

# Lakehead UNIVERSITY

## DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY ANTH 4811 FDE Writing Anthropology

Fall 2021

**Time:** Mondays, 7-10 pm

ZOOM

**Instructor:** Dr Timothy Kaiser

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Office:** OA 3008

Virtual Office Hours: By appointment,  
or by chance

Email: [tkaiser@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:tkaiser@lakeheadu.ca)

Supplementary Course Website:

MyCourseLink (D2L)



### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Writing is an activity that is central to all anthropological work. The primary means of anthropological knowledge curation is writing. This can involve a number of genres, including scholarly books and articles; government-mandated reports; popular science journalism; documentary scripts; and museum exhibition text panels and catalogs. Writing is integral to the doing of anthropology as well, from producing a successful grant application to the recording of field observations. As a seminar, this course will explore various genres of anthropological writing, from classics of reporting and analytic synthesis to the construction of thesis and grant proposals. *How* we as anthropologists write is as important as *what* we write.

### COURSE OUTCOMES

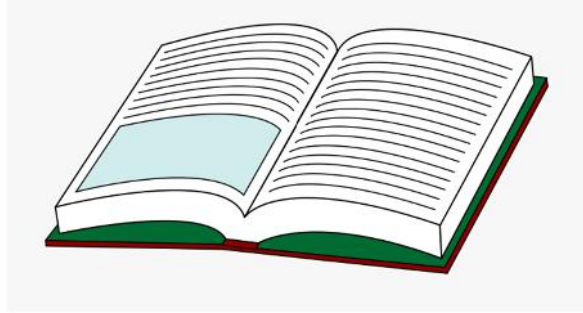
By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate a practical and conceptual understanding of the extent to which anthropological writing acts to preserve anthropological data
- distinguish between different genres of anthropological writing and to write in those genres
- critically evaluate existing research results and methods as conveyed in writing

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

Shan-Estelle Brown (2017) *Writing in Anthropology: A Brief Guide*. Oxford University Press.

Other materials on line.



## EVALUATION

- Five biweekly writing assignments in weeks 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 (16% x 5 = 80 %)
- Participation (20%)

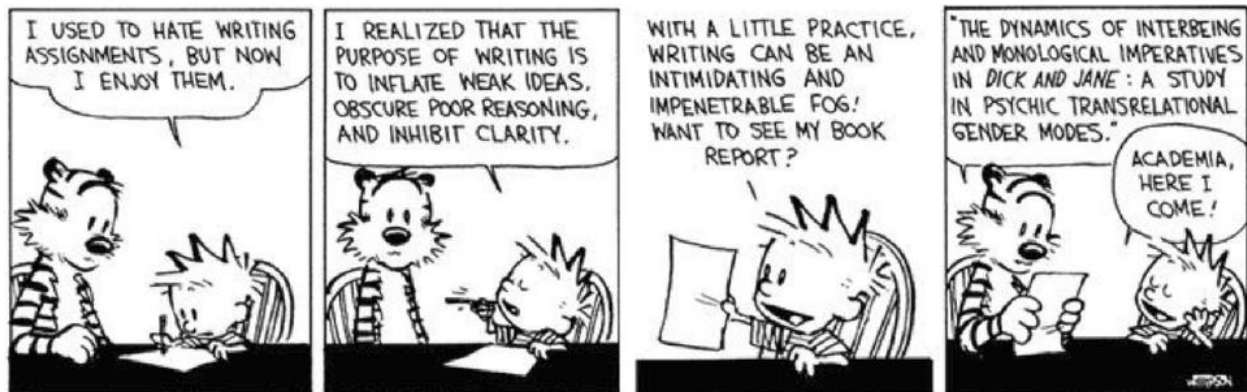
### Participation:

Learning demands your active participation – it is not something that lends itself to osmosis. Students are expected not only to show up for classes *with cameras on* but also to be engaged with the subject matter. Aspects that will be considered for grading include how often you show up, how often you speak up, and how often your contribution(s) advance(s) the conversation.

### Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading, mostly TBA
1	Sept 13	Introduction	
2	Sept 20	"The past is a foreign country"	K.V. Flannery (ed.) (1976) <i>The Early Mesoamerican Village</i> . J. Robb (2007) <i>The Early Mediterranean Village</i> . C. Kusimba (1997) "A time traveler in Kenya." <i>Natural History</i> (June 1997), pp. 38-47.
3	Sept 27	Critiques, Responses, Reviews	S-E Brown (2017) <i>Writing in Anthropology</i> , Ch. 1-2. J. Clifford & G.E. Marcus (1986) <i>Writing Culture: the Poetics and Politics of Ethnography</i>
4	Oct 4	Literature reviews	Brown (2017) Ch. 4. <i>Annual Reviews in Anthropology</i>
	Oct 11	FALL STUDY BREAK	
5	Oct 18	Critical research papers	Brown (2017) pp.91-111 <i>American Anthropologist</i> <i>Antiquity</i> Others, TBA
6	Oct 25	IMRD research papers	Brown (2017) pp. 112-127 <i>Journal of Archaeological Science</i> <i>Current Anthropology</i>

7	Nov 1	Talk to the editor. Special guest: Prof. Monica Heller, editor, <i>Journal of Sociolinguistics</i>	Graphic anthropology <a href="https://www.anthropology-news.org/issue/graphic-ethnography/">https://www.anthropology-news.org/issue/graphic-ethnography/</a>
8	Nov 8	Grant and other proposals Field notes and CRM reports	See MyCourseLink for selected proposals and reports
9	Nov 15	Fieldwork reports	A.M.T. Moore (2000) <i>Village on the Euphrates</i> Others TBA
10	Nov 22	Popular science publications and documentary scripts	Readings are on D2L
11	Nov 29	Museums; The online environment	<a href="http://www.rom.on.ca">www.rom.on.ca</a> Others TBA
12	Dec 6	Conclusion	



## COURSE POLICIES

- It is your responsibility to attend classes and to do the readings. Regular absences will seriously affect your grade in this course.
- Any important announcements, including changes in due dates, will be announced in-class and posted on Desire2Learn.
- Any course work not submitted on time will be subject to a 5% deduction per day of unexcused lateness. No assignment that is more than 10 days late will be accepted.

### “Copyright

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

All relevant information about the course is on the D2L course site. All assignments must be submitted through the D2L course site. The materials posted on the course D2L site, including any visual and audio recordings, are copyrighted and owned by Dr T. Kaiser. It is prohibited to record or copy by any means, in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part, in the absence of express written permission from Dr T. Kaiser any of the materials provided or published in any form during or from the course. As an example, students are prohibited from making audio or video recordings of lectures, or taking pictures of lecture material.

That said, in the context of remote instruction and participation, video and audio recordings of class activities may be made to ensure students' and instructors' easy and comprehensive access to those activities. Such recordings are confidential and are intended only for the use of the course students and instructors. They may otherwise not be used or disclosed. During recording, to protect others' privacy, each student should ensure that no one else is present in the location where they are being recorded without that non-student's consent. The recordings are made under the authority of sections 3 and 14 of *The Lakehead University Act, 1965*. Questions about the collection of the images and sounds in the recordings may be directed to Dr Todd Randall, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies.”

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please visit <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

The University takes a most serious view of offences against academic honesty such as plagiarism, cheating and impersonation. Penalties for dealing with such offences will be strictly enforced.

See <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/policies/student-related/code-of-student-behaviour-and-disciplinary-procedures>

*We respectfully acknowledge that Lakehead University campuses are located on the traditional lands of Indigenous peoples. Lakehead University acknowledges the history that many nations hold in the areas around our campuses, and is committed to a relationship with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples based on the principles of mutual trust, respect, reciprocity, and collaboration in the spirit of reconciliation.*