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From ANTH 2000: Introductory Anthropology Syllabus

How to do Your Field Research Project:

Please be sure to **follow all of the steps and guidelines stated in the syllabus when doing your field research project.** If you have any questions about any of these items, please do not hesitate to contact me. For the most part, what you see in the syllabus is what you will be graded on!

1) Select one of the following options:

A: Fieldwork on your own= Select one of the following topics: Cemetery Study, Urban Art or Primate Observation. Research proposal (1-2 pages); 6-8 page research paper with pictures, map, graphs, 5 cited sources; and discussion board summary.

B: Archaeology Field and/or Lab=14 documented hours of field/lab work with professor, research proposal (1-2 pages) & discussion board summary. Must log 3 hours of field work with me by Sunday, **February 10** or you will be required to do option “A”. Each hour you log with me in the field or lab will count 2% towards your final grade (14 hours X 2=28%). All hours must be completed by **April 13**. You will be responsible for keeping up to date with field/lab dates and times as well as providing your own transportation to and from the sites. There is no research paper requirement for this option.

Option A- Project Descriptions:

Cemetery Study

This project will require you to visit a local cemetery (preferably historic) to gather your data. Please make sure you receive the text references I have made available in WebCT, particularly the “Your Assignment” details in the “**Cemetery Studies**” packet I have made available. Read the “Proper Conduct in Cemeteries” section on p. 196. Be sure to use the cemetery log provided in WebCT.

- I. Introduce the scope, focus and goals of the research project.
- II. Introduce (briefly) the history of the cemetery you are studying.
- III. Present the methodology employed for the project (how you collected your data).
- IV. Select **at least 50 grave markers** using one of these three methods: systematic, random or stratified. Judgmental is OK if appropriate. (Reference the handout on Sampling (p. 230). Smaller samples may be permitted under special circumstances.
- V. Your analysis should include Frequency Seriation (p. 199). Discuss how certain grave marker traits have changed throughout time (form-marble, granite, concrete; shape; symbols, etc.)
- VI. Your analysis should include the study of Ideology (p. 223). Discuss how art and inscriptions of the markers reflect religious ideology and/or cultural/ethnic background.
- VII. Your analysis should include some aspect of Demography (p. 206). I.E. Compare and contrast Life expectancy (birth/death dates) for men vs. women; 1880's vs. 1920's; whites vs. blacks; rich vs. poor, etc. Look at how grave markers may differ based on the deceased age at death. There are a lot of creative ways you can approach your topic. At the very least, make sure your paper includes analysis of **headstone material, form/shape/style, life**

expectancy social status (gender, race/ethnicity, religion, occupation, etc.)

- VIII. Summarize & conclude the research project.
- IX. Provide directions for future research.

Urban Art

This project will require you to photodocument graffiti and wall murals in the local area. You need to photograph, measure, document and map at least **(25)** distinct tags, throw-ups, pieces and/or murals. Be sure to use the urban art guidelines & log provided in WebCT. You will then need to analyze the results of your fieldwork in the paper you turn in. Please be sure to reference the available social science literature on urban art so that you have academic sources to contextualize the meanings, expressions and ideas of the art you are observing.

- I. Introduce the scope, focus and goals of the research project.
- II. Introduce (briefly) the history of urban art and provide objective criteria to study it by.
- III. Present the methodology employed for the project (how you collected your data).
- IV. Define distinctive types of urban art: text, icons, humans, animals, other characters, etc.
- V. Report the results of the frequencies of each type of urban art.
- VI. Report the results of the context in which the urban art is found (wall, bench, business, dumpster, street, area of town, etc.)
- VII. Describe the urban art (size, color, language, etc).
- VIII. Discuss the meanings, ideology & symbolism of the urban art you photodocumented in the context of the research literature. What does it all mean?
- IX Summarize & conclude the research project.
- X. Provide directions for future research.

