## Week 1 – What is Anthropology?

This week we explore the field of anthropology and gain a basic introduction to its approaches, major questions, and areas of interest. We also want to give you an overview of the structure of this class. It is a lecture-based class, but we will use some online resources as well. Each week I compile materials and assignments for you to work through. I aim to provide both written and audiovisual materials to give you multiple ways of engaging with the material. The readings and lecture are the primary informational resource. Weekly discussions and quizzes will provide avenues for you to explore the ideas we present. Please be sure to look over the weekly path documents to keep track of what you need to do for each week. Please be aware that the lectures build off of but DO NOT repeat what is covered in the readings.

Please be sure to**read the syllabus** for more information.

### Overview – Students will be introduced to the discipline of anthropology.

## Competencies (Unit/Module objectives)

* Be able to define anthropology and differentiate it from other social and behavioral sciences.
* Be able to explain why anthropology is an important field in the social sciences.
* Be able to define key concepts to anthropological research including ethnocentrism, cultural relativity, the naturalistic fallacy, the moralistic fallacy, and objectivity.
* Be able to summarize the various definitions of culture that anthropologists use.
* Be able to describe the Aztec empire as a case study of cultural variation.

## Path

* Read Kotak—What is Anthropology?
* Attend the lectures
* Participate in the online Week 1 discussion (due Wednesday, August 25)
* Complete the quiz for Week 1.
* Have a great first week!