

Anthropology 0200

Culture and Human Behavior

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THE SCOPE AND AIMS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Lecture I

What is this
class
about????

Nature vs. Nurture:

How much of our behavior is due to culture and how much is due to biology?

CONNECTIONS
BETWEEN
INDIVIDUALS AND
CULTURE

This class will challenge Western assumptions about:

- nature and nurture
- human social and cognitive development
- nature of intelligence and thought
- nature of adolescence
- gender and sexuality
- the naturalness of emotions

why create a course?

- The Western view of self = separate
- In actuality, how you were brought up imp!
(culture is important!!)
- Better understand yourself, others and
what it means to be human

Goal: to come to view *self* differently

- Understand how **self** is both individual (biological) and ties us to others (cultural)
- Examine **HOW** - individual selves are shaped by culture & different cultures produce adults with particular personalities

Syllabus

- brownanthro.weebly.com
- Office hours Mon. 11 - 12, Wed. 12 - 1.
- ROOM # ? in Giddings
- password for OCRA readings is *behavior*

What is anthropology?

The study of human diversity through time and space

History

- Europeans knew little about rest of world – South Seas, Africa, American West
- reports from explorers and traders
- the first anthropologist set out to collect information on differences in customs, values and beliefs.

HOW IS IT RELEVANT
TO MY LIFE??????

How is this class relevant to your current lives and futures?

- Learning about and valuing people from other cultures
- Skills of ethnography (participant observation)

Academic v.s. Applied

- Academic (Ivory Tower) = Anthropologists who teach and research at colleges and universities
- Applied = The application of anthropological data, perspectives, theory, and methods to identify, assess, and solve contemporary social problems.

- Charles Fadel = STEM education important but also humanities:
 - Anthropology
 - user interface

