspect of technology in world prehistory. The primary focus of the course is on the analysis and interpretation of chipped stone tools in archaeological context from a design perspective, including the hands-on production of tools through flint-knapping. The course also provides a survey of the use of stone in various contexts, from monumental architecture to the smallest of stone tool fragments, and from around the globe and at different times in prehistory to include: stone tools in paleo-anthropology as critical elements of hominid evolution, Olmec Heads, Inca Stones, Stonehenge, birdstones and bannerstones, among others. The course examines stone tool materials, production technologies, use and discard patterns— from design and organization of technology frameworks. These aspects of technology are discussed in the context of problem-oriented research relating to subsistence, settlement patterns, land use, social organization and political development at various times in human history. Laboratory sessions will involve hands-on projects to aid in recognizing characteristics of stone artifacts and developing analyses that incorporate such characteristics. Students will participate in flint-knapping experiments and are encouraged to use the tools and debitage they make as experimental archaeological data.

APY 199SEM-RDA
UB Seminar: At Home in Europe
Instructor Dr. Deborah Reed-Danahay

Reg. #23655
Wednesday 9:30am—12:10pm
Fillmore 354
Requisite: Incoming freshman student.

What does it mean to be “at home”? Is this connected to a building or a place? Or is it an emotion? In this UB Seminar we think about the meanings of home in European societies in the recent past and present. Examples we discuss range from ideas of domestic space in European peasant societies to the ways in which immigrants in European cities try to feel at home. We will look at such topics as the relationship between nationalism and concepts of home and homeland, ideas about hospitality in European societies, different understanding of home among men and women, and the role of the European Union in ideas of belonging and concepts of being at home in Europe. Students are encouraged to think comparatively and cross-culturally about ideas of home in their own societies of origin.
APY 199SEM-STE  
UB Seminar: Magic, Sorcery and Witchcraft  
Instructor Dr. Phillips Stevens

Reg. #23654  
Tuesday/Thursday 9:30—10:50am  
Obrain 210  
Requisite: Incoming freshman student.

Magic, sorcery, and witchcraft are widely used terms, in a variety of intriguing "occult" contexts, but there is little agreement on their meanings. In anthropology, the terms refer to ways of thinking and corresponding social behaviors that are absolutely universal, motivating people in all societies and at all stages of recorded human history. Understanding them and their social implications gives us deep and unique insight into what it means to be human.

APY 238LEC  
Near East & Mideast Prehistory  
Instructor Jacob Brady

Reg. #224023  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 2:00—2:50pm  
Alumni 97

Archaeology of the prehistoric Near and Middle East from the peopling of the region through the emergence of the first villages and the domestication of plants and animals to the emergence of city-states in the 3rd millennium BC.

APY 275LEC  
Introduction to Medical Anthropology  
Instructor Dr. Fred Klaits

Reg. #23657  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10:00—10:50am  
Fillmore 170

This course uses ecological, evolutionary, and cultural perspectives to study human health. Topics covered include the ecology and epidemiology of disease; genetic, physiological, and cultural adaptation; nutrition; pregnancy and childbirth; stress; culture change; and health disparities in both developing and developed countries. Health issues associated with globalization and increased military conflict will also be covered. Supplementary readings deal with maternal health, midwifery, and children's health and nutrition in Africa and illustrate the biocultural approach to health.
Food, including food production, food preparation, and food consumption, is one of the central activities of human life, human culture and society. This course examines the ways in which cultures around the world decide what to eat, how to procure it, prepare it, share it, and eat it, and how these processes are shaped by and reflect underlying cultural and social principles.

This course is not merely a survey of food customs around the world. We will explore a number of anthropological and social science issues as we examine different ways of understanding food. First, we will contrast food as nutrition (in a biological/physiological sense) with eating as a form of cultural and social practice, and we will consider how anthropologists use two distinct frameworks—biocultural and sociocultural—to explain and understand human behaviors surrounding food and nutrition. Second, we will compare two theoretical frameworks in anthropology, one that uses forms of production, most centrally food production, as a fundamental explanatory principle, and other frameworks that use cultural beliefs and practices as a starting point in the interpretation of culture. Finally, we will devote special attention to issues that emerge when food is inadequate, insufficient, or highly variable in supply, and we will examine how cultures have responded historically to such circumstances.

