I. Course Title: Senior Seminar in Anthropology

II. Course Number: ANTH 471

III. Credit Hours: 3

IV. Prerequisites: ANTH 201, ANTH 205, ANTH 300, ANTH 310

V. Catalog Description: This is a capstone course which will cover the central theories that have driven the field of anthropology over the last 200 years. All students enrolled in the Senior Seminar will also write their Senior Comprehensive Examinations as part of the departmental requirement for all History/Government majors.

VI. Curricular Relationships: This is a capstone course for students who are completing a major in History, Government, and Philosophy with an Anthropology Emphasis. It can be cross listed with HGP 471.

VII. Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will recognize the key events and methodological approaches to the subject of the seminar. In particular, students will investigate the ways in which anthropologists have approached the topic of the seminar.

2. Students will apply this knowledge and have an opportunity to formulate an original thesis on the seminar topic by writing an extended research paper. The research for this paper will be drawn from both primary and secondary sources.

3. Students will critique and revise their work in consultation with the instructor and their peers in the Seminar. Members of the Seminar will read their peers’ work and freely exchange ideas to improve the quality of the final paper. Ultimately, each member of the Seminar will produce a piece of original scholarship of near publishable quality. Students intending to graduate with an Anthropology emphasis shall use the American Anthropological Association style guide. [AAA uses The Chicago Manual of Style (15th edition, 2003) and Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary (11th edition, 2006).]

VII. Content Outline: Topics to be considered include: The sociological beginnings of anthropology; Evolutionary schemes in anthropology; Historical particularism; Functionalism; Culture and Personality; Cultural Ecology; The influence of materialism in anthropology; Marxist approaches to anthropology; Structuralism; Cognitive theories of anthropology; Postmodernism in anthropology.

The instructor will select a topic and address methodological approaches of interest and benefit to students emphasizing in Anthropology. The course schedule will establish the pace for the development of student research.
For example, in the first half of the semester students will read relevant books/articles and complete assignments such as critical book reviews and short tests based on the assigned texts. By week four students will submit their seminar paper topics. By week six students will submit annotated bibliographies.

In the second half of the semester students will revise, present and complete their research. By week eight students will submit seminar paper outlines. During weeks nine through eleven students will submit rough drafts and conduct peer reviews. In the final weeks of the semester students will present their research and submit their final papers.

VIII. Course Procedures: The class will meet in a seminar format. Each week one of the above topics will be selected. Students will be expected to read material on the weekly topic, and one student will be required to lead the discussion. Students will prepare and submit a seminar paper according to the guidelines above.

Grading Scale: A – F (+/-)
Students will be graded on preparation, participation in discussions, and the quality of the seminar paper.

X. Required/Recommended Readings: Appropriate scholarly monographs, for example:

Herbert Spencer, The Social Organism (1860)
Sir Edward Burnett Tylor, The Science of Culture (1871)
Lewis Henry Morgan, Ethnical Periods (1877)
Karl Marx and Fredrich Engels, Feuerbach, Opposition of the Materialist and Idealist Outlook (1845)
Emile Durkheim, What is a Social Fact (1895)
Marcel Mauss, Excerts from The Gift (1925)
Max Weber, Class, Status, Party (1922)
Franz Boas, The Methods of Ethnology (1920)
A.L. Kroeber, Eighteen Professions (1915)
Benjamin L. Whorf, The Relation of Habitual Thought and Behavior to Language (1939)
Bronislaw Malinowski, The Essentials of the Kula (1922)
A. R. Radcliffe-Brown, On Joking Relationships (1940)
Max Gluckman, The License in Ritual (1956)
Ruth Benedict, Psychological Types in the Cultures of the Southwest (1928)
Margaret Mead: Introduction to Coming of Age in Samoa (1928)
Leslie White, Entergy and the Evolution of Culture (1943)
Julian Steward, *The Patrilineal Band* (1955)


Marvin Harris, *The Cultural Ecology of India's Sacred Cattle* (1966)

Roy Rappaport, *Ritual Regulation of Environmental Relations Among a New Guinea People* (1967)


Sherry Ortner, *Is Female to Male as Nature is to Culture?* (1974)

Harold Conklin, *Hanunoo Color Categories* (1955)


Sally Slocum, *Woman the Gatherer: Male Bias in Anthropology* (1975)


David Valentine, *“I went to Bead with My Own Kind Once”: The Erasure of Desire in the Name of Identity* (2003)


Clifford Geertz, *Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight* (1973)


Michel Foucault, *The Incitement to Discourse* (1976)

XI Any Issues Unique to this Course:

XII Additional Issues of the Department's Choosing: