

political, and economic systems—and examine how humans interact with, shape, and adapt to their environments.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the core concepts, theories, and research methods central to the field of anthropology.
2. Analyze patterns of human biological and cultural evolution and assess how these processes have influenced societies over time.
3. Evaluate the reciprocal relationship between humans and their environments, recognizing how each shapes the other.
4. Apply anthropological perspectives to interpret and critically assess historical and contemporary social, political, and cultural issues.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK*:

Anthropology: What does it Mean to be Human? Fourth Edition. Robert Lavenda and Emily Schultz. Oxford University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0197534434. ISBN-10: 0197534430

***Please email me (chanratty@uttyler.edu) by 5PM Wednesday August 26th for a FREE copy of your textbook. (This task is your first quiz grade).**

CLASS LOGISTICS:

In addition to the assigned textbook chapters, learning will be enhanced through lectures, case studies (including films, podcasts, etc.) and class discussions. Lectures are designed to complement—not simply repeat—the readings, so it is essential that you complete all assigned readings before class. Active engagement with course materials will allow you to participate meaningfully in class and deepen your understanding of the subject matter. Students are responsible for keeping track of all deadlines, assignments, and materials presented in class.

GRADES WILL BE WEIGHTED AS FOLLOWS:

Attendance and participation	15%
Quizzes (Exam Reviews)	25%
Three Exams (20% each)	60%

Exams will cover material from the assigned textbook chapters, lecture content, and case studies. Each exam consists of two in-class components and one paper:

1. Part One: In-Class Section: Multiple Choice, Matching, True/False, etc.
2. Part Two: In-Class Section: Short Answer and Essay Questions (The questions for this section will be provided to the class in advance of the exam.)
3. Take home paper (due by the beginning of class the day of Exam Part Two)

PLEASE NOTE GRADES POSTED TO CANVAS ARE NOT WEIGHTED. You can calculate your grade using this free calculator:

<https://www.rapidtables.com/calc/grade/grade-calculator.html>

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY:



College courses cover a large amount of material in a relatively short period of time, with the goal of developing your ability to think critically about the subject matter. Consistent attendance in lecture is one of the most effective ways to strengthen your understanding of anthropology, and it will also positively impact your performance on quizzes and exams.

You are permitted one unexcused absence. Each additional unexcused absence will result in a reduction of your attendance and participation grade. Please note that my definition of an excused absence is intentionally broad and may include illness, work-related conflicts, mental health days, and other

reasonable circumstances. To have an absence excused, you must contact me in writing (via email) prior to the absence.

Building connections with your classmates can help you stay on track throughout the semester. If you are absent, reliable peer contacts can provide notes, assignments, and important announcements. Please record the contact information of at least two classmates you can reach out to if you are absent.

Exam dates are absolute and require a formal excuse specific to the exam day(s) (example: doctor's note) for make-up exams to be scheduled.

PROFESSOR-STUDENT COMMUNICATION:

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns. I can be reached at the email address and office hours noted above. If my office hours conflict with your schedule, I am happy to meet at another time, either by Zoom, phone, or in person.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS: MUTUAL RESPECT

In this class, we value mutual respect. I will show respect for you, and I expect you to extend the same courtesy to me, our guests, and each other. Respect can be shown in many ways, including:

- Listening attentively when someone else is speaking.
- Avoiding side conversations while others have the floor.
- Raising your hand to ask a question.
- Refraining from browsing the internet, texting, etc. during class.
- Minimizing interruptions by silencing or turning off your phone.
- Entering quietly if you arrive late.

CLASS CANCELLATION:

If I need to cancel a class unexpectedly (e.g., due to illness, etc.), I will post the information on Canvas and send a message via Canvas, which will also forward to your UT Tyler email account. Additionally, in the event of inclement weather, please check Canvas and/or your university email for any announcements regarding possible university-wide class cancellations or delays.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

To best support your learning, all graded assignments must reflect your own work. Using outside tools or services that create work on your behalf—including artificial intelligence (AI)—is not allowed in this class. This includes AI-generated text, images, video, audio, or any other content for assignments or class activities.

