

San José State University
Department of Anthropology
Frontiers in Anthropology, ANTH 191, Spring, 2016

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Ana Pitchon
Office Location:	Clark Hall 404N
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Office Hours:	MW 11:00-12:00 and 1:30-2:30
Class Days/Time:	M/W 4:30-5:45
Classroom:	Clark 204
Prerequisites:	ANTH 011 and ANTH 131. Senior standing and completion of at least four upper division anthropology major classes is strongly recommended.

Course Format

This course requires the use of computers and use of word processing software.

Course Description

This course is a capstone course for all Anthropology majors, though its material is relevant across the social sciences. The intent of this course is to engage students in conversations about current issues in all four fields of anthropology, and how the anthropological skills and knowledge acquired throughout their studies to date can be utilized and applied in real-world and/or future academic settings. The seminar format of this course uses reading and class discussions to address critical social issues. This course also covers professional preparation.

Course Goals

1. Students will develop an understanding of anthropology as a discipline with a perspective that can critically assess contemporary academic and social issues.
2. Students will develop an appreciation for where and how anthropology is being used, as well as how it could be used in a variety of settings and applications.
3. Students will develop materials that can be used to further professional and academic careers.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Students who successfully complete the course will be able to:

1. analyze and evaluate various issue-related arguments, discovering and weighing underlying assumptions, and to apply the diverse theories to which they have been exposed to contemporary issues;
2. write logical and well-organized arguments based on anthropological concepts and data;
3. reflect upon their skills and knowledge as social science majors in order to develop a perspective that can be widely applied and articulated to different communities;
4. synthesize the fields of the discipline and use a variety of types of data and information; and
5. develop a sense of themselves as professionals with skills and knowledge

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Alan Batteau (2010). *Technology and Culture*. Long Grove, IL: Waveland.

Anna Bellisari (2013). *The Obesity Epidemic in North America*. Long Grove, IL: Waveland.

Erve Chambers (2010). *Native Tours*, 2nd Edition. Long Grove, IL: Waveland.

Harris, Marvin (1990). *Our Kind*. Harper Perennial.

Library Liaison

Silke Higgins is our department's library liaison and she can be contacted at silke.higgins@sjsu.edu. She is a graduate of our program and knows the department very well.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that "Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading."

Harris Readings (5 points each): Each week we will read a series of chapters from Harris. Students are expected to come to class with five questions, comments, and ideas written down to turn in on Wednesdays. These questions will form the basis of in-class discussion. You are encouraged to think about the readings in terms of what they mean to the social sciences, and what they suggest to the meaning of being human. Ideally, you will think about them in contemporary terms: why are we as humans the way we are? Where are we going, what

have we done, and how are we shaping our future? What are practical, contemporary solutions to the issues that Harris presents?

Group Presentation (25 points). You will work in groups of 5-6 students to develop a presentation about a topic of interest and relevance to society guided by the three departmental umbrellas and then make that presentation to the class.

Portfolio Exercises. There are three graded exercises that will ultimately help you develop the content of your portfolio.

Final Portfolio (15 points). The final “exam” in the class consists of a portfolio that you create over the course of the semester. It will include (1) a cover letter, (2) letter of intent, (3) resume, You will submit drafts of various elements of the portfolio throughout the semester. I will give you feedback and you can revise and resubmit as often as you wish, but you will not receive a grade until the final portfolio.

Grading Policy

A: 95-100 A-: 90-94 B+: 86-89 B: 82-85 B-: 78-81 C+: 74-77 C: 70-73 C-: 67-69 D: 60-66 F:0-59	A: Reserved for exceptional scholarship and understanding that reaches beyond minimum course requirements. B: Excellent above average work that exceeds minimum course requirements. C: Satisfactory completion of course requirements. D: Fails to address course requirements satisfactorily.
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In the calculation of the final grade of borderline cases, improvement and dynamic class participation will be decisive factors. I consider all students equally capable of successfully completing the requirements for this class with an above average grade, which does not mean you will receive a B for mediocre work.