Covers fundamentals of human skeletal anatomy through lecture, demonstration, and laboratory work. Considers procedures and applications in contemporary and historical human biology and in archaeology, stressing both technical approach and theoretical application. This lecture and laboratory course demonstrates the fundamentals of human skeletal biology and anatomy. Stresses procedures and applications used in evaluating archaeological and contemporary human populations. Considers forensic applications.
APY 394SEM
Shamans & Healers in South America
Instructor Dr. Ana Mariella Bacigalupo

Reg. #23660
Tuesday/Thursday 11:00am–12:20pm
Clemens 19

This course will focus on the healing traditions of Native South American people as an important part of our contemporary experience. We will examine the images, forms, and meanings that are common to the healing experience of many Native South Americans: concepts of order, time, space, power, destruction, and renewal which allow us to group them together despite their geographical and sociopolitical diversity. We will also analyze some specific ethnographic examples of how they are manifested through funerary cannibalism, shamanism, sorcery, animal spirits and metaphors, the use of tobacco, narcotics and hallucinogens, and rituals for healing, fertility and collective well-being.

APY 402SEM
Contemporary Europe
Instructor Dr. Deborah Reed-Danahay

Reg. #22153
Monday 3:30–6:10pm
Fillmore 354

In recent decades, Europe has become a major area of investigation for cultural anthropologists. In this seminar, we ask both what an anthropological perspective can contribute to our understanding of European peoples and also what a consideration of European peoples can contribute to anthropological theory and method. The course focuses on issues of identity, history, and power as these shape and are shaped by social forms and local practices.

APY 427LEC
Comparative Urbanism
Instructor Dr. Warren Barbour

Reg. #22155
Monday/Wednesday 9:30–10:50am
Fillmore 261 (Paley Library)

Considers the origin of the city, starting with Mesopotamia. Defines urban and civilization, examines the urban environment, and compares the archaeological city to the modern city.
APY 443LEC
Adv. Physical Anthropology: Paleopathology
Instructor Dr. Joyce Sirianni

Reg. #24278
Tuesday 4:00–6:40pm
Spaulding 158

This seminar will address the topic of Human Paleopathology, i.e. the study of disease in ancient populations. After a brief introduction to the history of paleopathology, and to what constitutes pathology vs. pseudopathology, students will learn the distinctive features of various infectious diseases which effect bone, skeletal trauma, and dental disease.

APY 448SEM
Human Genetics-Legal Ethics
Instructor Dr. Christine Duggleby

Reg. #22157
Wednesday 12:00–2:40pm
Spaulding Quad 158

Recent advances in genetic technology have presented the scientific and lay community with ethical and legal problems, yet to be resolved. The objective of this course is to provide an opportunity for informed discussions of such issues relating to contemporary human/medical issues.

APY 494SEM
Senior Seminar: Hominin Behavior
Instructor Dr. Stephen Lycett

Reg. #22162
Tuesday/Thursday 5:00pm-6:20pm
Fillmore 354

The “Paleolithic” covers the timeframe from when our ancestors first began to manufacture stone tools in Africa (c. 2.6 million years ago) through the point at which the last glacial period ended (i.e. up to the beginning of the Holocene). This course explores the evidence for changing patterns of hominin behavior during this phase in our evolution. We will consider the major sites and material evidence that is used in current debates. We will evaluate the factors that might shape patterns in the distribution and form of Paleolithic data. Critical thought will also be given to the use of behavior models drawn from primatology as well as anthropology in the study of fossil hominin behavior. Key sites and case studies will be discussed, tracking the dispersal of hominins across the globe and of key behavioral innovations.
We think of “science” as objective, value-free, and somehow independent of “culture,” yet science is conducted by people, in various settings, and inevitably is shaped or flavored by the cultures and social settings in which it is done. In this seminar we will look at the culture of science, including how scientific theories are shaped and influenced by cultural issues, how scientific research is guided by cultural and social agendas, and how “science” differs from culture to culture and country to country. The goal of the course is to arrive at a more sophisticated and nuanced view of what “science” is, and how it gets done and why, as a symbol and as social activity.