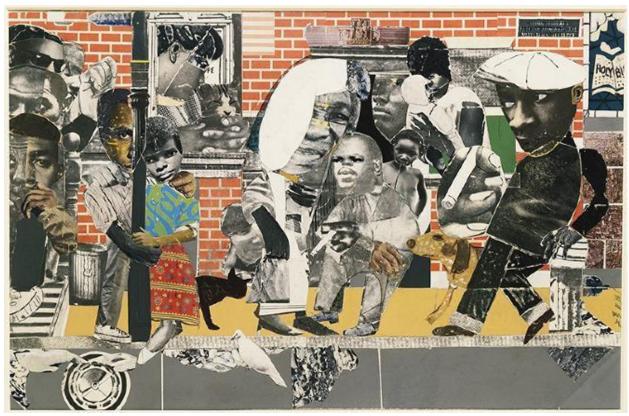# ANT 2410 – Fall 2024
Sections: 10413, 10415, 24019, 24702
Cultural Anthropology

Instructor: Francis Semwaza
Contact: fsemwaza@ufl.edu

Instructor Office Hours
Friday, 9am – 12pm
Office: Turlington, B332

Co-Instructors	E-mails	Office Hours
Felipe Acosta-Munoz	facostamunoz@ufl.edu	TBA
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Course Description: Anthropology is the academic discipline that studies humanity across space and time. Cultural anthropologists study the distinctive ways people create, negotiate and make sense of their own social worlds vis-à-vis the worlds of others. Through research in places both far away and near to home, anthropologists examine relations and events that influence and determine social belonging and exclusion, whether based in gender, kinship, religion, language, political economy or historical constructions of race, ethnicity and citizenship. The scope of cultural anthropology is thus broad. Studying culture is crucial to understanding our increasingly connected planet, human relationships, and actions. An anthropological perspective is also essential to efforts which aim to resolve the major crises confronting humanity today.

This class provides an introduction to the discipline through consideration of topics and themes that are not only of vital relevance today but hold an enduring place in the intellectual tradition of anthropology. The purpose of this class is to increase your familiarity and comfort with concepts of cultural analysis, and to show how these notions can increase awareness and understanding of the life experiences of others and yourself. In so doing, the course aims to enhance sensitivity to social differences, while also underscoring the moral and ethical dimensions of ethnographic research. This course fulfills General Education (GenEd) requirements in Diversity (D) as outlined here (area objectives available here), as well as Social and Behavioral Sciences (S) as outlined here (area objectives available here). The class does not satisfy the UF writing requirement. *Note: A minimum grade of C is required for general education. Courses intended to satisfy the general education requirement cannot be taken S-U.* For current UF grading policies, please consult the following link: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/.

NOTE: In this General Education course, any class topics that touch on identity politics or topics of discrimination will be covered objectively without endorsements of viewpoints, will be observed from multiple perspectives, and will be taught as objects of analysis within the larger course of instruction. All viewpoints will be welcome in class discussions.

Student Learning Outcomes
- Identify, recognize, and recall influential concepts and concerns of cultural anthropology
- Demonstrate a comprehension and appreciation of the diversity of cultural phenomena
- Describe the interconnectedness of the contemporary world and how it is being transformed by the dynamics of power and through globalization, migration and development.
- Practice skills of textual interpretation
- Express a basic understanding of anthropological modes of research and representation
- Develop a sensitivity to the ethical implications of ethnographic fieldwork
- Apply key anthropological concepts to everyday life experiences
- Develop research questions

Course Format
This is an online course that uses Canvas to distribute and submit all course materials. You will find the syllabus, modules, quizzes, discussion boards, videos, grades, and course updates and announcements on the course website. The student is responsible for checking Canvas regularly.

Course Communications
We have several avenues for communication in this course. First, there is a general Course Questions Discussion Board where you are encouraged to ask general questions about the course contents and assignments. Private questions should be emailed directly to the instructor or TA. Although we will do our best to respond to e-mails and the course questions discussion board as quickly as we can, please allow up to 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.

Office Hours
During scheduled office hours, we will reply to e-mails quickly unless occupied with another student. We will also be available to meet via zoom by appointment. Please e-mail your instructor or TA for access to their zoom meeting rooms.

Required Textbook
- Robert Welsh & Luis Vivanco, *Asking questions about cultural anthropology: A concise*

introduction, second edition. Oxford University Press, 2023. ISBN: 0197618871
  - ○ Abbreviated in Course Schedule as **AQ**

Additional Readings

All additional required and recommended readings will be posted on the Canvas course page. Students are required to integrate textbook chapters with additional resources (articles, videos, pictures, etc.).

Additional Resources

American Anthropological Association (http://www.americananthro.org/)
The Society for Cultural Anthropology (https://culanth.org/)
The Society for Applied Anthropology (https://www.sfaa.net/)
The Society for Medical Anthropology (http://www.medanthro.net/)
The Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition (https://foodanthro.com/)

Course Requirements

This course consists of 15 modules. Each week we will cover crucial concepts and ideas in Cultural Anthropology. You will be asked to actively participate to the discussion boards and complete the quiz assigned for every week. You are also required to submit 2 writing assignments during the semester, and to write an original paper as your final project.

Quizzes	14 x 10 pts	140 points	~37%
Discussion Posts	7 x 10 pts	70 points	~18%
Exercises	6 x 20 pts	120 points	~32%
Final Paper	1 x 50 pts	50 points	~13%
Total		380 points	100%

*Note: these point totals are subject to change if assignments are omitted or changed throughout the semester.

