

Duluth Campus

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02 September 2012

Prehistoric Cultures Week 01

## Introduction to Anthropology / Orientation to the Course

Available on-line in your



folder at

[<https://moodle2.umn.edu/>](https://moodle2.umn.edu/)

In addition to the Moodle site the Companion Course Calendar for Fall 2012 is available on-line at  
<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pccal-f2012.html#title>

**I'm looking forward to Tuesday.**

**Prehistoric Cultures gets underway Tuesday at 3:00 in Cina 214. We'll first have a look at the course in general, and on Thursday we'll head off to Venezuela to have a look at the *Yanomamó*.** It's an older film, but still one of the very best video examples of **multidisciplinary anthropological fieldwork**

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/video/Yanomamo.html#title>.

As I mentioned in the 19 August 2012 memo, one of the four main characteristics of American Anthropology is **fieldwork**, "a primary research technique, involving "participant observation," which usually means living among the people one is interested in learning from and about. And as I also mentioned, it would be wonderful if for anthropology classes we could just rent a bus or charter a plane and fly off for a year or more to learn first-hand from the people themselves. Money, time, and practicality prohibit that, so the next best things—when it comes to studying anthropology—is **going to places and viewing subjects by film—which is why we're off to Venezuela on Thursday to visit the *Yanomamó*.** More information on Visual Anthropology is available on-line at [http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1604/visual\\_anthropology.html#title](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1604/visual_anthropology.html#title). Be sure to have a look at that from time to time.

If you haven't **read the 19 August 2012 memo** yet—the one that says this will be a great class—you should do that now. The memo is available in the Week 1 block of your Moodle folder, and in the **\*\*\*IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS\*\*\*** section of Block 1, and on-line at [http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/memos/weekly%20memos/pc\\_Week\\_01\\_memo\\_welcome\\_f2012\\_DAY.pdf](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/memos/weekly%20memos/pc_Week_01_memo_welcome_f2012_DAY.pdf). Take

your pick. Pay attention to the information on place names, fossil and archaeological site names, and on the exams, and on the *Forums* and wikis.

Also have a look at the [Meet Your Professor](#) page at

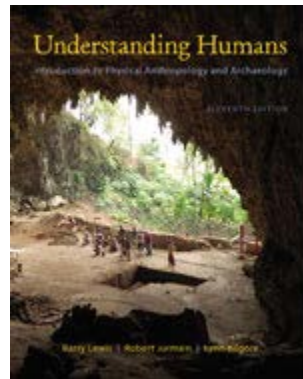
<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/MeetYourProfessor.html#title>), where you will find more information than you or anyone else really needs to know, with some nice photos, at [http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/anthfood/PowerPoint/af-meet\\_your\\_prof.pptx](http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/anthfood/PowerPoint/af-meet_your_prof.pptx).

## Why?

You'll likely **learn more** in this class if you do, you'll **remember it longer**, and you'll probably **have more fun** (at least according to Helen Mongan-Rallis of the UMD Department of Education).

You might also want to have a look at the information in your **moodle** folder, or the companion on-line materials, which you can find on the web at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pccal-f2012.html#title>.

REM: Information on the **textbooks** can be found at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pctext.html#title>.



### *Understanding Humans, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition*

Barry Lewis, Robert Jurmain, Lynn Kilgore  
©2013

**Use this edition, not an older one.**

ISBN-10: 1111831777  
ISBN-13: 9781111831776

*Understanding Humans, 11<sup>th</sup> Ed.* is currently available online from about \$89.55 new, with an Amazon.com "Buyback Price" of \$52.53. (+ p/h, at amazon.com & eligible for FREE Super Saver Shipping on orders over \$25). The Amazon Book Trade-In Program will buy it back (the current Amazon Buyback price is \$52.53 (in the form of a gift card), which means the Amazon Price After Buyback would be \$37.02 --a real bargain, even with p/h added). (19 August 2012) Amazon.com also currently is has another special offer available for MP3 credit.

More information on the text is available on the course **text WebPage** at

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pctext.html#title>.

Detailed information on these sorts of **activities** will be provided as we go along, but you can have a preview look in your Moodle home anytime you like.

My **office hours** (and regular schedule information) can be found at your Moodle "Home" and on-line on the regular UMD WebSite at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pcoffice.html#title>.

