

Duluth Campus

Department of Sociology -Anthropology
College of Liberal Arts

228 Cina Hall
1123 University Drive
Duluth, Minnesota 55812-3306

Office:218-726-7551
Fax: 218-726-7759

7 January 2017

Senior Seminar Week 1



Available on-line in your
 canvas folder at
<<http://canvas.umn.edu/>>

Getting Started

I'm looking forward to Wednesday.

The Senior Seminar gets underway at 4:00 in Cina Hall 214.

Why have a Senior Seminar?

What is a seminar anyway?

What should a Senior Seminar should focus on?

What things should *not* be discussed?

Think about that a bit.

If you haven't read my [Welcome Memo of 26 December 2017](#), please do that as it contains useful and important information about the course. **Weekly Memos and Other Important Announcements** for the semester are located in your  canvas folder in the “**Announcements**”, “**Syllabus**”, and “**Assignments**” sections, and on your  canvas “**Calendar**”.

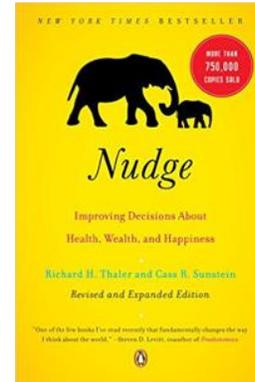
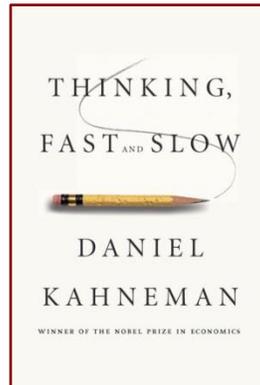
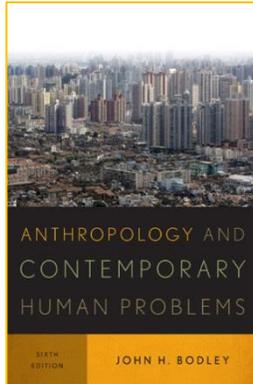
HINT: You can synchronize your  canvas calendar with your UMD Google calendar, if you want.

These weekly memos contain lots of valuable and timely information, so pay careful attention to them . . .

- The Weeks' **Assignments and Activities Schedule**
- **Due Dates** for the Week
- **Reminders** for the Week
- Suggestions and Hints for **Exams**
- **Interesting tidbits** of the week, including occasional **For-Fun Trivia** . . .
- **Optional links** that might be generally interesting and/or useful for **Extra Credit Paper**
- Information on **In-Class Films and Videos**
(of which there will be many, starting next week)
- **Breaking News Items**

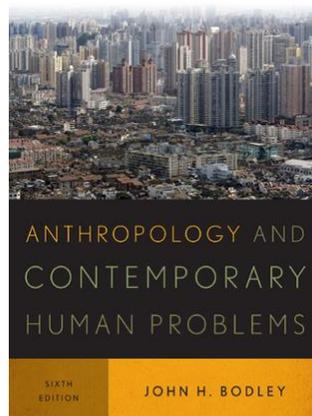
Three texts are required, and as **exams are open-book exams** you should have your own copy of each text. . . .

The Textbooks



Anthropology and Contemporary Human Problems, Sixth Edition

by John H. Bodley
(Lanham, MD: Altamira Press, 2012).



ISBN-13: 978-0759121584

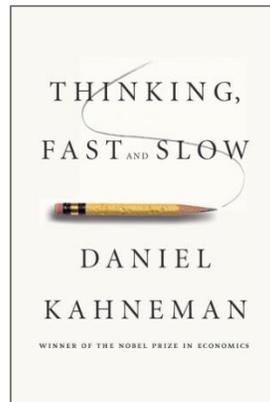
Currently available online new for \$45.06 ppbk., or used from \$8.94
(+ s/h, but currently with "free" shipping from Amazon.com on orders over #25)

(3 January 2018)

Thinking, Fast and Slow

by Daniel Kahneman

(NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2013)



ISBN-13: 9780374533557

is currently available on-line new for \$9.69 (ppbk), or used from \$5.03, or Kindle for \$9.99, and audio from \$23.52.

