

Course Title

IAA Liberal Arts I: Cultural Anthropology



INNOVATIVE ARTS ACADEMY

Course Overview

Exploring the human experience across time and place, from our biological and cultural origins to the complexities of globalized societies, through the unique lens of anthropology.

Unit Title

Introduction to Anthropology and The Culture Concept

Time Frame

4.5 Weeks

Unit Title

Anthropological Research Methods and Ethics

Time Frame

4.5 Weeks

Unit Title

Human Evolution and Biological Anthropology

Time Frame

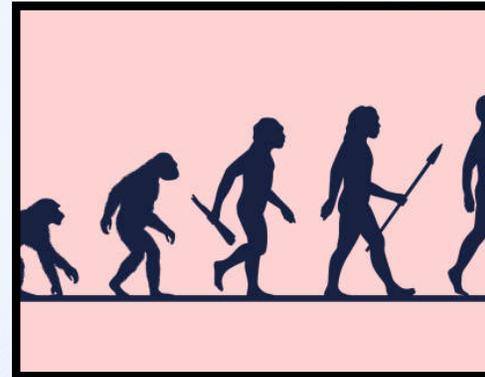
4.5 Weeks

Unit Title

Language and Communication

Time Frame

4.5 Weeks



Focus of the Unit

This unit explores what makes us human through the comparative study of diverse cultures, introducing key anthropological concepts like cultural relativism and enculturation to understand different ways of life.

Focus of the Unit

This unit details ethnographic fieldwork as anthropology's primary research method, emphasizing participant observation to gain deep cultural understanding while navigating crucial ethical considerations like informed consent and anonymity.

Focus of the Unit

This unit delves into human evolution and biological anthropology, exploring our origins, biological variation, and the interplay of biology and culture through the study of primates, fossils, and the processes of natural selection.

Focus of the Unit

This unit explores the crucial importance of human language to culture, examining its unique design features, structures, variations, and influence on thought (Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis), while also addressing language change and preservation efforts.

Course Title

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INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

Course Overview

Exploring the human experience across time and place, from our biological and cultural origins to the complexities of globalized societies, through the unique lens of anthropology.

Unit Title

Societies, Subsistence, and Economics

Time Frame

4.5 Weeks

Unit Title

Social Organization: Family, Kinship, Politics, and Gender

Time Frame

4.5 Weeks

Unit Title

Belief Systems: Religion, Race, and Ethnicity

Time Frame

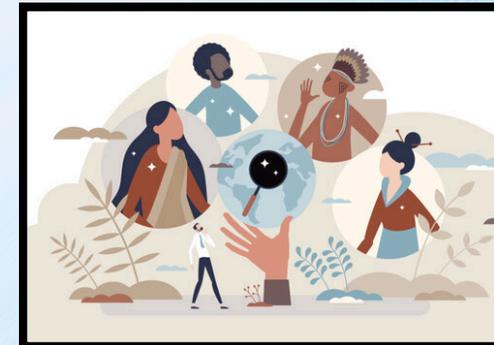
4.5 Weeks

Unit Title

Anthropology in a Globalized World: Applied & Public Anthropology

Time Frame

4.5 Weeks



Focus of the Unit

This unit investigates how societies meet their needs through diverse modes of subsistence (foraging, pastoralism, horticulture, agriculture), examining how these systems, along with modes of production and exchange, are deeply influenced by global capitalism and contribute to economic inequality.

Focus of the Unit

This unit explores the diversity of human social organization, examining how families, marriage, and kinship systems are structured across cultures, alongside different political forms (bands, tribes, chiefdoms, states) and the profound ways culture shapes sex, gender, and sexuality.

Focus of the Unit

This unit examines belief systems, exploring religion's significance, theories, and common elements (cosmology, supernatural, rituals), while critically analyzing race as a social construct and introducing ethnomedicine for cross-cultural understandings of illness.

Focus of the Unit

This unit examines globalization through concepts like Appadurai's "scapes," exploring how people use agency and syncretism to respond to global flows, and highlights applied and public anthropology as specializations focused on using anthropological knowledge to address real-world problems and facilitate social change.

Unit Title**Introduction to Anthropology and The Culture Concept****Time Frame**

4.5 Weeks


INNOVATIVE
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Essential Question(s)

1. What is culture, and how does it help us understand what it means to be human in different societies?
2. How do anthropologists study different cultures respectfully, and why is it important to avoid judging them based on our own ways?

Focus of the Unit

This unit explores what makes us human through the comparative study of diverse cultures, introducing key anthropological concepts like cultural relativism and enculturation to understand different ways of life.

