SOC 111 – Fall 2004 – Introduction to Anthropology

I. Course and Instructor Information:

Course Title and Number, Semester Credit Hours:  Introduction to Anthropology, SOC 111, 3 semester hours

Instructor:  Dr. Gordon R. Hoff

Office/Office Hours:  McFarland 323 B; Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 - 3:00 PM, Others by appointment

Contact Information:  (701) 845-7511, 1-800-532-8641, gordon.hoff@vcsu.edu


Important Course dates: August 24 - Fall semester classes begin, September 6 – Labor Day Holiday, September 7 - Last day to register, add classes, and apply for Fall graduation, November 11-Veteran’s Day Holiday, November 25 and 26 - Thanksgiving Holiday, December 1 and 2 - Registration for spring 2005 semester, December 16, 2004 10:00 AM Final exam

II. Catalog Description:  An introductory course about the fossil evidence of human evolution and the cross-cultural development of social institutions.

III. Course Purpose and Goals:

A. Explain how course work will integrate with other courses and life skills:  SOC 111 provides an introduction to the field of anthropology and the anthropological perspective. Students successfully completing this course will be prepared to participate in upper division courses and possess a basic understanding of the relationship between the individual and the environment.

B. Goals:  To help students achieve a better understanding of the fossil evidence of human evolution and the diverse ways in which cultures meet human needs.

C. Learner Outcomes/Competencies:

1. The student will obtain a basic understanding of the terminology, concepts, and theories of anthropology.
2. The student will examine the variety of ways in which cultures meet human needs.
3. The student will examine the fossil evidence of human ancestry.

IV. Course Philosophy and Policies:
A. Course Philosophy: SOC 111 is taught at a basic level and assumes no prior knowledge of the anthropological perspective.

B. ADA Statement: If you need course adaptations, adjustments, or accommodations because of a documented disability, or have emergency medical information to share, please make an appointment to meet with me during the first week of class. Also, contact Jan Drake in Student Services; she will establish the necessary documentation and work with instructors to make the necessary arrangements.

C. Plagiarism Statement: See the VCSU Student Handbook.

D. "Learner-centered:" The student assumes the major responsibilities of maintaining a positive attitude, completing assignments in a timely manner, respecting the rights of others in the learning environment, and developing the art of intellectual inquiry. The instructor's role is to facilitate the learning process and to conduct a fair and impartial assessment of learning.

E. Attendance, Conduct, and Makeups: A record of your attendance will be kept. If you choose not to attend the classroom activities, the absences will not be counted directly against your grade. The student is, however, responsible for everything that occurs during the class sessions. When determining final grades, I will be more likely to give students with regular attendance (no more than 3 unexcused absences) a "one or two point break."

Conduct that is disruptive of the learning process will adversely affect the offender's assessment. Serious problems will be referred to the appropriate academic officer.

Students who miss an exam and have an acceptable excuse may make up that exam by having their next exam count double, taking an oral exam, or taking another multiple choice or essay exam - whatever the instructor decides.

V. Learning Activities:

A. General Education/major ability met by this course

Ability: Global Awareness (Perspective)

Skill: Demonstrates awareness and respect for diversity.

Level: One - The student demonstrates content knowledge without reapplying or developing the information received.

B. Course Portfolio Project: The student will prepare a digital presentation (Power Point or narrative) demonstrating their ability to recognize and describe human diversity.
C. Minimum Standards: The digital presentation will include illustrations of physical (race, body build, physical characteristics, etc.) and cultural (family structure, gender roles, economies, etc.) diversity among humans (25 Points).

The digital presentation must also include a reflective statement. This is a very important element for your final portfolio. It will help you to assess your accomplishments at VCSU, and help faculty raters assess your learning. Good reflective statements make a case or argue for the relevance of the submitted project to a particular ability and describe what learning has taken place (25 Points).

D. Target Date for Project Completion: December 1, 2004

VI. Evaluation/Assessment:

A. Evaluation of Student work: The student's final grade will be based on the best 4 of 5 examinations - the student's lowest test score will be dropped when computing the final grade. Any net or other assignments, etc. will be assigned an appropriate number of points and included in the final assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Points</th>
<th>Final Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50 - 43 = A 86 %</td>
<td>100 - 86 % = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 - 38 = B 76 %</td>
<td>85 - 76 % = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37 - 28 = C 56 %</td>
<td>75 - 56 % = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 - 23 = D 46 %</td>
<td>55 - 46 % = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 00 = F</td>
<td>45 - 00 % =</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Class Assessment: Pre-Test -- Post-Test

VII. Tentative Course Topic Outline:

TEST 1

What is Anthropology - Chapter 1 and (WHAT.IS.ANTHROPOLOGY.ppt)

Evolution, Taxonomic Identity, and Geologic Time – Chapter 3 and (EVOLUTION.GEOLOGICTIME.ppt)

The Living Primates and Dating Fossils - Chapters 2, 4, and (THEPRIMATES.DATING.ppt)

TEST 2

From Hominids to Homo - Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9 and (THEHOMINIDS.SKULLS.ETC.ppt)
Human Variation - Chapter 12 and (HUMAN.VARIATION.ppt)

TEST 3

The Concept of Culture - Chapter 13 and (SOCIETYANDCULTURE.ppt)

Food Production and Economic Systems - Chapters 16, 17, and (FOOD.PRODUCTION.AND.ECONOMIC.SYSTEMS.ppt)

TEST 4

Sex, Gender, and Culture - Chapter 19 and (SEX.GENDER.ppt)

Kinship, Marriage, and the Family - Chapters 20, 21, and (KINSHIP.MARRIAGE.FAMILY.ppt)

Religion and Magic - Chapter 25 and (Supernatural.ppt)

Political Life - Chapter 23 and (Political.Law.ppt)

VIII. Research Base: The American Sociological Association maintains sample course syllabi in its Teaching Resources Center, but they are not binding.

IX. Maximum Enrollment per section: 42

X. Type of Course: Lecture-Discussion

Completed by: Gordon R. Hoff Date: August 16, 2004