**Don't forget, laptops** are welcome in the classroom. Many find a laptop quite useful in following the lectures as all lectures are web supported. You can, for example, download all of the slide materials used in class.

Your **moodle Topics and Reading Assignments Listings** for Week 01 will look something like the information at the end of this memo.

If you have any **questions** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the **moodle** "Messenger" or e-mail [troufs@d.umn.edu](mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu), or stop in before class at Cina 215 [ map

<[http://www.d.umn.edu/~giscalab/images/campus\\_map.gif](http://www.d.umn.edu/~giscalab/images/campus_map.gif)>].

Have a great Labor Day . . . .

Best Wishes,

Tim Roufs

<http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/>

[Anth 1602 Prehistoric Cultures](#)

DAY [Case Study "What's New? Current Trends and New Discoveries"](#) due Friday,  
21 September 2012, 11:55 p.m.

--[Web: Texas A&M News](#)

## Week 1 — Introduction to Anthropology Orientation to Prehistoric Cultures



[DAY Week 1 Welcome Memo](#)

[First-Day Handout](#)

(syllabus)

## Meet Your Professor

([WebPage](#))

slides: ([.pdf](#)) ([.pptx](#))

([Download PowerPoint Viewer Free](#))

[see note on slide formats]

## Introduction

slides: ([.pdf](#)) ([.pptx](#))

([Download PowerPoint Viewer Free](#))

[see note on slide formats]

handout: [Anthropology and Its Parts](#)

## Orientation

slides: ([.pdf](#)) ([.pptx](#))

([Download PowerPoint Viewer Free](#))

[see note on slide formats]

- **Main Characteristics of Anthropology**

slides: ([.pdf](#)) ([.pptx](#))

([Download PowerPoint Viewer Free](#)) ([Download Adobe .pdf Reader Free](#))

[see note on slide formats]

(NOTE: This is a long slide set as it covers some very important background information that will be referred to often as we go through the semester. Please bear with it to the end. And it will take a little longer to load, so please bear with that also. There is no video presentation scheduled for this and next week as the base slide sets tend to be a little longer than "normal.")

- the **four fields** of general anthropology
- **culture** as a primary concept
- **comparative method** as major approach
- **holism** as a primary theoretical goal
- **fieldwork** as a primary research technique

[WebPage Summary](#)

["Anthropology and . . . It's Parts" chart](#)

- **"Other Important Terms"**

slides: ([.pdf](#)) ([.pptx](#))

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[see note on slide formats]

- **Units of Analysis**

slides: ([.pdf](#)) ([.pptx](#))

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[see note on slide formats]

- **Three Major Perennial Debates**

slides: ([.pdf](#)) ([.pptx](#))

([Download PowerPoint Viewer Free](#)) ([Download Adobe .pdf Reader Free](#))

[see note on slide formats] (NOTE: This is a long slide set as it covers more than 2000+ years. Please bear with it to the end. Please bear with it to the end. And it will take a little longer to load, so please bear with that also. There is no video presentation scheduled for this and next week as the base slide sets tend to be a little longer than "normal.")

DAY 02 Thursday, 6 September 2012 nlt 3:50

video:

***Yanomamö: A Multidisciplinary Study***

(45 min., 1970, VC 1290, F2520.1.Y3 Y36 2004 DVD)

Controversy: [Darkness in El Dorado](#)

film HomePage

[course viewing guide](#)



[YANOMAMO INTERACTIVE CD/ROM](#)

(Peter Biella, Napoleon A. Chagnon and Gary Seaman)

**Finding Information on Prehistoric Cultures Topics**

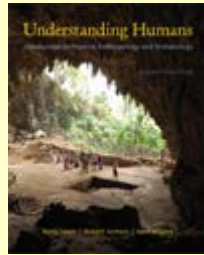
slides: (.pdf) (.pptx)

[\(Download PowerPoint Viewer Free\)](#) [\(Download Adobe .pdf Reader Free\)](#)

[see note on slide formats]

readings:

- Ch. 1, "Introduction," pp. 1-18  
(The materials from Ch. 1 will be reviewed next week in the Week 2 slide presentations)
- page through the "Glossary," pp. 431-443  
(Page through these materials to become familiar with the resources available in your text)
- Web: have a quick look at the [course WebPages](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/) at [<www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/>](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/)



For Week 1 Activities see [moodle](#)