Standards

This unit defines culture and enculturation, outlining anthropology's four subfields, its holistic and culturally relativistic perspectives, and its historical development.

Learning Targets

I will understand what anthropology is and its four main areas, studying different parts of human life.

Learning Targets

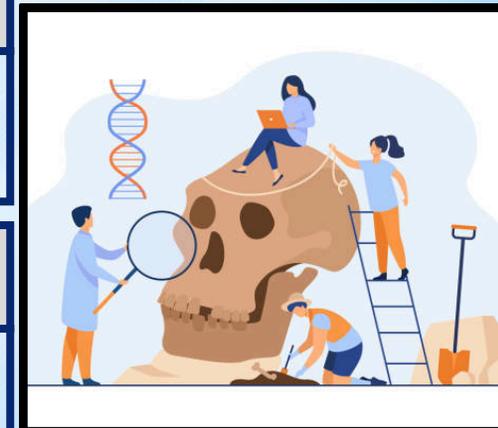
I will understand what culture means, as shared beliefs and practices that shape human life.

Learning Targets

I will understand how culture is learned, a process called enculturation

Learning Targets

I will understand cultural relativism, judging other cultures fairly without using my own as the only standard.

**Resources**

Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.

Unit Title	Anthropological Research Methods and Ethics
Time Frame	4.5 Weeks



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	Essential Question(s)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What unique research methods do anthropologists use to deeply understand a culture, like living among people? 2. What ethical rules must anthropologists follow to conduct respectful research and protect the people they study?

	Focus of the Unit
	<p>This unit details ethnographic fieldwork as anthropology's primary research method, emphasizing participant observation to gain deep cultural understanding while navigating crucial ethical considerations like informed consent and anonymity.</p>

Standards	This unit focuses on ethnographic fieldwork as anthropology's key method, including emic and etic perspectives, contemporary techniques like multi-sited ethnography, and essential ethical considerations such as polyvocality and reflexivity
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Learning Targets
I will understand ethnographic fieldwork, where anthropologists live with people to learn about their lives.

Learning Targets
I will understand emic and etic perspectives, seeing culture from inside or outside.

Learning Targets
I will understand various research methods, including observation and mixed methods.

Learning Targets
I will understand ethical rules in fieldwork, like "do no harm" and keeping information private.



Resources	Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.
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Unit Title	Human Evolution and Biological Anthropology
Time Frame	4.5 Weeks



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	Essential Question(s)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How have humans and our ancestors evolved over millions of years, and what can we learn from studying our primate relatives? 2. How do our biology and culture influence each other, and what evidence shows this connection in human development?

	Focus of the Unit
	<p>This unit delves into human evolution and biological anthropology, exploring our origins, biological variation, and the interplay of biology and culture through the study of primates, fossils, and the processes of natural selection4....</p>

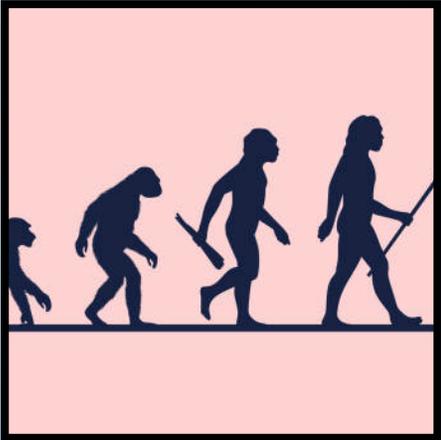
Standards	This unit explores biological anthropology's inquiry into human origins, evolution, and variation, detailing primatology and paleoanthropology's roles in understanding evolution and biocultural evolution.
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Learning Targets
I will understand what biological anthropology studies, including human origins and changes over time.

Learning Targets
I will understand how studying primates helps us learn about humans.

Learning Targets
I will understand what evolution is and how living things adapt to their surroundings.

Learning Targets
I will understand how culture and our bodies interact to shape human development.



Resources	Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.
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Unit Title**Language and Communication****Time Frame**

4.5 Weeks


INNOVATIVE
 ARTS ACADEMY
Essential Question(s)

1. How is human language connected to culture, and what makes our communication unique compared to animals?
2. How does language shape our thinking and identity, and why do languages change or disappear?

Focus of the Unit

This unit explores the crucial importance of human language to culture, examining its unique design features, structures, variations, and influence on thought (Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis), while also addressing language change and preservation efforts5....

Standards

This unit examines human language as a cultural phenomenon, exploring its unique design features, structures (phonemes, morphemes), its link to social identity and worldview (Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis), and language change and preservation.

Learning Targets

I will understand how human language is unique and essential for culture and sharing ideas.