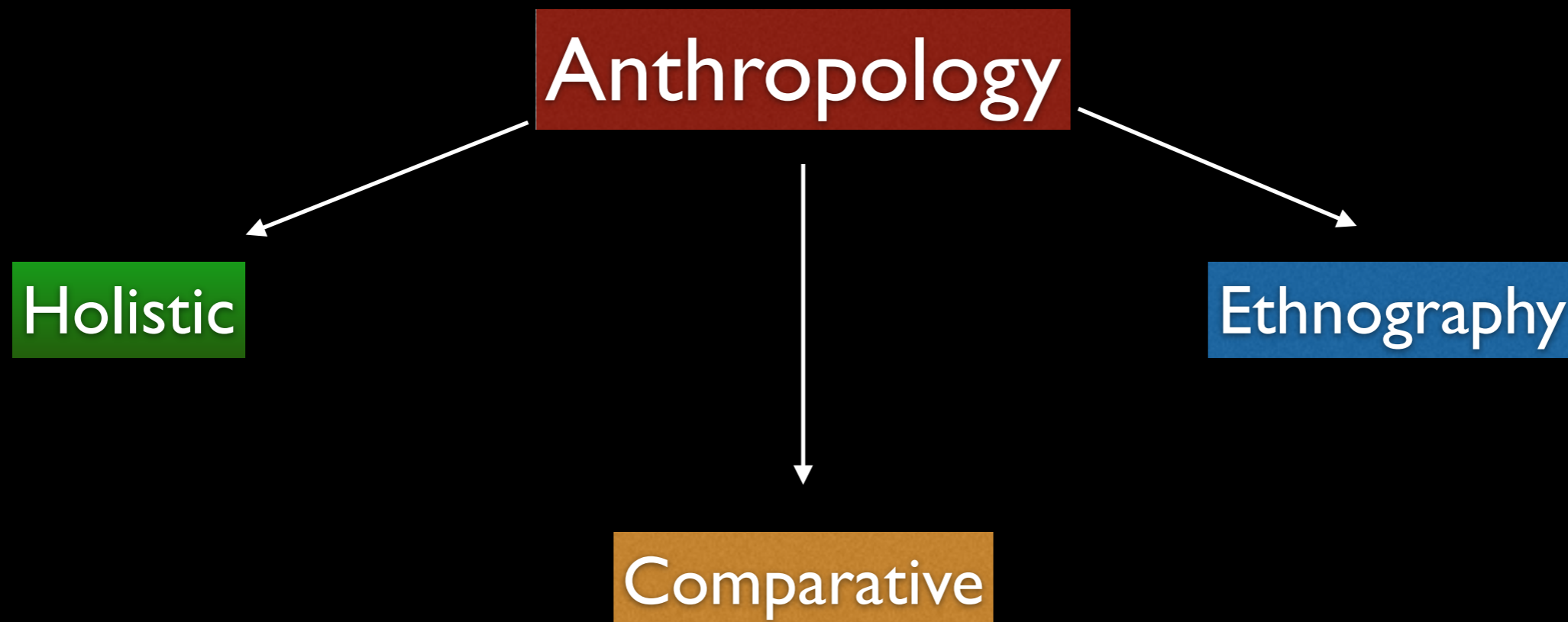
companies that employ anthropologists

- Intel
- Citicorp
- AT&T
- Kodak
- Sapient
- Hauser Design
- Boeing
- Motorola
- Walt Disney
- Microsoft
- General Mills
- Hallmark
- Travel One
- Hanseatic Group
- Manchester Memorial
- Palisades
Pharmaceuticals

Examples:

- Advertising agencies
- Architects
- Product development (Go-Gurt)
- Engineering (phone covers, flash drives)
- Market research (Envirosell - studies shopping habits)

What makes anthropology **unique**?



How different from:

