TOPICS: You will write an essay on one of the topics/questions outlined below, according to the instructions provided in this handout.

1. Is human nature fundamentally competitive or cooperative?

You will answer this question by applying what you have learned in class and from doing library research. Your goal will be to examine scientific evidence for both sides of the argument, and to develop your own point of view based on what you learn. You will have to think critically about the information you come across, and you will have to carefully think and explain what constitutes adequate evidence for cooperation and competition given the scope of the question (human nature). Note that the way humans behave today, particularly in one type of society (e.g. industrialized nations with advanced economies), may not be typical of how humans behaved in the past, so you will also have to think and carefully define what you mean by “human nature”. You can use insights from other disciplines (e.g. economics, psychology), but remember that anthropology aims to provide a cross-cultural and deep time perspective on human nature.

2. Do non-human animals have culture?

You will answer this question by applying what you have learned in class about the characteristics and nature of human culture, and from doing library research. You are expected to research scientific evidence for culture in other species, and to develop your own point of view based on what you learn. You will have to pay particularly close attention to how culture is defined or thought about in the publications you come across (including your textbook), and to discuss whether those definitions make sense given the scope of the question (different species). You can use insights from other disciplines (e.g. psychology), but if you do, consider the conditions under which the observations were made: do laboratory or zoo conditions provide a suitable environment for the expression of natural behaviours that may be considered cultural?

3. Identify and explain, from an anthropological perspective, a food taboo from a cultural context of your own choosing.

You will begin by identifying and describing a food taboo that has been studied by anthropologists. Your goal will be to explain why this taboo exists by applying what you have learned in this course and critically engaging with the arguments presented in scholarly publications (e.g. journal articles, books). You will have to research and carefully define what a “taboo” is and to consider the social functions of food and the integrated nature of human culture. You will also have to consider people’s own explanations for why certain foods are prohibited. You can use insights from other disciplines (e.g. religious studies, psychology, biology, economy), but your argument must be anthropological.

4. Explain the practice of polygyny in a society of your choosing (except Kapauku).

You will begin by identifying a society where polygyny is practiced and has been studied by anthropologists. You will describe the characteristics of the practice in that society (e.g. how common it is; the gender, age, and status of individuals who may engage in it; any restrictions on the number of spouses) and discuss people’s own explanations for why they do it. You will then develop your own point of view on why the practice exists by applying what you have learned in this course and critically engaging with arguments presented in scholarly publications (e.g. journal articles, books). You will have to consider what factors (e.g. economic, political, religious) encourage the practice, the problems and tensions that it may cause between individuals, and also the customs and traditions that exist to solve or ease those tensions.
TERM PAPER INSTRUCTIONS (ANTH110-081)

**TASKS:**

1. **Write a proposal and annotated bibliography:** You will explain which question or topic you will focus on in your term paper (see page 1 of this handout) and why. You will then outline a preliminary argument and explain how you plan to support it. Finally, you will identify and summarize the relevance of at least two scholarly sources. A template will be provided in class.
   - **Due date:** June 16th, 2018
   - **Notes:** The proposal and annotated bibliography must be typed and submitted as a single document both in printed form and in electronic format (.docx or .pdf only) through the student portal (not by e-mail!)

2. **Write an outline:** You will create a 1-page outline of your term paper. You will begin by creating and writing a thesis statement (what you will try to convince me of) at the top of the page, then identifying and briefly explaining the main ideas to be developed in each paragraph (use point form). For each paragraph you will also list, in point form, the main supporting details or evidence you plan on presenting.
   - **Due date:** July 7th, 2018
   - **Useful links:**
     - Developing an outline: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/544/02/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/544/02/)
   - **Notes:** A sample outline will be discussed in class. The outline should be typed and submitted in both in printed form and in electronic format, like the proposal.

3. **Write and submit the term paper:** Writing a paper for a university course takes time, even if the paper is short. For a good grade your ideas must be expressed clearly and concisely, they must follow a logical order, the evidence you provide (and the way in which you present it) must be persuasive, and your writing should be free of grammatical errors and spelling mistakes. Because of this, you should be prepared to edit and revise your paper multiple times.

   Once you have an outline you may begin writing your first paper draft. This will be a rough first version. It should contain all the essential components (introduction, coherent paragraphs, conclusion), but you should not worry too much about the writing itself (e.g. grammar, smooth transitions between sentences and paragraphs). The goal of a first draft is to add “flesh” to the skeleton or outline of the paper that you created.

   You will edit and revise the draft by fixing grammatical and spelling errors, and deleting, adding, or moving paragraphs, sentences and words around to ensure the final version is as clear, concise, and persuasive as possible.