Primate Observation

This project will require you to study at least **(2)** different species of nonhuman primates at a local zoo such as Animal Kingdom (Disney), Central Florida Zoo (Sanford), Brevard Zoo (Melbourne), Busch Gardens (Tampa) etc. Be sure to use the primate observation guidelines & form provided in WebCT. Reference the available literature on primates as well as Chapter 3 to contextualize your observations.

- I. Introduce the scope, focus and goals of the research project.
- II. Describe the primate species you are observing (origins, common & scientific names, native habitats, etc.). Briefly discuss some of the primatological research.
- III. Present the methodology employed for the project (how you collected your data).
- IV. Describe the environment the primates are kept in and when you observed them.
- V. Describe the primate groups (total # and breakdown by age-adults/juveniles/babies & sex)
- VI. Describe the physical characteristics (color, size, teeth, tail?, sexual dimorphism, etc.) and the primates locomotion (moving around, climbing, picking up things, etc.)
- VII. Describe the primates behavior and interaction (eating, chasing, vocalizing, grooming, carrying/being carried, dominance, submission, forming coalitions, courtship/mounting, interactions with humans.
- VIII. Compare and contrast the two primate species you selected based on the criteria stated above.
- IX. Do the behaviors you observed at the zoo reflect the primates' behavior in the wild?
Are any issues affecting these primates in their native areas of the world (declining populations, poaching, threatened habitat, etc.?)
- X Summarize & conclude the research project.
- XI. Provide directions for future research.

*****When you go out into the field BE SAFE, DO NOT PUT YOURSELF IN ANY HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS, DO NOT BREAK ANY LAWS and DO NOT DO ANYTHING THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED UNETHICAL OR INAPPROPRIATE.**

Be professional!

2) Option A & B: Submit a Research Proposal to me (25% of project grade)

Please email me (jwenzel@valenciacc.edu) your research proposal as an attached Word document or deliver it to my office at the West campus (3-254). This is a one page document that should be typed, double spaced w/ 12 point font. Please include your name, ANT 2000, Spring 2008 and Research Proposal in the top right hand corner.

This must be turned in no later than Sunday, February 10. If received afterwards, I will dock a letter grade (10%) from your project grade.

The proposal should address the following:

- _____A. Why did you choose this topic and what is your primary interest in it?
- _____B. What is the relevance of this topic to yourself? Does it help you meet your educational, personal or occupational/professional goals?
- _____C. What types of anthropological or social science research exists for this topic? At this point you should cite at least **2 scholarly sources** (journal, books, articles) and briefly describe them. **Provide Citations!**
- _____D. How exactly will you carry out your research with this project? Where will you go to collect data?
- _____E. Be sure to state a specific and clear research statement and question in your proposal. What do you specifically want to learn?

3) Go out into the field and collect your data!

- A. Define your territory (Downtown Orlando, Kissimmee/St. Cloud, Orange County, Metropolitan Orlando (etc.).
- B. Be sure to observe the sample size requirement (see pgs. 6-7). To avoid a biased sample, try to randomly select the cases you will study.
- C. **Take detailed & systematic notes!** I recommend keeping a notebook or journal. Remember, Anthropology is a **science**, so be sure to describe, categorize, weigh, measure, photograph, rate whatever you are studying).
- D. **Map** the sites where you collected your data and incorporate into your paper.

E. **Photograph** your data and incorporate into paper.

4) Write Your Report (option A only) (75% of project grade, each area worth 5% each):

_____ Paper is due no later than **Friday, April 13**. You may either email it to me as an attached Word document or you may hand-deliver a printed copy to the Business, Behavioral & Social Sciences office (Building 7-Suite 107) at the West Campus. If it is not turned in by this time you will receive a “0” for your project grade. To be safe, be sure to turn it in to me a few days beforehand.