- Psychology
- Sociology

ANTHROPOLOGY

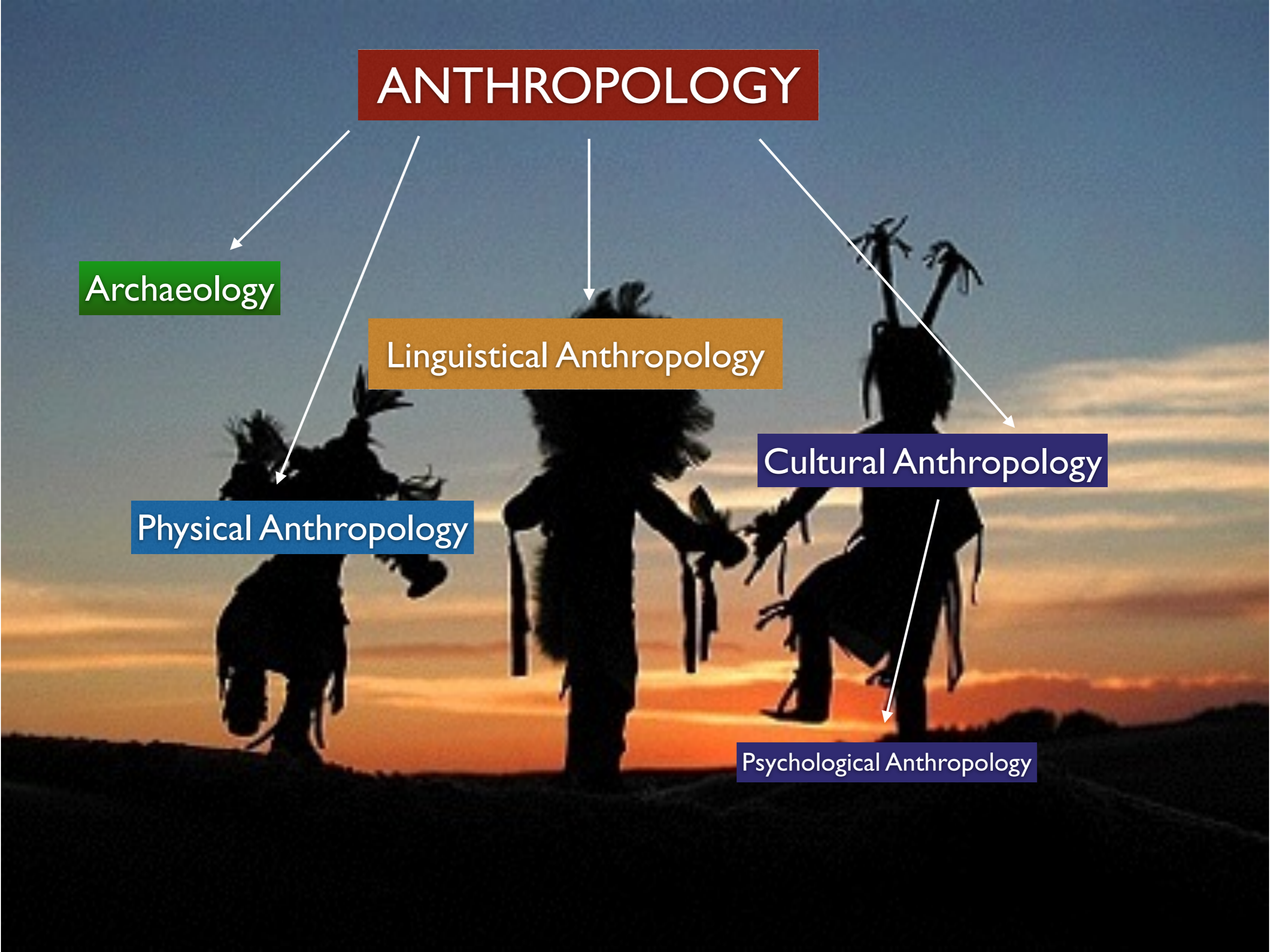
Archaeology

Linguistical Anthropology

Physical Anthropology

Cultural Anthropology

Psychological Anthropology





Archaeology

Machu Picchu - Peru

Definition

- The study of human behavior and culture patterns and processes through the culture's material remains

Physical Anthropology

Lucy (Australopithecus
Afarensis)

found in Hadar Ethiopia 1974
lived 3.2 MYA



Definition

- The study of human biological variation in time and space; includes evolution, genetics, growth, and development, and primatology.

human biological variation

- Natural selection
- Sexual selection (full lips, large buttocks, eye folds, blue penises [South America])
- Random (genetic drift)

Examples of Random differences due to genetic drift:

- Ear wax (dry & crumbly - China 98%, American Whites 18%, American blacks 7%) v.s. wet and sticky
- Scent glands (# differs - Asian, Whites Blacks, Norther Europeans)

- Taste (PTC - 60% Australian Aborigines, 70% Europeans, East Asians 90%, Africans 94%)
- Urine (BAIB in urine low in Europeans, high in Asians and Native Americans.)

Linguistic anthropology

- The descriptive, comparative, and historic study of language and linguistic similarities and differences in time space and society.



- Brücke (feminine)
- Pont (masculine)

Does the language we speak shape the way we think and see the world?

Focal vocabulary - used to detect insiders vs. outsiders

- biscuit
- pipes
- sin bin
- twig
- bucket
- five hole
- puck
- goal
- penalty box
- hockey stick
- helmet
- space b/t goalie's leg pads

Cultural Anthropology

Masai boy
Kenya



Definition

- The study of human society and culture; describes, analyzes, interprets, and explains social and cultural similarities and differences.

psychological anthropology =
subdiscipline of cultural
anthropology

- Psychological anthropology is interested in the connections between individuals and their environments

Psychological anthropology is:

- a **subfield** of cultural anthropology
- **different** from psychology – holistic & cross-cultural - ex. eating disorders
- It is the **comparative** study of the connections between individuals (behavior patterns and mental functioning) and their environments (social, cultural, economic and political)

Tonight's reading:

- Perfectly Prep chapters 1 & 2