



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. ANTH 2220 Introduction to Anthropology

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the field of anthropology and its sub-disciplines: cultural anthropology, archaeology, physical/biological anthropology and linguistic anthropology. A major theme of this course is the interaction between human biology, culture and the natural environment.

MnTC (Goals 5/SS and 10/PE); (3 Cr – 3 lect, 0 lab)

C. *Core Theme: People and the Environment **Discipline Area (if MnTC): History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

D. RIVERLAND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the following Riverland Institutional Learning Outcome(s):

- ILO 1: critical thinking (*Core Theme Goal 2*)
- ILO 2: awareness of the larger global community (*Core Theme Goal 7 or 8*)
- ILO 3: ethical, engaged citizenship (*Core Theme Goal 9 or Goal 10*)
- ILO 4: communication and collaboration (*Discipline Goal 1 and by any learning outcome(s) involving communication or collaboration*)

E. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- Anthropology; Methods of Inquiry
 - Nature of anthropology
 - Methods of archeology
 - Methods of cultural anthropology
 - Methods of physical anthropology
 - Ethical Considerations
- Evolution and Human Adaptation
 - History of evolutionary theory and alternative explanatory systems
 - Basic genetics
 - Adaptation (to the environment and to cultural systems)
 - Processes of evolution
 - Origin of species
- Identity and Nature of the Human Species
 - Humans as primates

- Evolution of bipedalism
- Early hominids
- Homo sapiens
- Sex and reproduction
- Human variation and race
- Concept of Culture
 - Meaning of culture
 - Brains of culture
 - Theories of culture
- Archaeology and Material Culture
 - Recovering and interpreting the past
 - Material culture and cultural systems
 - Summary of prehistoric archaeology
- Cultural Systems and Social Institutions
 - Systems of production and distribution
 - Marriage and family
 - Kinship and kinship terminology
 - Religion and variation in religious systems
 - Legal and political institutions
- Communication
 - Language
 - Language and evolution
 - Apes and language
 - Language and culture
- Culture Change
 - Processes of culture change
 - Theories of cultural evolution
 - Evolution of human behavior
 - Biology and culture in interaction
 - Change in the modern world
- Applying Anthropology
 - Future of the human species
 - Careers in anthropology

F. GOAL TYPES, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES:

<u>GOAL TYPE</u>	<u>OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>OUTCOMES</u>
<u>MnTC Goal 5a</u>	Students will be able to employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.	The student will successfully <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. participate in a research project to investigate an aspect of a cultural or social system. 2. employ primary methods of socio-cultural anthropology. 3. demonstrate understanding of and successful employment of methods and data used by social

		<p>and behavioral scientists to investigate the human condition.</p> <p>4. demonstrate an understanding of data types, methods of data collection and data analysis as well as ethical considerations.</p>
<u>MnTC Goal 5b</u>	examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.	1. identify and describe the nature and processes of social institutions, their evolution over human history, and cross-cultural differences that have developed.
<u>MnTC Goal 5c</u>	use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.	<p>1. identify and describe different theories or explanatory systems as they relate to human origins and cultural human origins and cultural systems or institutions.</p> <p>2. demonstrate ability to critique the theories or explanatory systems.</p>
<u>MnTC Goal 10a</u>	explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.	1. explain the relationship between human adaptive evolution and the bio-physical environment.
<u>MnTC Goal 10b</u>	discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.	1. discern the evolutionary connection between human bio-physical characteristics and the development of human society and culture.
<u>MnTC Goal 10c</u>	describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environment and natural resource challenges.	<p>1. identify and describe cross-cultural examples of institutional arrangements (human institutions) affecting the natural environment and natural resources.</p> <p>2. describe how these institutions are in turn shaped by the natural environment.</p>

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

H. COURSE CODING INFORMATION:

Course Code A/Class Maximum 48; Letter Grade

Revision date: 09/01/16; 04/29/25

AASC Approval date: 09/20/16; 05/13/25

*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes. Every course in the Riverland Community College curriculum shall meet outcomes from one of these themes.

**These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines. Riverland’s MnTC courses also shall meet outcomes from a Discipline Area.

NOTE: The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum “10 Goal Areas of Emphasis” are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.

*Riverland Community College Core Themes	MnTC Goal Number
Critical Thinking (CT)	2
Human Diversity (HD)	7A, 7B, 7A/B
Global Perspective (GP)	8
Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC)	9
People and the Environment (PE)	10

**Riverland Community College Discipline Areas	MnTC Goal Number
Communication (CM)	1
Natural Sciences (NS)	3
Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (MA)	4
History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS)	5
Humanities and Fine Arts (HU)	6