

**University of Kentucky
Independent Study Program
Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0031**

**Anthropology 101 (ANT 101)
Introduction to Anthropology**

**21 Assignments, 1 Final Exam
3 Semester Hours**

INTRODUCTION

- Instructor:** Marcie L. Venter, M.A.
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mlvent0@uky.edu or mlvent0@yahoo.com (the latter after May 2006)
- Content:** Anthropology is a holistic discipline in that it is concerned with studying the whole of the human condition. This course offers a comprehensive introduction to anthropology, emphasizing the concepts and methods of the major sub-fields, i.e., cultural, biological/physical, archaeological, and linguistic anthropology. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the concept of culture as approached through the field of anthropology. Cultures are the traditions and customs transmitted and adapted through learning that govern the beliefs and behaviors of the people that employ them.
- Textbook:** Ember, Carol R., Melvin Ember, and Peter Peregrine. *Anthropology*, 11th Edition. Pearson Education, Inc., Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. 2005. ISBN 0131849751.
- Please make sure you purchase or have access to the correct edition of this textbook. Used copies are readily available from a number of outlets (e.g., the publisher or Amazon). Copies should be accompanied by a supplemental cd.
- Assignments:** There are 18 topical assignments, 3 midterm review tests (assignments), and 1 final for a total of 22 activities. Course assignments are designed so that you may be asked for either specific answers through objective-style questions (e.g. multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank) or for discussions of content by way of short answer, essay, or compare/contrast-style questions. The latter-style questions may not have explicit answers already stated in the text; instead, they require student reflection and an understanding of the course material (the text). Assignment length is contingent upon the number of chapters covered. It is understood that the multi-chapter assignments will require more time.

Each assignment must be submitted individually and in correct order (assignment 1, 2, 3...) with a cover sheet stapled as its front page on which you have provided the information requested; name, address, assigned student number, date, course (ANT 101), and assignment number. The 18 topical assignments will comprise 40% of your total course grade. The individual grades received for topical assignments will be compared and a median score calculated. A median score is perhaps a better measure of your performance as it is not affected by extreme scores to the same degree that a mean grade is.

Additional assignment submission formats may be developed. The Independent Studies Office will inform you of other options (e.g., on-line submission) should they become available. You should return all assignment pages with answers placed in the spaces provided. The three, midterm review assignments may require more space. If so, attach additional pages, write below, or on the back of the assignment pages, just be certain that your additional text is clearly associated with the question you are answering, especially if the responses to several questions exceed the space allotted. When answering questions, particularly written responses, be as specific as possible. You will receive maximum credit by being as precise and explicit as possible. If your answers are too general or vague, you will receive a lower grade. Students must mail or bring in each assignment to the Independent Study Program office. Moreover, students must submit assignments in sequence and no more than the allotted maximum per work week (check with the Independent Studies Office for this quantity). Additional information concerning the procedure for the preparation of assignments is located either at the end of this book or in the Independent Study office.

To aid students in their study, most reading (end of chapter) and written assignments have lists of keywords. These keywords consist of important places, people, things, and concepts of particular relevance to the topic. It is especially important that you know the meaning of these keywords, how they relate to the assigned materials, and how they are relevant to the area or subject under investigation. Likewise, your textbook, *Anthropology*, has several vignettes, or snapshots, of special interest topics or examples of research being conducted by anthropologists. You are required to read these in addition to the primary text for each assigned chapter. Moreover, it is highly recommended that you take full advantage of any supplementary materials (e.g., CD-ROMS, internet exercises, etc.) that accompany your text or that are mentioned throughout your readings. These outside sources often have different ways of presenting material than your text and may help augment, reiterate, or clarify important concepts, often by way of examples. These visual and sometimes auditory aids often are a benefit to students who prefer non-reading learning styles. There is no way to avoid reading in this course. However, reinforcement of read materials by other media never hurts.

Remember, a passing grade is required on the final examination in order for you to pass the course, regardless of your pre-final exam grade. Since the final examination accounts for 30% of the final grade, it is important for you to excel. Try not to become too dependent on your textbook for the completion of assignments throughout the course. The final is a closed book test. That means that unlike the several assignments throughout the course, you are not permitted to use the text or other reference materials to answer the final test questions. You should certainly use these supporting materials to study, however.

Final exam format: The format of the final examination is the same as that of the 3-midterm reviews (10% each of the course grade). The final will therefore consist of objective style questions and written discussion-style ones. These latter questions may be in the form of short answer, compare/contrast, or essay.

Finally, please complete the student information sheet that accompanies Assignment 1. Through this brief questionnaire, I hope to learn about your interests in anthropology, any prior knowledge, or life experiences you have that may contribute to your success in the course. You may use the opportunity of turning in assignments to include a brief note concerning other material, questions, or interests that you have about Anthropology or any of its sub-fields. If you would like to contact me directly concerning an assignment, or would just like to talk, feel free to call at (859) 257-2710 or e-mail at mlvent0@uky.edu (through May 2006, mlvent0@yahoo.com thereafter; note—for both e-mails, that is a zero after the “t”, not an “o”). The phone number listed is to the Anthropology department office at UK. I do not have a direct line into my office, but if you leave a message with the secretary and a call back number, I will respond as soon as possible. You may also leave messages for me with the Independent Studies office. I look forward to working with you.

