

SYLLABUS
CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
ANT 2410/ SECTION 6974
FALL 2011

Instructor: Mussa Idris

Office: TURL B 346

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Office Hours: Friday 9- 11 a.m. & by appointment

Time and location of Course: MWF 3:00-3:50 p.m. TUR L005

TA: John Hames

Office: TURL B 346

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Office Hour: Friday 12:30-2:30 & by appointment

Required Text: *Cultural Anthropology - The Human Challenge. 13th edition* 2011
 By William A. Haviland, Harald E.L. Prins, Dana Walrath, Bunny McBride
 Thomson-Wadsworth Publishing. ISBN: 9780495810827.
 Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Cultural Anthropology. 2nd edition 2006
 By Robert Welsch and Kirk Edicott
 McGraw Hill Publishing. ISBN: 9780073043968

Course Description: Cultural Anthropology is designed to acquaint the student with the subfield of Cultural Anthropology in the discipline of Anthropology. Anthropology is the scientific and humanistic study of the human species and explores the cross-cultural variation of human lifestyles and societies in time and space. This course presents students with a holistic preview of Cultural Anthropology and the study of the diversity of human ways of life (culture) and the regularities in how culture functions.

Course Structure: The course is divided into two sections. The first part of the course includes a historical overview of the field and subfields of anthropology, the characteristics of culture, ethnographic research methods and theories in Cultural Anthropology. In addition the first part provides an overview of evolution, biology and culture, language and culture, and discusses how societies organize themselves including in terms of ethnicity, race, marriage, family, kinship, age and gender. The second portion of the class will focus on the diversity of cultures around the globe and the aspects of human survival and adaptation to the physical and social environment, which provides the framework for various other cultural institutions such as subsistence economic systems, political organization, belief systems, artistic expressions, and the role of anthropology in local and global contexts.

Course Evaluation: Grading is based on two (2) non-cumulative exams and two (2) written assignments, and Attendance/ Class participation during class.

- 1.) Exams: There will be two exams covering material from your textbook, lectures, and films. Each is weighted equally and is non-cumulative. The exams will have 50 multiple choice questions and will be given during the semester at the times listed on the syllabus. There will be **NO** make-up exams. Please refer to the Make-up exams section for details.

- 2.) Written Assignments: Each student is required to submit two, 2 pages typed summaries of a topic of their choosing from the book Taking Sides. These summaries are to be typed, double spaced papers using 12-point font and 1 inch margins. These should be submitted online via Sakai e-Learning by 11 p.m. of the day they are due.

The written assignments must be original work and no copying or plagiarism is allowed in this course.

The written assignments should include (1.) An evaluation of the two articles, and take a side: in other words, were the articles interesting, were they easy to understand, and were they useful. (2) A short (i.e. 3 sentence) summary of each article and at least two supporting arguments for your side, (3) A web-site or youtube video URL that relates to the articles debated (4) your personal reaction to the articles debated, especially as it relates to your everyday life, and end with (5) an insightful question that relate to the two articles debated raised with you.

3) . Attendance/ Class Participation: Attendance is required for this course. There is a formal attendance taken in class. Make sure you sign-up in each class. Students who miss a class are responsible for all assignments and material covered in class and they miss 1 point for each non- quiz class missed. This course and its evaluated activities are heavily based upon lectures and class discussion. To do well in this course you must attend class, listen carefully, and take useful notes (this includes slide presentations, videos, and other visual presentations). You can expect many questions on the exam that are based on class discussions, only some of which may appear in class power point presentations.

In addition, there will be 10 short quizzes given in class throughout the term. If you happen to miss a quiz day you will miss 2 points from your attendance/class participation points. These quizzes will not be announced and you cannot make them up if you are not present when they are given in class. The advantage of taking the quizzes is also that some of the questions will be included in the exam.

If you would like to be considered for 1 point extra credit opportunity you will need to ask a question relevant to the class or actively participate in class discussions (as evaluated by the Instructor and TA).

Grade Breakdown:

Two Exams:	50 pts each for a total of 100 pts
Two Written Assignments:	25 pts each for a total of 50 pts
Attendance/ Class Participation	50 pts
Total points possible:	200 pts

Grades are calculated as follows:

A	92-100%
A-	90-91%
B+	88-89%
B	82-87%
B-	80-81%
C+	78-79%
C	72-77%
C-	70-71%
D+	68-69%
D	62-67%
D-	60-61%

Please note that minus grades are calculated into your GPA according to the Registrar's formula:

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
Grade Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	.67	0	0	0	0	0

Re-test/ Make-up tests: There will be no make-up exams. Make-up exams will be allowed only in emergencies with documented excuses for absence on the day of the exam. Make up exams may be different from original exams and consist of essays and short answers.