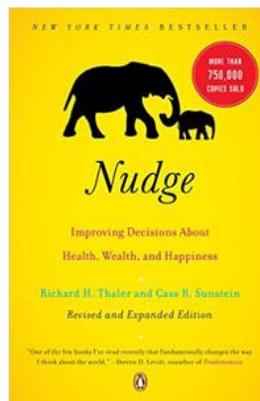
(+ p/h, where applicable, at amazon.com & eligible for Amazon Prime).

(3 January 2018)

Nudge: Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth, and Happiness, Revised and Expanded Edition

by [Richard H. Thaler](#) and [Cass R. Sunstein](#)

(NY: Penguin, 2009)



ISBN-13: 978-0143115267

is currently available on-line new for \$11.55 (ppbk), used from \$7.16, Kindle \$13.99, and audible \$5.99 (+ p/h, where applicable, at amazon.com & eligible for Amazon Prime).

(3 January 2018)

More information on the text for Senior Seminar can be found at

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth4653/sstext.html#title>

As I mentioned in my last memo, **the exams will be open-book essays constructed from a list of study questions that you help create**, so it would be a good idea for you to have your own copy of each, and it is a good idea that you take your reading notes right in your copy of the text itself. Midterm exam information is at http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth4653/ssexams_midterm.html#title, and the final exam information is at http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth4653/ssexams_final.html#title.

For the exams you should normally just need to read the books *carefully* and be able to discuss them *intelligently*. That is, you should read these as if you had picked it/them up at an airport or neighborhood bookshop on the way to Austria or the South Seas because you were interested in the subject and wanted to know more about it, like literally millions of people are doing in everyday life.

PLEASE NOTE WHAT I MENTIONED EARLIER: *Some students are used to principally memorizing facts in classes. This class is not one where that is the focus. It is about investigating new topics, reading, listening, synthesizing ideas, thinking, exploring, and becoming familiar enough with the various subjects, peoples and places to carry on an intelligent conversation in modern-day society.*

Critical thinking, involving **evaluation** and **synthesis**, has long been regarded as essential for success in the modern-day world. In recent years, actually for two decades, **creativity** has also become central to success, and "process skills" vital to creativity. Process skills involve "strategies to reframe challenges and extrapolate and transform information, and to accept and deal with ambiguity" (Pappano, "[Learning to Think Outside the Box](#)," *The New York Times Education Life*, 9 February 2014, 8). Laura Pappano, writer in residence at Wellesley Center for Women at Wellesley College, points out that "In 2010 'creativity' was the

factor most crucial for success found in an I.B.M. survey of 1,500 chief executives in 33 industries. These days 'creative' is the most used buzzword in LinkedIn profiles two years running" (2014, 8).

Related to that, here is an interesting article from Minnesota Public Radio . . .

A Memo to My Students Re: College and the Real World

-- Maryellen Weimer, *Faculty Focus* (17 August 2016)

With all of the class materials **you will be expected to share your ideas and comments with others** in the class *Discussions* and wikis. And, of course, you will share your ideas in your **Panel Discussions**, and in your **Group Presentations** and **Group Reports**. I'm looking forward to that.

As I mentioned in my earlier memo,

overall, this course consists of *three main segments*:

I Orientation and Background (slides; on-line slides)

Introduction

Basic Concepts (Review)

Professional Ethics

History (Review)

Theory (Review)

Methods and Techniques (Review)

Applications

II Explorations

Comparative / Cross-Cultural

Holistic

**Ethnographic Case Studies and Projects from the Real World:
Real People . . . Real Places from Around the Globe**

Anthropology Day Class Project

Panel Discussions on John H. Bodley's *Anthropology and Contemporary Human Problems* Materials

Contemporary Readings from the "Real World"

Semester Group Research Project: Group Presentation and Group Report (Term Paper)

