

**ANTH 111J**  
**Introduction to Physical Anthropology and Archaeology**  
**Autumn 2017**

**Instructor:** Clare Fawcett

**Office:** Bruce Brown 335H, **Tel:** 867-2129, **E-mail:** cfawcett@stfx.ca

**Office Hours:** Tuesday: 10-11:45; Thursday 3:45-5:00

**Course Content:** Archaeology and physical anthropology provide a unique opportunity to examine the development of human society. With their long temporal depth, we can examine how humans, and their ancestors, evolved and populated the entire globe. The nature of modern archaeological and physical anthropological research including topics of hominid evolution, primatology, genetic research, origins of agriculture and civilization and First Nations archaeology will be discussed.

As part of the Social Justice Colloquium, students in this section of Anth 111 will learn how physical anthropology and archaeology help us think about questions such as:

- What does the study of hominid evolution teach us about what it means to be human?
- Has social inequality always existed? If not, when and why did it first appear?"
- What is "human nature"?
- How did pre-human hominids impact the natural environment? How did technology change the relationship between hominins and their environment? What does this mean for sustainability today?
- Anthropologists say that in a biological sense race does not exist. So why do people experience racism?

**Evaluation:**

• Mid-Term:	20%
• Thought papers and In-Class presentations (6 x 5%):	30%
• Service learning/Doreen Bernard assignment:	15%
• Class Engagement:	5%
• <u>Final Examination:</u>	<u>30%</u>

Total: 100%

**Moodle site:** Go to the StFX Moodle Login Page at <https://moodle.stfx.ca/>. Log in using your StFX username and password. Click on the Anth 111 link to access our Moodle site. We will use Moodle throughout this course, so make sure you can connect. If you have problems, talk to me or the TSG.

**Texts and required readings:**

Textbook: Muckle, Robert J. and Laura Tubelle de Gonzalez. 2016. Through the Lens of Anthropology: An Introduction to Human Evolution and Culture. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Other readings are available through the StFX library's on-line holdings. You can access web-based materials, podcasts and videos posted on-line using links on the Anth 111J Moodle site. I will explain how to use these electronic resources during class.

**Class Materials Copyright Notification:**

The materials in Anth 111J at StFX, including but not limited to the course syllabus, class notes or PowerPoint presentations provided by the instructor, or assignments and other materials authored by the instructor, are the property of the instructor, unless stated otherwise by the instructor. Online posting or selling this material to third parties (for instance, through on-line sites or on social media sites) for distribution without permission is subject to Canadian Copyright law and is strictly prohibited.

Please visit the StFX copyright guide: [http://sites.stfx.ca/library/campus\\_copyright](http://sites.stfx.ca/library/campus_copyright)

**Essays and Assignments:**

Essays and assignments must be handed in on the dates listed on the Moodle site. I will deduct 5% out of 100% for each day your work is late. Keep an extra copy of your written work. If it disappears or I cannot download it, you will be responsible for supplying another copy. If you cannot supply another copy, you will receive a zero.

**Academic Honesty:**

Please read the plagiarism/cheating/academic dishonesty policy in the University Calendar (Academic Regulations, Section 3.9). You may talk to me if you have questions about this policy.

**Class Equity Policy:**

Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe and equitable learning environment free from discrimination or harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space—both real and virtual—that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination and respect for diversity. These values and practices are in accord with the StFX Discrimination and Harassment Policy which can be found at <http://www.mystfx.ca/campus/stu-serv/equity/>.

Please feel free to discuss with me any questions or concerns you have about equity in our classroom or in the StFX community. If I cannot answer your questions or help you address your concerns, I encourage you to talk to the Chair/Coordinator of the Department/Program.

Technology in the classroom:

You **may not** use your cell phone during class. If I see you using your cell phone (i.e., texting, messaging, Internet, social media etc.) during class I will ask you to put it away, give you a verbal warning and note this warning on your record. After each third warning, I will deduct 1 mark from your final grade. Note that I will ask you to put away your cell phone publically in the classroom.

You **may** use your computer or tablet in class **to take notes**. Remember that research shows going on the Internet (messaging, surfing the Web, checking messaging, etc.) during class decreases student learning and negatively impacts learning of other students in the class because they are distracted by your on-line activity. I will not police your on-line use but if I do see you on-line at an inappropriate time, I will ask you to close your computer or tablet for that day. After each third warning, I will deduct 1 mark from your final grade. Note that I will ask you to close your tablet or computer publically in the classroom.