   Your final paper must have:
   - An informative and ideally catchy title
   - An introduction which tells your reader: a) what the topic of your paper is and why you are focusing on it, b) what point you will be making, and c) how you will argue that point.
   - Body paragraphs which: a) develop a single idea expressed clearly in a topic sentence, b) are presented in a logical order, and c) directly support your argument or thesis statement.
   - A conclusion which ties the entire paper together, reinforces your main argument, and makes your reader consider the importance of the topic or your specific way of looking at it.
   - A Works Cited page.

   **Due date:** July 18th, 2018
TERM PAPER INSTRUCTIONS (ANTH110-081)

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- **Length**: 1000-1500 words (4-6 pages double-spaced), not including the Works Cited.
- **Formatting**:
  - The essay must be typed in Microsoft Word or equivalent.
  - **Line spacing**: Double-spaced
  - **Font**: Times New Roman (12 point) or Calibri (11 point)
  - **Margins**: 2.54 (1 inch)
  - **Page numbering**: Last name and page number on top right corner of the page
  - **Links (guide and templates)**:
    - [http://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/microsoft-word](http://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/microsoft-word)
    - [https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/mla/works_cited](https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/mla/works_cited)
- **Citations and Works Cited**:
  - Scholarly sources: minimum two (journal articles or academic books)
  - Where to cite: sources must be cited both in-text and at the end of the paper on a Works Cited page (see links below).
  - Citation style: MLA (8th edition)
  - Textbook, lecture notes, and assigned readings: Must be cited if you use them, but they do not count towards the minimum of two scholarly sources required for this paper.
  - Links:
    - Finding sources: [https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/intro_anth/articles](https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/intro_anth/articles)
    - Citing sources: [https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/mla](https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/mla)

TIPS TO AVOID PLAGIARISM (see [https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/plagiarism/](https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/plagiarism/)):

1. **Familiarize yourself with a citation style (e.g. MLA)**.
   - **Why?** To know what to write down when checking a potential source (academic journal, book, TV, website, personal communication from a friend, etc).
   - **How?** See the library website:
     - MLA: [https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/mla](https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/mla)
     - APA: [https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/apa](https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/apa)
     - Go to “How do I cite” and see both the Works Cited and the In-Text citation examples.

2. **Keep track of ALL the information you come across while thinking about or researching your paper**.
   - **Why?** You don’t know what you will end up using in your paper, and you must acknowledge the source of all ideas, experiences, phrases, artwork, etc that are not your own.
   - **How?** Some ideas:
     - Take a picture!
     - Make a note on your phone. Have a file dedicated to keeping track of sources for the assignment.
     - Carry a research journal (e.g. notebook).

3. **Acknowledge the source of any ideas, experiences, artwork, writing, and so on that is not your own**.
   - **Why?** To avoid a charge of plagiarism; to allow the instructor to evaluate your contribution.
   - **How?**
     - Cite your source both in text (see #1) and in a Works Cited page.
     - Use quotes or paraphrase (see #4).
TIPS:

- The newest versions of Microsoft Word can manage and format citations.
- You can use a free program such as JabRef, Docear, Zotero.

Will I get a lower grade if I use other people’s work or ideas?

- No, unless little in your paper is your own work (e.g. quotation after quotation). You are expected to engage with other people’s ideas.

4. Do not misrepresent your sources. You must accurately report what your source has said, experienced, drawn, etc.

   ✓ Why? It is dishonest and unfair, both to your reader and to the person whose work or ideas you are using.
   ✓ How?
     - Make sure you understand the original context and intended meaning.
     - See examples in “Doing honest work in college” (on Student Portal, under “Course Documents”)

WARNING: Do NOT copy sentences or paragraphs (e.g. from a website) and simply replace a few words with synonyms, or change word order.

TERM PAPER EVALUATION:

90-100%: Flawless writing and in-depth analysis reflecting original thought and mastery of course contents. Excellent selection and very effective use of sources.

80-89%: Excellent writing and overall organization of ideas. An interesting analysis of the topic, reflecting considerable thought and effort. The paper demonstrates a very solid understanding of course materials and selected source contents. No or few and minor spelling and grammatical errors demonstrating attention to detail. Cited sources are relevant and used effectively.

70-79%: A well-written, properly structured essay with an adequate thesis statement and good application of anthropological concepts and perspectives. There may be spelling and grammatical errors, but the meaning is consistently clear. Overall, the cited sources are relevant and used effectively.

60-69%: Evidence of effort, and some application of anthropological concepts and perspectives, but mostly descriptive. At least two academic sources used but not very effectively.

40-59%: Some evidence of effort, but the paper is almost purely descriptive. On topic, but could have been written without knowledge of the materials covered in this course. Academic sources may be used, but not effectively (i.e. they are at best marginally important to the overall argument).

10-39%: Little to no evidence of effort. May be off-topic and does not follow instructions.

0%: Paper not submitted or plagiarized.