IIIA Student Panel Discussions

IIIB Student Presentations on Term Group Research Project

Additional General Course Information

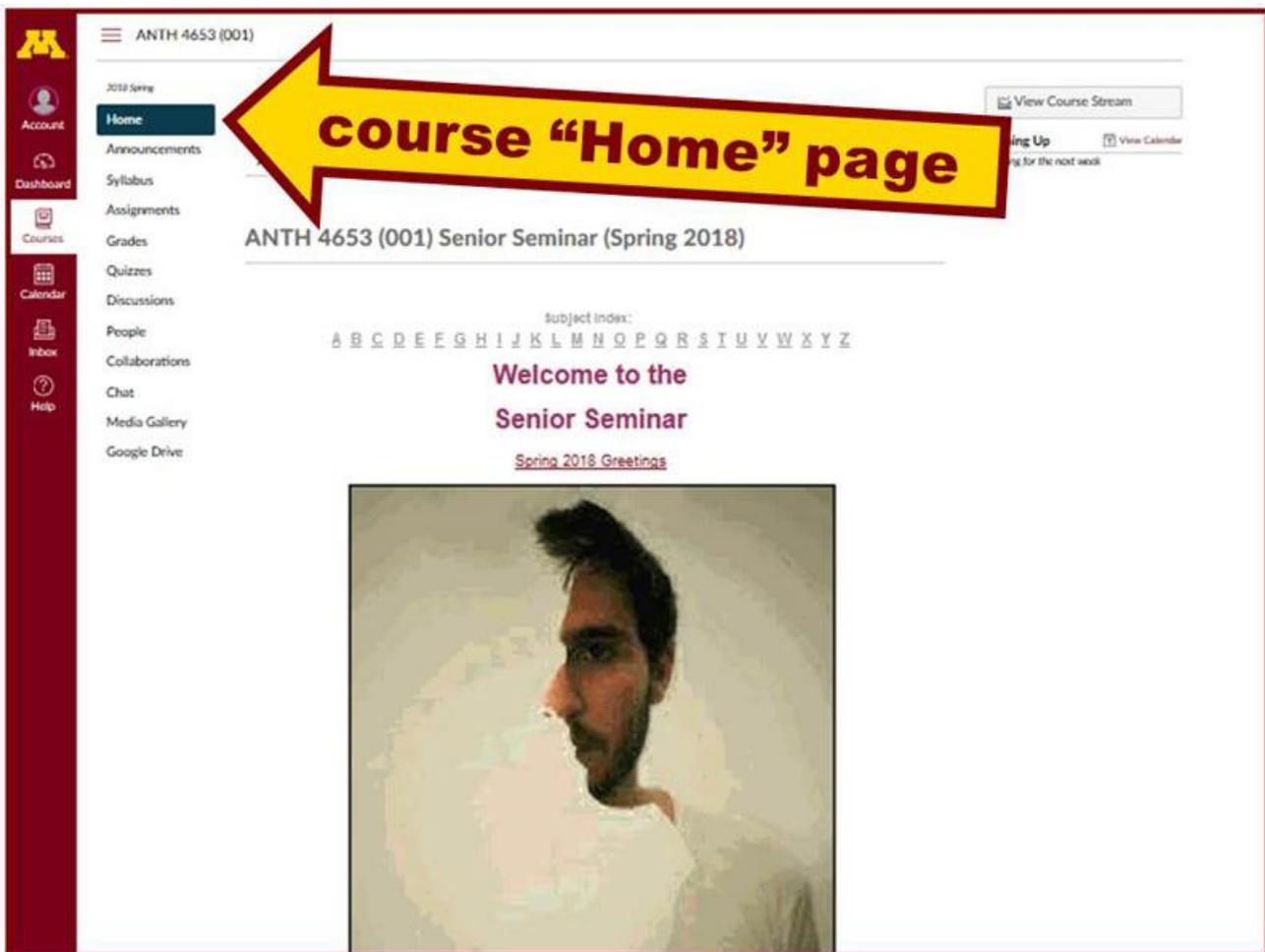
Keep in mind that one of the four main characteristics of American Anthropology is **fieldwork**, "a primary research technique, involving "participant observation," which usually means living among the people one is interested in learning from and about. Anthropology, is basically a "**bottom-up**" approach (rather than a "top down" approach) to studying people and their culture(s). It would be wonderful if for anthropology classes we could just charter a plane or rent a coach and take 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 video. So we'll do that occasionally. More information on Visual Anthropology is available online at http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1604/visual_anthropology.html#title.

