**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH**

**College of Social and Applied Human Sciences**

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

Anth 1150\*01: Introduction to Anthropology Fall 2024

Instructor: T. McIlwraith Time: Wednesdays 7-10p

Office: Mack 616 Room: WMem 103

Hours: TBA

Email: tad.mcilwraith@uoguelph.ca

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to get you thinking about cultural diversity and cultural similarity. Wouldn’t it just be easier if we all believed the same things or spoke the same language? What is gained by living in a world where there are many different cultural realities? Are we much different from each other anyway? Further, the course asks you to consider why we should care if many of the different cultures of the world disappear under a wave of modernity. We consider these questions through the lens of anthropology, emphasizing cultural anthropology. We will look at cultural diversity under topics like language, kinship and families, politics, economics, and religion. We discuss methods of research, what culture is, and how or why cultures change. And, we’ll do so by investigating examples of cultural practices from around the world using examples in lectures, films, and slides. An engaging study of a south Pacific community complements the materials of the course.

**Required Readings:**

Barker, John. 2016. *Ancestral Lines: The Maisin of Papua New Guinea and the Fate of the Rainforest,* Second Edition. Toronto: Broadview.

Tubelle de González, Laura. 2024. *Through the Lens of Cultural Anthropology: An Introduction to Human Culture*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

**Evaluation:**

Chapter Review (written assignment) 25%

Observation Assignment (written assignment) 25%

Midterm Exam (in class) 25%

Final Exam (in person during exam period) 25%