

Glendale Community College  
Fall 2009

## ASB 220: Anthropology Goes To The Movies

Tuesday and Thursday: 5:45 – 7:00

Location: HU 101

**Instructor:** Alexandra Miller

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 – 5:30 or by appointment

Office Hours Location: 05-146

### **Course Description:**

This course explores the relationship between anthropology and popular culture. Through the medium of box office movies and television, we will explore the appeal that all aspects of anthropology have for 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century popular culture. This course will use cinema as a starting point for understanding the basics of the method and theory in anthropology.

### **Textbook:**

*The Essence of Anthropology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

Authors: W. Haviland, H. Prins, D. Walrath, B. McBride

### **Blackboard:**

All handouts for this course, including the syllabus, will be posted on Blackboard. Other useful information from class, including your grades, will be accessible through Blackboard. **You are responsible for routinely checking the Blackboard site for updates.**

### **Course Requirements:**

Each student is responsible for the material covered in class and assigned readings. Readings come from the required textbook or will be included on Blackboard and are listed at the end of this syllabus. Readings should be completed **before** the class listed.

Written assignments will be distributed approximately one week before their due date. These assignments will vary in format but will primarily involve short answer questions.

Class time will be used for lectures, discussion, and film viewing. Some movies or television shows will be shown in their entirety, but most will only be shown in portions.

### **Grading:**

Grades will be based on written assignments, participation, and a final exam. There will be four equally-weighted written assignments (listed on the class schedule). Participation includes both active contribution to class discussion and completion of occasional in-class exercises.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

4 Written Assignments: 50% of total grade

Participation: 25% of total grade

Final Exam: 25% of total grade

The standard formula for determining final grades is as follows:

A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F: Below 60%

**Attendance and Participation:**

In order to succeed in this course, attendance and participation are necessary. While some films that we will watch are available widely, some will be inaccessible outside of class. You must attend class in order to participate in discussion of films even if you have already seen a movie we are watching.

If you are absent more than twice during the first two weeks of class, you will be **DROPPED** from the class. This is largely for your benefit so you are not charged for courses you do not attend. Also, if you are absent more than three times prior to the 45<sup>th</sup> day of the semester, you will be **DROPPED** from the class.

While your enrollment in this course implies your commitment to attending all classes, it is understandable that unforeseen incidents can interfere with this. If you must miss class for legitimate reasons, please let me know as soon as possible and the absence will not count against you.

You are responsible for following GCC policies and deadlines for dropping or withdrawing from the course. If you simply stop attending and appear on my final roster you will receive either an "F" or a "W" for the course.

**In-Class Behavior:**

Please be considerate of your classmates and of me. Do not make comments or carry on private conversations during class time. No matter how quiet you think you can whisper, you will be disrupting the class for someone.

Please turn off or silence all electronic devices during class time. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, pagers, PDAs, music players, and laptop computers. If you feel a computer is absolutely necessary for you to take notes during class, please discuss this with me. Also talk to me if there is any legitimate reason you feel that you need to violate the "electronic silence" rule (i.e. medical emergencies).

During class, please refrain from any non-class related activities.

**Special Accommodations:**

I am committed to providing access to a quality education for all students, including those with documented disabilities. Please see me before or after class or during office hours to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a disability and wish to have an accommodation for this course, it is your responsibility to notify the Disability Services and Resources office located in TDS 100 (623-845-3080). They will have you complete the appropriate paperwork to submit to me. You are encouraged to request accommodation early in the semester so that, once identified, reasonable accommodation can be implemented in a timely manner.

**Academic Integrity:**

All students are expected to act with civility and personal integrity. This includes respecting the dignity, rights, and property of other students and myself. Such behavior is critical for creating and maintaining an environment in which all students can succeed.

Academic integrity includes a commitment to not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty include cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another person's work as one's own, using any sources (including the Internet) without citation, fabricating data or citations, "ghosting" (having another student take an exam), stealing examinations, tampering with the academic work of another student, and facilitating other students' acts of academic dishonesty.

Cheating in any form is **unacceptable**. If cheating is detected, all students involved will receive a zero for that exam or assignment and may be subject to disciplinary action as per GCC regulations. Please refer to the Catalog & Student Handbook (<http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/catalog>) regarding campus-wide policies relating to academic misconduct and disciplinary standards.

**Schedule:**

Week 1 – August 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>: What is Anthropology?

*Chapter 1, Pages 3-15*

Week 2 – September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>: Anthropology in Practice

*Chapter 1, Pages 15-25*

*The Anthropologist In The Field (on Blackboard)*

Week 3 – September 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>: Anthropology in Practice Continued

*Archaeology in Practice (on Blackboard)*

Week 4 – September 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>: Ethnicity and Culture

*Chapter 7*

*ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE (Due at the start of class on the 15<sup>th</sup>)*

Week 5 – September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>: Ethnicity and Culture Continued

*Chapter 8*

Week 6 – September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>: Linguistics

*Chapter 9*

Week 7 – October 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>: Forensic Anthropology

*ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE (Due at the start of class on the 6<sup>th</sup>)*

*Forensic Anthropology (on Blackboard)*

Week 8 – October 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>: Human Evolution

*Chapter 2*

Week 9 – October 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>: Human Evolution Continued

*Chapter 4, Pages 71-85*

Week 10 – October 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>: The Stone Age

*Chapter 4, Pages 86-91*

*Paleoanthropology (on Blackboard)*

*ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE (Due at the start of class on the 27<sup>th</sup>)*

Week 11 – November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>: The Stone Age Continued

Week 12 – November 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>: Ancient Egypt

*Chapter 6*

*Egyptology (on Blackboard)*

Week 13 – November 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>: Ancient Egypt Continued and The New World

*The Paleoindian Period (on Blackboard)*

Week 14 – November 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>: The New World Continued

November 26<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS (THANKSGIVING)

*Mesoamerica (on Blackboard)*

Week 15 – December 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>: Anthropological Ethics

*Re-read Chapter 1, Pages 22-25*

*AAA Code of Ethics (on Blackboard)*

*SAA Code of Ethics (on Blackboard)*

Week 16 – December 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>: Aliens and Curses: Anthropology Meets Sci-Fi

*Chapter 15*

*ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE (Due at the start of class on the 8<sup>th</sup>)*

Week 17 – December 15<sup>th</sup>: Final Exam

**Disclaimer:**

This syllabus and course content is subject to change throughout the semester as needed. Continued enrollment in this course implies that you have read and agreed to the conditions listed in this syllabus.