And remember too that another of the main characteristics of American Anthropology is that it is **holistic**.

You will find that there are "an awful lot" of materials on-line —maybe even too many!

Where to start?

Have a look at the course “Home” page of your Senior Seminar  canvas folder <http://canvas.umn.edu/>. It will look something like this . . .



As I mentioned in the Welcome Memo, probably the best place is by having a quick look at the

"First Day Handout"

on-line at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth4653/sshandout_first-day.html#title>.

Then have a look at your  canvas "Syllabus" folder:



Then check out the items for the week . . .

Syllabus

Wed Jan 3, 2018	Explore Canvas	due by 8am
Sun Jan 7, 2018	What's Happening Week 1	due by 8am
Mon Jan 8, 2018	List of Readings for the Entire Semester	due by 1am
	Wk 1 Readings	due by 1am
Wed Jan 10, 2018	Day 1 Agenda: Welcome / Getting Started / Orientation	due by 4pm
	First Day Handout	due by 4pm
	Day 1 Agenda: Panel Discussion Information	due by 4:30pm
	Day 1 Agenda: Group Research Information	due by 4:40pm
Thu Jan 11, 2018	Office Hour	10:30am to Jan 16 at 11am
Fri Jan 12, 2018	Complete or Update Your Canvas Notification Preferences (Wk 1)	due by 11:59pm
	Complete or Update Your Canvas Profile (Wk 1)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Jan 13, 2018	Due: Introduce Yourself to the Class (Wk 1)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jan 15, 2018	Wk 2 Readings	due by 1am

Week 1 →

Then have a look at your  **Gradebook folder**, which gives a nice listing of the actual requirements and due dates for the course.

Home

- Announcements
- Syllabus
- Assignments
- Grades**
- Quizzes
- Discussions
- People
- Collaborations
- Chat
- Media Gallery
- Google Drive

Recent Announcements

- > Spring 2018 Greetings Oct 29 at 7:13pm
- > Holidays Spring 2018 Oct 28 at 11:13pm

Spring 20...

Subject Index:
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y
Z

Welcome to the Senior Seminar

Spring 2018 Greetings

to your Gradebook ←

The screenshot shows the 'Grades for Test Student' page in Canvas LMS. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Home, Announcements, Syllabus, Assignments, Grades (highlighted), Quizzes, Discussions, People, Collaborations, Chat, Media Gallery, and Google Drive. The main content area shows a table of assignments with columns for Name, Score, and Out of. The 'Arrange by' dropdown menu is highlighted with a red circle, and a yellow arrow points to it with the text 'set your preference'.

Name	Score	Out of
(optional) Import Your Canvas Calendar		0
Due: Introduce Yourself to the Class (Wk 1)	Jan 13, 2018 by 11:59pm	
What's Happening Week 1	Jan 7, 2018 by 8am	- 0
First Day Handout	Jan 10, 2018 by 4pm	- 0
What things should not be discussed in this seminar? (Wk 2)	Jan 17, 2018 by 4:45pm	- 1

So once again, welcome to Anth 4653 Anthropology Senior Seminar. This *will be* a great course, and a great experience.

You will see. . . .

Your **Assignments and Activities listings** are available in both the **“Syllabus”** and **“Assignments”** sections of your  **canvas** folder, and on your  **canvas “Calendar”**. This week they include . . .



[Reading Assignments for Week 1](#)



Introduce Yourself to the Class (Due by the end of Week 1—Saturday, 13 January 2018)



Complete or Update Your Canvas Profile as Part of Your Introduction



Complete or Update Your Canvas Notification Preferences

If you have any **questions** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the  **canvas** “Discussions”, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu, or stop in before or after class across the hall in Cina 215 [\[map\]](#).

See you Wednesday the 10th at 4:00 p.m. in Cina 214! I’m looking forward to the class.

Best Wishes,

Tim Roufs

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

P.S. If you are new to the world of "technology" don't worry too much about that. Things may not "work" for you at first, but hang in there and we'll help you along. If you have not used  **canvas** course management system before, you might find it helpful to view the **Canvas Student Guide**.