Any misuse of AI that violates this course's guidelines will be treated as a breach of academic integrity. Violations of academic integrity include (but are not limited to):

- Having another person or entity complete any portion of your graded work.
- Purchasing or outsourcing assignments or exams.
- Submitting previously completed assignments as new work.
- Using AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT or similar platforms) to generate assignment content.

Such actions constitute a violation of the UT Tyler Honor Code and will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the UT Tyler Academic Integrity Policy.

Rather than relying on AI to complete your work, I encourage you to visit the UTT Writing Center (CAS 212), where you can receive personalized support to strengthen and improve your writing. See [UT Tyler Writing Center](#)

**If you are ever unsure about what counts as acceptable support or resources for your work, please ask me before submitting an assignment. I am here to support your success.*

ANTH 2346: FALL 2026: CLASS SCHEDULE AND REQUIRED READINGS*

Week	Required Readings
August 24 - 28	What is anthropology? (Chapter 1) and Why is the concept of culture important? (Chapter 8)
August 31 – September 4	Why is evolution important to anthropologists? (Chapter 2) and What can evolutionary theory tell us about human variation? (Chapter 5)
September 7 - 11	Monday September 7th – Labor Day – No class Tuesday September 8th – Census Date What can the study of primates tell us about human beings? (Chapter 3)
September 14 - 18	What can the fossil record tell us about human origins? (Chapter 4)

September 21 - 25	<u>Exam One – Part One: Wednesday September 23rd</u> <u>Exam One – Part Two: Friday, September 25th</u> <u>Take Home Paper Due Friday, September 25th by the beginning of class</u>
September 28 – October 2	How do we know about the human past? (Chapter 6)
October 5 - 9	How did humans settle down, build cities and establish states? (Chapter 7)
October 12 - 16	Why is understanding human language important? (Chapter 9)
October 19 - 23	How do we make meaning? (Chapter 10)
October 26 - 30	<u>Exam Two – Part One – Wednesday, October 28th</u> <u>Exam Two – Part Two – Friday, October 30th</u> <u>Take Home Paper Due Friday October 30th by the beginning of class</u>
November 2 - 6	Why do anthropologists study economic relations? (Chapter 11)
November 9 - 13	Why do anthropologists study political relations? (Chapter 12)

November 16 - 20	What can anthropology teach us about sex, gender, and sexuality? (Chapter 13) and Where do our relatives come from and why do they matter? (Chapter 14)
November 23 - 27	THANKSGIVING BREAK (No Classes)
November 30 – December 4	What can anthropology tell us about social inequality? (Chapter 15)
December 7 -11	FINALS WEEK <u>EXAM THREE: Wednesday, December 9th (10:15 – 12:15)</u> <u>Take Home Paper Due Wednesday, December 9th</u>

***Class schedule is subject to change**

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO UT TYLER STUDENTS

FOOD INSECURITY:

Research shows that college students experience food insecurity at significantly higher rates than the average U.S. household. This challenge can negatively affect both academic performance and mental health. To help address this issue, UT Tyler provides support through the **Patriot Pantry**, an on-campus food pantry available to students in need. The Patriot Pantry is in **Library 223 (just outside the library's main doors)**. You can find more information here: [UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#)

You can also contact me at any time for information about additional resources available in Smith County.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO ASSIST YOU IN THE COURSE

- [UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource \(SAR\) Office](#) (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)
- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#)
- [The Mathematics Learning Center](#)
- [UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction](#)
- [Upswing \(24/7 online tutoring\) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas](#)
- [Robert Muntz Library](#) and [Library Liaison](#)
- [Canvas 101](#) (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unicheck, and other software)
- Digital Support Toolkit (for supported courses only. Students are automatically enrolled in the toolkit for supported courses)
- LIB 422 -- Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam
- [The Career Success Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Testing Center](#)
- [Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO UT TYLER STUDENTS

- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (available to all students)
- [MySSP App](#) (24/7 access to Student Support Program counseling through phone or chat and online wellness resources available in a variety of languages)
- [Student Assistance and Advocacy Center](#)
- [Military and Veterans Success Center](#) (supports for our military-affiliated students)
- [UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#)
- [UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
- [UT Tyler Student Business Services](#) (pay or set up payment plans, etc.)
- [UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#)
- [Office of International Programs](#)
- [Title IX Reporting](#)
- [Patriots Engage](#) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Withdrawing from Class

Students may [withdraw](#) (drop) from this course using the [Withdrawal Portal](#). Withdrawing (dropping) this course can impact your Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please speak with your instructors, consider your options, speak with your advisor, and visit the One-Stop Service Center (STE 230) or email enroll@uttyler.edu to get a complete review of your student account and the possible impacts to withdrawing. We want you to make an informed decision. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for you and often can provide additional support options or assistance. Make sure to carefully [read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions](#) on using the [Withdrawal portal](#)..