Learning Targets

I will understand the basic parts of language, like sounds and word units.

Learning Targets

I will understand how language changes and how groups use it differently.

Learning Targets

I will understand how language can influence how we think about the world.

**Resources**

Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.

Unit Title	Societies, Subsistence, and Economics
Time Frame	4.5 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do societies get their food, and how do these "subsistence systems" affect their daily lives and social structure? 2. What are the main ways societies produce and trade goods, and how does the global economy create inequality?

	Focus of the Unit
	<p>This unit investigates how societies meet their needs through diverse modes of subsistence (foraging, pastoralism, horticulture, agriculture), examining how these systems, along with modes of production and exchange, are deeply influenced by global capitalism and contribute to economic inequality.</p>

Standards	<p>This unit analyzes how societies organize economic lives through four modes of subsistence, three modes of production, and various modes of exchange, examining consumption and global capitalism's role in inequality.</p>
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Learning Targets
<p>I will understand the four main ways human groups get food, from foraging to agriculture.</p>

Learning Targets
<p>I will understand how societies organize work and produce goods.</p>

Learning Targets
<p>I will understand different ways people exchange goods, like sharing and selling.</p>

Learning Targets
<p>I will understand how global economic systems create inequalities in people's lives.</p>



Resources	<p>Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.</p>
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Unit Title**Social Organization: Family, Kinship, Politics, and Gender****Time Frame**

4.5 Weeks

**INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

1. How do different cultures organize families, kinship, and political power, and how do these structures affect daily life?
2. How do cultures understand and express gender and sexuality in diverse ways, and how do these ideas shape roles and power?

Focus of the Unit

This unit explores the diversity of human social organization, examining how families, marriage, and kinship systems are structured across cultures, alongside different political forms (bands, tribes, chiefdoms, states) and the profound ways culture shapes sex, gender, and sexuality.

Standards

This unit investigates social organization through diverse family and kinship systems (matrilineal, patrilineal, bilateral), socio-cultural integration levels (band, tribe, chiefdom, state), and how culture shapes sex, gender, and sexuality.

Learning Targets

I will understand the many forms of families and marriages across cultures.

Learning Targets

I will understand matrilineal, patrilineal, and bilateral kinship systems.

Learning Targets

I will understand the four levels of political organization, from bands to states.

Learning Targets

I will understand how culture shapes sex, gender, and sexuality across societies.

**Resources**

Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.

Unit Title**Belief Systems: Religion, Race, and Ethnicity****Time Frame**

4.5 Weeks


INNOVATIVE
 ARTS ACADEMY
Essential Question(s)

1. Why do cultures have diverse religions, and how do beliefs and rituals help people understand the world and deal with challenges?
2. Why is race a social concept, not biological, and how do ideas about race, ethnicity, and illness affect people's lives globally?

Focus of the Unit

This unit examines belief systems, exploring religion's significance, theories, and common elements (cosmology, supernatural, rituals), while critically analyzing race as a social construct and introducing ethnomedicine for cross-cultural understandings of illness.

Standards

This unit defines religion (its significance and elements), demonstrates that race is a social construct without biological basis, and explores ethnomedicine through a biocultural perspective in health.

Learning Targets

I will understand what religion is and its purposes in human societies.

Learning Targets

I will understand common parts of religions, like rituals and origin stories.

Learning Targets

I will understand why "race" is a social idea, not a biological fact, used to group people.

Learning Targets

I will understand how cultures explain illness and use different healing methods.

**Resources**

Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.

Unit Title	Anthropology in a Globalized World: Applied & Public Anthropology
Time Frame	4.5 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does globalization connect the world, and how do people and cultures respond and change in this interconnected environment? 2. How can anthropologists use their knowledge to solve real-world problems and contribute to social change beyond academic settings?

	Focus of the Unit
	<p>This unit examines globalization through concepts like Appadurai's "scapes," exploring how people use agency and syncretism to respond to global flows, and highlights applied and public anthropology as specializations focused on using anthropological knowledge to address real-world problems and facilitate social change.</p>

Standards	This unit explores globalization using Appadurai's "scapes" and concepts like agency and syncretism, highlighting environmental and media anthropology, and defining applied and public anthropology's roles in social change.
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Learning Targets
I will understand what globalization is and how ideas, goods, and people move across countries.

Learning Targets
I will understand how environmental anthropology shows human roles in environmental changes.

Learning Targets
I will understand how media anthropology studies how people use and create media.

Learning Targets
I will understand how anthropologists solve real-world problems and share knowledge with the public.



Resources	Online Textbook, Primary and Secondary Sources, Teacher-Created Materials, Media samples, and Case studies.
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