Final Examination in Anthropology 101

The Final Examination Request Form is the last page of this Course Assignment Book. This form must be completed and sent to:

Independent Study Program Office
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky
40506
(Telephone: 859-256-3466).

Do not send this form to your instructor. Your instructor cannot arrange for you to take the final examination. Reminder: The format for the Final Examination is the same as that used on the three Midterm Review Exams, but

the Final Examination will contain more questions than the Midterm Review. The point values for the final will be divided equally between objective-style and discussion style questions. There will be fewer discussion than objective questions, however, the former will be worth more points for which you may earn partial credit. You must answer all questions on the final, unless otherwise instructed. The point value for the Final Examination will be 100 points. Your Final Examination grade point percentage will be multiplied by 30% (.30) and applied to the total course grade.

Grading: You must submit each assignment with a cover sheet attached. All questions should be completed using the appropriate word, phrase, or sentence as required. It is advised that you submit the first few assignments slowly, allowing enough time to receive the instructor's feedback. Since the final examination is comprehensive, comprises 30% of your total grade, and must receive a grade of "D" or higher to pass the course, you should carefully review all of the graded prior assignments as you study for the final examination. All assignments must be completed before you take the final examination.

Your final course grade is based on your performance for each of the following segments:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Percent of Grade</u>
Topical Assignments (18)	40%
Midterm Review Exams (3)	30%
Final Examination (1)	30%

As noted above, the final examination comprises 30% of your final course grade. You must pass the final to receive credit for this course. The final examination is comprehensive and draws on material from throughout the entire course span. This is a fact that you should consider when studying—also when you receive your graded assignments from throughout the course. Save these assignments, know the correct answers for those you might have missed, and use these to study for the final examination as well as the midterm review exams. Questions for the final will draw from the assigned readings. If you performed well on each of the topical assignments and the midterm reviews, you should do well on the final.

Please print legibly or type on all assignments. Thank you!

Study Resources:

University of Kentucky Academic Enhancement Program

For General Information:

<http://www.uky.edu/UGS/study>

For self-guided learning skills assessment:

<http://www.uky.edu/UGS/study/learningskills.htm>

University of Texas Learning Center's "Making the Grade"

http://www.utexas.edu/student/utlc/class/mkg_grd/makinggradeindex.html

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE INSTRUCTOR

Marcie L. Venter

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University of Kentucky

Lexington, Kentucky 40506

I was born and reared in southwestern Pennsylvania's Allegheny Valley and completed my undergraduate degree in anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh in 1995. While at Pitt, I focused my studies on Iroquois and Mesoamerican archaeology, as well as Human Skeletal Analysis and Primate Anatomical Variation. For the time between my graduation from Pitt and graduate work, I instructed Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory courses at Duquesne University, also in Pittsburgh, and worked for the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Cultural Resource Research. I started my graduate studies in 1997 at the University of Kentucky where I have since received my masters in anthropology (2001). I entered PhD candidacy status in 2003, and conducted doctoral dissertation fieldwork in Mexico during 2004. I am currently writing my dissertation. During my graduate tenure at the University of Kentucky, I have assisted with or independently taught several courses, including: The World of Peasants, Cultural Diversity in the Modern World, Introduction to Anthropology, Old World Civilization, and Introduction to Latin American Studies. I taught the latter course in a modified form at Transylvania University in 2003. I have also served as Research Assistant, Project Archaeologist, or Field Director for the Kentucky Archaeological Survey, William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology, UK Program for Archaeological Research, *Recorrido Arqueológico Tres Zapotes*, and *Proyecto Agaltepec*. Likewise, I have served as graduate Teaching Assistant for the University of Kentucky's Academic Enhancement Program.

My graduate work has specialized in the prehistoric archaeology of the southern Gulf Lowlands of Veracruz, Mexico. I conducted my master's thesis research at the large, regional, Formative period center of Tres Zapotes (ca. 900 BC through AD 300), under the direction of Christopher Pool at the University of Kentucky. At Tres Zapotes, I examined the social organization of the site by way of ceramic decoration. My doctoral research site is located just a few kilometers southeast of Tres Zapotes and focuses on the Postclassic period (AD 1000 through 1520). My dissertation research examines boundary area dynamics—specifically culture change and socio-political interactions between the people of the western Tuxtla Mountains and the expanding Aztec Empire. You may view an example of my research on-line at: <http://www.famsi.org/reports/03045/index.html>.

My anthropological background is diverse and I have participated in a variety of anthropological experiences. I would be more than happy to discuss them with you or to provide my input with respect to interests you might have—in anthropology or related subjects.

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