

ANTH 4 Course Outline as of Summer 2025**CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: ANTH 4 Title: ANCIENT PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Full Title: Ancient Peoples and Society

Last Reviewed: 9/13/2021

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: ANTHRO 4

Catalog Description:

Introduction to essential topics in world ancient history using cross-cultural, comparative examples from the archaeological record.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:**Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:**Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Introduction to essential topics in world ancient history using cross-cultural, comparative examples from the archaeological record. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Fall 2016	
CSU GE:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social Science	Fall 2016	
	D1	Anthropology and Archeology		
IGETC:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	4	Social and Behavioral Science	Fall 2016	
	4A	Anthropology and Archeology		
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2016	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2016	Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify major cultural events and societal transformations in human past.
2. Use key archaeological sites, discoveries, and/or perspectives to compare and contrast human social organization and cultural variation around the world through time.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Discuss the expansion and timing of anatomically modern Homo sapiens out of Africa and their subsequent settlement in various regions of the world.
2. Compare and contrast human cultural adaptations to, and impacts on, the natural environment through time and across space.
3. Differentiate among various forms of human societies ranging from small-scale communities to empires, and identify the kinds of broad cultural patterns such societies produce in the archaeological record.
4. Identify diverse cultural and natural factors that preceded the advent of agriculture around the world and discuss the varied subsequent socio-cultural changes that accompanied the agricultural transition.

Topics and Scope:

- I. Archaeology, Concepts of Prehistory, and History
- II. Evolution and Human Origins
- III. Anthropological Approaches to Culture
- IV. Material Culture
- V. The Expansion of Anatomically Modern Humans Out of Africa
- VI. Hunting and Gathering Lifeways

VII. The Transition from Foraging to Agriculture

- A. Types of early plant domesticates
- B. Types of early faunal domesticates
- C. Changes in technology associated with development of agriculture
- D. A regional survey of primary centers of early domestication that may include

Mesopotamia, Asia, Mesoamerica, North America, South America and Sub-Saharan Africa

VIII. Emergence of Writing and Recordkeeping

IX. Monumental Architecture

X. The Formation of Villages and Cities

XI. Human Modification of, and Response to, the Natural Environment

XII. Theoretical Approaches to the Emergence of Kingdoms, States, and Empires

XIII. Human Ritual Activity as Represented in the Archaeological Record

XIV. Cross-Comparative Study of Selected Kingdoms, States, and Empires

XV. Collapse of Socio-Political Systems

Assignment:

1. Reading assignments (between 10-40 pages per class week).
2. Writing assignments may include 5-10 short-answer and essay responses (250-400 words each) based on homework reading. Students may also be expected to complete a 7-10 page (1,500-2,500 words) research paper on an archaeological topic or produce an academic poster (1500-2,000 words) and presentation on a related issue in archaeology and world prehistory.
3. Students will complete 1-3 exam(s), which can include multiple choice, true/false, matching items, map identification, short answer, and essay questions.
4. Optional assignments may include short 5-10 minute presentations on assigned readings or relevant topic and the completion of short map quizzes.

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework, research papers or posters

Writing
30 - 65%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving
0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations
0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Exam(s)

Exams
30 - 65%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation; optional assignments such as presentations on assigned readings or relevant topic and the completion of short map quizzes

Other Category
5 - 15%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

World Prehistory and the Anthropocene: An Introduction to Human History. McCorriston, Joy and Field, Julie. Thames and Hudson, Ltd. 2019

The Human Past: World Prehistory and the Development of Human Societies. 4th ed. Scarre, Chris (ed). Thames and Hudson. 2018

The Past in Perspective. 8th ed. Feder, Kenneth L. Oxford University Press. 2020