You are in class for a reason—to learn as part of a learning community. Stay in class and with your classmates and professor physically, emotionally and mentally by using technology wisely.

### **Course schedule:**

Topic 1: Introduction to Anthropology and the Social Justice Colloquium: September 5 and 7

- September 5:
  - Introduction
  - Moodle and the syllabus
- September 7:
  - What is social justice?

Topic 2: Anthropological Concepts: September 12 and 14

- September 12: What are anthropology, biological anthropology and archaeology?
  - Readings:
    - Muckle and de Gonzales, Chapter 1
    - Peacock, James. 2001. *The Anthropological Lens: Harsh Light, Soft Focus*, 2nd Edition. Cambridge, UK:

Cambridge University Press. Read Pps 1-20 (On the Moodle site)

- September 14:
  - Model Thought Paper and In-class Assignment on "How to do archaeology"
  - Resources: See Moodle site

Topic 3: Evolution and Genetics: September 19, 21 and 26

- September 19 and 21: Basic concepts of evolution and genetics
  - Reading: Muckle and de Gonzales, Chapter 3
- September 26: Personal Genomics:
  - Thought paper 1 and In-class assignment
  - Resources: See Moodle site

Topic 4: Primates: September 28 and October 3

- September 28: Lecture
  - Readings:
    - Muckle and de Gonzales, Chapter 2
    - Marks, Jonathan. 2011. "Apes run around naked, live in trees, and fling their poo. Do you? (On the relevance of apes to understanding humans)". In Jonathan Marks, *The Alternative Introduction to Biological Anthropology*. Oxford: Oxford university Press. Pp 141-161. (Posted on Moodle)
- October 3: What is the relationship between apes, humans and eugenics?
  - Thought paper 2 and In-class assignment:
  - Resources: See Moodle site

October 5: Review Class

October 10: Mid-Term Examination

Topic 5: Human biological evolution: October 12, 17, 19 and 24

- October 12, 17 and 19: Lecture
  - Reading and Websites:
    - Muckle and de Gonzales, Chapter 4
- October 24
  - Thought paper 3 and In-class project assignment
  - Resources: On Moodle site

Topic 6: Human cultural evolution: 2.5 Million to 20,000 years ago: Oct 26, 31, Nov 2 and 7

- October 26, 31 and November 2: Lecture

- Readings and Websites:
  - Muckle and de Gonzales, Chapter 5
  - Smithsonian Museum of Natural History's "What does it mean to be human?"—Human Evolution Evidence. Behaviour. sections on:
    - Stone tools  
<http://humanorigins.si.edu/evidence/behavior/stone-tools>
    - Hearths and shelters  
<http://humanorigins.si.edu/evidence/behavior/hearthshelters>
    - Art and music  
<http://humanorigins.si.edu/evidence/behavior/art-music>
- November 7: Technology and being human
  - Thought Paper 4 and In-class assignment
  - Resources on Moodle site

November 14: Workshop about Winter Term Service Learning with Arlyne MacGrath

Topic 7: Cultural evolution: 20,000-5,000 years ago: November 9, 16, 21, and 26

- November 9, 16, and 21: Lecture
  - Readings
    - Muckle and de Gonzales, Chapter 6
- November 26: Agriculture and the Paleo-Diet
  - Thought Paper 5 and in-class assignment
  - Resources on Moodle site

Topic 8: Whose past? Archaeology in Nova Scotia today: Place and Identity: The Example of Mi'kmawey Debert: November 28 and 30

- November 28: Lecture
  - Reading
    - Muckle and de Gonzales, Chapter 7
- November 30: Archaeology, Place and Identity: The Example of Mi'kmawey Debert
  - Thought Paper 6 and in-class assignment
  - Resources on Moodle site

Final Examination: Your final examination will be scheduled by the University during the Examination Period Tuesday, December 5 to Friday, December 15. DO NOT PURCHASE AN AIRPLANE TICKET OR MAKE TRAVEL PLANS UNTIL YOU KNOW WHEN YOU WILL WRITE YOUR LAST EXAM. You are responsible for being at the exam unless you have a real emergency or other problem which you have discussed with the Dean.