Course Policies:

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Students charged with academic dishonesty are subject to the Florida Board of Regent's Code of Conduct and procedures established by UF and outlined in the *Student Handbook*. **No leniency will be granted, and any incidents will be pursued to the fullest extent of the sanctions in the Code of Conduct.** http://www.dso.ufl.edu/stg/Code_of_Conduct.html

Students with Learning Disabilities or Physical Handicaps: Students who have learning disabilities or physical handicaps must present a copy of their **Eligibility Letter** to the instructor within the first week of class. The university provides many kinds of services and support, but those eligible must obtain documentation from the appropriate university agencies. Requests for accommodations must be made early.

This course outline may be subject to changes as circumstances warrant during the semester.

Course Outline	Topic	Readings
<u>Week 1:</u> (August 22, 24, and 26)	Class Organization and Introduction The Essence of Anthropology and its 4 subfields Anthropology and Science	Ch. 1 (pp. 1-25) TS-Issue 1
<u>Week 2:</u> (August 29, 31 & September 2)	What is Culture? Conceptualizing Culture	Ch.2 (pp. 27-44) TS-Issue 3
<u>Week 3:</u> (September 5 (<i>No class, Labor Day</i>), 7 & 9)	Ethnographic Research: Its History, Method and Theories	Ch. 3 (pp.47-71) TS-Issue 2
<u>Week 4:</u> (September 12, 14 & 16)	Becoming Human: Evolution, Biology, and Culture	Ch. 4 (pp.73-102) TS-Issue 4
<u>Week 5:</u> (September 19, 21 & 23)	Language and Culture The Structure of Language	Ch. 5 (pp.105-129) TS-Issue 5 & 17
Written Assign. #1, due on Sept 23, 11 p.m., on the Sakai site, submit as an attachment in Microsoft word file. Based on one of TS- Issues (1, 2, 3 4, 5, 9 and 17 only)		
<u>Week 6:</u> (September 26, 28, & 30)	Social Identity, Personality, and Gender	Ch. 6 (pp. 131-156)
<u>Week 7:</u> (October 3, 5, & 7)	Marriage The Family and Household The Life Cycle	Ch. 9 (pp. 209-235)
<u>Week 8:</u> (October 10, 12 & 14)	Kinship Kinship Terminologies	Ch. 10 (pp. 237-258)
<u>Week 9:</u> (October 17, 19, 21)	Grouping by Age, Gender, Social class and Common interest	Ch. 11 (pp.261-280) TS-Issue 9

MID-TERM EXAM, October 21, 8 a.m-8 p.m. on the Sakai site

Week 10: (October 24, 26 & 28)

Making a living: Humans and the environment
Foragers/ Hunter-Gatherers
Domestication
Pastoralists/Horticulturalists/Agriculturalists

Ch. 7 (pp. 159-183)

TS-Issue 6

Week 11: (October 31, November 2 & 4 (*No class, Homecoming*)).

Economic Systems
Distribution

Ch. 8 (pp. 185-207)

Week 12: (November 7, 9 & 11 (*No class, Veterans Day*))

Political Organization
Social Control

Ch. 12 (pp. 283-309)

TS-Issue 12

Week 13: (November 14, 16 & 18)

Myth, Religion, and Ritual
Cosmology

Ch. 13 (pp. 311-338)

TS-Issue 13

Written Assign. #2, due on November 18, 11 p.m., on the Sakai site, submit as an attachment in Microsoft word file. Based on one of TS- Issues (6, 12, 13 and 18 only)

Week 14: (November 21, 23, & 25 (*No class, Thanksgiving*))

Expressive Culture and the Arts

Ch. 14 (pp. 341-361)

Week 15: (November 28, 30 & December 2)

Processes of Change
Change and Globalization

Ch. 15 (pp.363-385)

Week 16: (December 5, 7 & 9)

Role of Anthropology today and in the Future
In Global and Local Contexts
Review for Final

Ch. 16 (pp.387-419)

TS-Issue 18

FINAL EXAM, December 9, 8a.m- 8 p.m., on the Sakai site