Texas law prohibits students from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career*. The six courses dropped includes those from other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress and other areas, such as financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and Enrollment Services for additional guidance. **CAUTION #1:** Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the [Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule](#). **CAUTION #2:** All international students must check with the [Office of International Programs](#) before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms. **CAUTION #3:** All UT Tyler Athletes must check with the Athletic Academic Coordinator before withdrawing from a course. **CAUTION #4:** All veterans or military-affiliated students should consult with the [Military and Veterans Success Center](#).

* Students who began college for the first time before 2007 are exempt from this law.

Artificial Intelligence Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be

subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy. Refer to the About This Course section of the UT Tyler Syllabus Module for specific information on appropriate use of AI in your course(s).

Final Exam Policy

Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the Dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members must maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

Incomplete Grade Policy

If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in place of a grade *only when all of the following conditions are met*: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all coursework or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons before the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average.

The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to meet all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has yet to be assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F, or NC. If the course was initially taken under the CR/NC grading basis, this may adversely affect the student's academic standing.

Grade Appeal Policy

Disputes regarding grades must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade by filing a Grade Appeal Form with the instructor who assigned the grade. A grade appeal should be used when the student thinks the final course grade awarded does not reflect the grades earned on assessments or follow the grading scale as documented in the syllabus. The student should provide the rationale for the grade appeal and attach supporting document about the grades earned. The form

should be sent via email to the faculty member who assigned the grade. The faculty member reviews the rationale and supporting documentation and completes the instruction section of the form. The instructor should return the form to the student, even if a grade change is made at this level. If the student is not satisfied with the decision, the student may appeal in writing to the Chairperson of the department from which the grade was issued. In situations where there is an allegation of capricious grading, discrimination, or unlawful actions, appeals may go beyond the Chairperson to the Dean or the Dean's designee of the college from which the grade was issued, with that decision being final. The Grade Appeal form is found in the [Registrar's Form Library](#).

NOTE: The Grade Appeal Form is different from the Application for Appeal form submitted to the Student Appeals Committee, which does not rule on grade disputes as described in this policy.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical, and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with the Assistant Director Student Accessibility and Resources/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <https://www.uttyler.edu/disability-services>, the SAR office located in the Robert Muntz Library, LIB 460, email saroffice@uttyler.edu, or call 903.566.7079."

Military Affiliated Students

UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with your faculty member if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make your faculty member aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. Your faculty member is willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. The [Military and Veterans Success Center](#)

[\(MVSC\)](#) has campus resources for military-affiliated students. The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.

Students on an F-1 Visa

To remain in compliance with Federal Regulations requirements you must do the following:

- Traditional face-to-face classes: Attend classes on the regular meeting days/times.
- Hybrid Classes: Attend all face-to-face classes convened by the instructor according to the schedule set for your specific course.
- Online course: Only one online course can count toward your full-time enrollment. Students are expected to be fully engaged and meet all requirements for the online course.

Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct

The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy](#) in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

FERPA

UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in [University Policy 5.2.3](#). The course instructor will follow all requirements to protect your confidential information.

Absence for Official University Events or Activities

This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for University Events or Activities](#) as noted in the Catalog.

Absence for Religious Holidays

This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for Religious Holy Days as noted in the Catalog](#).

Absence for Pregnant Students

This course follows the requirements of Texas Laws SB 412, SB 459, SB 597/HB 1361 to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students. Part of the supports afforded pregnant students includes excused absences. Faculty who are informed by a student of needing this support should make a referral to the Parenting Student Liaison. NOTE: Students must work with the Parenting Student Liaison in order to receive these supports. Students should reach out to the Parenting Student Liaison at parents@uttyler.edu and also complete the [Pregnant and Parenting Self-Reporting Form](#).

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.