Introduction to Anthropology

Course description

This course provides an introduction to Anthropology, the study of human beings and societies, both alive and dead and wherever they live. In practice, Anthropology is holistic, which means it studies all dimensions of the physical and cultural aspects of man. In this course you will learn about the four basic fields, their methods of study and how anthropology can be applied to solve global issues in a diverse and rapidly changing world.

Course content

Unit-1

Meaning, subject matter and scope of Anthropology. Branches of Anthropology: Social, Physical, Archaeological, Linguistic

Basic concepts: Culture, Society, Institution, Tribe, Caste, Social structure, Social and cultural change.

Unit-2

Fieldwork and Ethnography. Ethics of fieldwork. Research design and its steps.

Unit-3

Indian society and culture. Tribes and their problems. Sustainable development goals and India.

Unit-4

Anthropology and global problems: War and terrorism, Poverty, Food scarcity, Mental health, Natural resources depletion and environmental crises.

Books recommended

- 1. Anthropology. Carol R. Ember, Melvin Ember and Peter Peregrine. Pearson Education.
- 2. Samanya Manav Shastra. (Hindi) Nadeem Hasnain. Jawahar Publishers , New Delhi.
- 3. Applied Anthropology in India. L.P. Vidyarthi. Kitab Mahal, Allahabad.
- 4. Indian tribes through the ages. R.C. Verma. Publications Division, Government of India.