You are required to observe the following:

- _____ A. Papers should be 6-8 typed & numbered pages, double-spaced with 12 point black font. Spelling, grammar and document formatting is free of error.
- _____ B. The first page should be a **cover page** with a title, your name, ANT 2000, Spring 2008 and the instructor’s name (you have flexibility here in being creative-just be sure to include the necessary information!)
- _____ C. You must cite at least **5 scholarly** sources (books, papers, articles, etc.) Avoid referring to random websites, popular magazines (National Geographic is OK), etc. Your very last page should be a **Works Cited** page.
- _____ D. Use APA, MLA, ASA or AAA writing style. Just be sure you are using the style accurately and consistently when writing your paper!

*The first page is the cover page, and following that your paper should include 5 critical parts. The keywords in bold should be **headings** for each of these sections in your paper:*

- _____ E. The first section is an **introduction** to your paper topic (1st section). This section should provide the reader with a general orientation into your topic and you should restate some of the information in your research proposal here (your interest in the topic, relevance). Briefly summarize the research (from your 5+ sources) that has been done on this topic. What theoretical perspectives (if any) are available to explain the topic?
- _____ F. The 2nd section should be your **methods** section. Here you will describe to the reader how you collected your data in the field (who, when, where, how). If there are any limitations to your data please inform here. You may incorporate your map in this section. Be sure to use objective variables.
- _____ G. Report the **results** of your research in the 3rd section. Here you will describe the results of what you observed in the field. In this section you may incorporate your photographs, tables and/or graphs. You should be objective in this section.
- _____ H. **Discuss** the findings of the results in the 4th section. Here you are providing personal input (your opinion/viewpoint) on what you observed in the field and discussing how the results of your research findings fits in (or possibly doesn’t) with previous research. Which theoretical perspectives explain the results of your research? How can your research be applied in helping to solve a problem?

- _____I. The final section is your **Conclusion**. Briefly summarize your paper. Evaluate your overall experience with the fieldwork and project. What did you learn? What suggestions would you make for future research on the topic?
- _____J. Incorporate at least 4 color photographs into your paper. These may be creatively inserted into the body of your paper with captions or at the end under “**Appendix A**”. Be sure to shrink the file size down BEFORE you insert them in your paper as this may cause difficulties in sending through e-mail.
- _____K. At least one of the photographs must feature yourself in the field, working with or collecting data.
- _____L. Incorporate a map of the sites you visited. This can be inserted into the body of your text or at the end under Appendix A (or **Appendix B** if your pictures are Appendix A). Each appendix should be a separate page. You can use online mapping programs such as Yahoo or Altavista or a GPS/GIS program if you have access to it. You can also print out a city map, neatly dot your sites and copy and put into your paper. Just make it neat and pay attention to detail!
- _____M. You will need to include at least **2 different types** of data illustrations into your paper (graphs- bar, line, pie etc.) or tables (Excel style).
- _____5). **Turn in your paper to me! (e-mail or hand deliver by Friday, April 13)**
- _____6). **Post a summary of your project in the course discussion board** (due no later than Sunday, April 20 @ 11:59pm). **Required for Option A and Option B.**

Option B: Information for Archaeology Field Study and/or Lab

You are required to submit a **research proposal** (p.8) & **discussion board summary** (above) along with logging 14 hours of field and/or lab work with me.

All students participating in field and/or lab work must abide to the following ethics:

ARCHAEOLOGY CODE OF ETHICS

- Students will only participate in archaeological field activities with the course instructor. Students will not receive course credit for digging sites on their own or with any untrained “archaeologist”.
- Results of all fieldwork and research will be documented.
- ALL artifacts recovered from archaeological sites are turned over to the instructor for processing.
- Students will not participate in the illegal trade of antiquities or loot sites.
- No member will remove artifacts from any site unless given authority by the course instructor.

- The appropriate authorities will be informed if a member discovers the looting or destruction of archaeological sites.
- Students should participate in educating the public in understanding the state's historical and archaeological heritage.

Required items to bring: notebook, pencils, water canteen.

Highly recommended items: gloves, sunscreen, bug repellent, metric tape, snack.