Come to class prepared. Read the assignments carefully and take notes in class. Write down any questions you might have about the readings and raise them in class. Do not hesitate to participate actively in class and engage other students or the instructor in class discussions. Pose questions, make comments and *think critically!*

All assignments are due on the specified due dates. Late assignments will only be considered in the event of compelling evidence as to why you have missed class and were unable to submit the assignment.

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Classroom Protocol

This class is a mixture of lecture, seminar and in-class group activities. Students are expected to be present and prepared for class discussions. This means that you have completed the assigned readings, taken notes and thought critically about the material, with comments and questions noted. Sloppy work will not be taken seriously.

Attendance:

Arrive on time and be in attendance for the entire class period. Class lectures cover important information not found in assigned readings. If you arrive late for class, please move to your seat without disturbing other class members. Frequent absences and late arrivals will result in poor performance and grades. The use of electronic devices such as cell phones and tablets will not be tolerated. Video recording is strictly prohibited.

Laptop computers and tablets:

Laptop computers and tablets may be used in class only for note-taking.

A student who is doing non-class related activities on his or her computer is not only hurting his or her own education, but possibly the educational experience of many others in the class: research has shown that a game or a picture on a laptop distracts not only the student using the computer but also those students nearby (Yamamoto 2007, Fried 2008). Therefore the use of laptops for non-class activity (e.g. email, games, web-surfing) is prohibited. Students using their laptop for non-class activity will be asked to turn off their laptop and leave the class. In addition, the use of cell phones in class will result in the student being asked to leave.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. To learn important campus information, view [University Policy S90-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf> and SJSU current semester's [Policies and Procedures](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as the next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

- It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
- In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to



scan this code.)

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

Course Number / Title, Semester, Course Schedule

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	2/1	Course introduction, requirements, assignments, and introduction. Begin reading <i>North American Obesity</i>
1	2/3	Jobs and Careers EXERCISE #1 DISTRIBUTED
2	2/8	Reading: Harris pp 1-21
2	2/10	Professionalism: Making your portfolio
3	2/15	Reading: Harris pp 21-47
3	2/17	EXERCISE #1 DUE EXERCISE #2 DISTRIBUTED
4	2/22	Reading: Harris pp 47-61
4	2/24	Reading: Harris pp 61-85
5	2/29	Professionalism: CVs and Resumes Begin reading <i>Technology and Culture</i>
5	3/2	Professionalism: CVs and Resumes
6	3/7	Reading: Harris pp 85-125
6	3/9	Reading: Harris pp 125-165
7	3/14	Reading: Harris pp 165-229
7	3/16	EXERCISE #2 DUE Reading: Harris pp 229-271
8	3/21	EXERCISE #3 DISTRIBUTED Reading: Harris pp 271 - 301 Team selection and planning
8	3/23	Teams and topics settled Begin reading <i>Native Tours</i>
9	3/28	SPRING BREAK
9	3/30	SPRING BREAK
10	4/4	Reading: Harris pp 301-317
10	4/6	EXERCISE #3 DUE EXERCISE #4 DISTRIBUTED Reading Harris pp 317-343
11	4/11	Professionalism: Why anthropology?

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Projects – team meetings
11	4/13	Professionalism: Practices/Applications Projects – team meetings
12	4/18	Reading Harris pp 343-365
12	4/20	Reading Harris pp 365-397
13	4/25	Reading Harris pp 397-461
13	4/27	Reading Harris pp 461-487
14	5/2	Reading Harris pp 487-503
14	5/4	EXERCISE #4 DUE
15	5/9	Presentations
15	5/11	Presentations
16	5/16	Presentations
Final Exam	5/19	Final portfolios due 2:45-5:00 Clark Hall 204

Weekly activities and assignments are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Students will be notified of all changes through Canvas.