Discussions

There will be seven discussion posts during the term. **Original** posts are due by noon EST on Thursday of each week. **Two responses** to your classmates' posts are due by Friday at 11:59 pm EST. Prompts and instructions can be found through the Discussions tab on Canvas.

***Please read the Netiquette Guidelines before posting. Students are expected to adhere to these guidelines for all communication in this class.

Quizzes

Each module (except for Module 1) includes a quiz, for a total of 14 quizzes during the term. Quizzes are due at 11:59 pm on Fridays. Each quiz includes a set of 10 multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and/or true/false questions. These are primarily based on the assigned textbook chapter, with one or two questions on supplementary readings. Quizzes have a 15-minute time limit. Additional instructions and information can be found on Canvas.

Exercises

You will be asked to complete methodological and analytical exercises for six modules. These are short activities that should take 1-2 hours to complete. They are meant to show your understanding of class concepts and push you to apply anthropological observations and methods to your

everyday lives, which might include analyzing a video or reading, commenting on current events and relating them to the class, or putting anthropological methods into practice! Complete details and instructions for each exercise can be found on Canvas under the Assignments tab.

Final Project
As their final project students will write a short paper (750-1000 words) in which they demonstrate their familiarity with key anthropological concepts as well as their ability to connect those to everyday life experiences. Detailed instructions will be posted on Canvas.

Grading Scale
See http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html for calculating grade point averages. Also note that a grade of C- does not count for credit in major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule, or college basic distribution credit.

The grading scale for this course is as follows: 93% - 100% = A; 90% - 92% = A-; 87% - 89% = B+; 83% - 86% = B; 80% - 82% = B-; 77% - 79% = C+; 73% - 76% = C; 70% - 72% = C-; 67% - 69% = D+; 63% - 66% = D; 60% - 62% = D; Below 60% = E

Late Policy
Late submissions will be penalized a full letter grade within 24 hours of the original due date. Written assignments submitted more than 24 hours after the due date will not be accepted, unless the student has a verifiable excuse that has been discussed with the instructor beforehand.

If you have an event scheduled on the day coursework is due, plan to do the work early. All coursework is available 24/7 on Canvas. Students unable to complete assignments due to documented, excused absences must provide documentation to the instructor no less than 48 hours before the absence. Verification for excused absences due to illness must be received withing 48 hours after the coursework due date. Technology issues while turning in assignments/completing quizzes are handled differently and are addressed in the following section.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Course Technology
If you have technical difficulties with the course, you must contact the UF Computing Help Desk either by filling out an online request form or calling (352) 392-4357. The Help Desk is an excellent resource and they are very quick to resolve issues. Once you contact them, they will issue a ticket number detailing the problem and its resolution. Technological problems (hardware, software, Canvas, etc.) are not sufficient excuses for missed or late assignments without a Help Desk ticket number. The Help Desk is located on the ground floor of the Hub on the UF campus. If technical difficulties that are beyond your control cause you to miss a due date, you MUST report the problem to the Help Desk and then email your instructor and the DSO. Include the ticket number that you are given from the Help Desk in an e-mail to the instructor to explain the late assignment/quiz/test.
Proof of technological fault must be provided by the student, which will then need to be verified through appropriate channels:
• **http://helpdesk.ufl.edu • (352) 392-HELP**

Online Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

UF Policies
University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be emailed to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct UF students are bound by The **Honor Pledge**, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, your instructors and TA are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TA in this class.

This course will be using systems that check for plagiarism from websites and fellow students. Your instructors can Google too! If there is an infraction, you will receive a warning as well as a zero (0) for the assignment and be reported to the Dean of Students Office. After receiving a warning, if cheating persists, you will receive a zero (0) for the subsequent assignment, be reported to the Dean of Students Office again, and incur any further penalties that are administered by the Dean of Students Office.

Once you have been reported for cheating or plagiarism you cannot drop the class. Plagiarism includes copying from websites or other students or previous work that you have submitted. *Self-plagiarism is real and will not be tolerated: you cannot duplicate your work from other courses*. Any direct quotes should be properly cited with author, date and page number(s). If you have questions about this, please use the Course Questions discussion board or email your instructors directly. You are strongly discouraged from sharing your notes for this class on any online website. You are not permitted to distribute screen shots of any course content.

Basic guidelines for not plagiarizing:
• Do not copy and paste from any website

• Write in your own words. Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be great at grammar and mechanics. However, AI cannot think any better compared to the human brain.

• Do not collaborate with fellow students on any assignment unless otherwise noted

• Use in-text citations when using direct quotes, when paraphrasing, or when citing original research (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/2/)

Class Demeanor or Netiquette
All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please use proper greetings and salutations when writing to your instructors and be clear, kind, and respectful. Friendliness goes a long way and will help you succeed in this course and in life.

It is strongly recommended that you do not wait until the last few hours to complete any assignment so you can deal with a computer or internet failure. It is also strongly advised when taking an online exam or quiz that you use a wired connection not a Wi-Fi signal. In addition, you should be using the most up to date version of Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox when using UF's e-Learning interface. If you have any issue with UF e-Learning, you must contact the UF Computing Help Desk immediately at 352-392-4357 to create a ticket that you will then send to your professor so that they may follow up with the issue. The instructor will be the one who decides if the issue warrants further action.

Be advised that waiting until the last few hours limits your options to solve a computer or internet failure. A computer crash, or your Wi-Fi dropping out at your location is not an appropriate excuse to retake an assignment. An e-learning system-wide failure that can be confirmed by campus IT as the responsibility of the University is an appropriate excuse to retake an assignment. In such a circumstance, an announcement will be made to all students.

Getting Help
U Matter, We Care serves as the umbrella program for UF's caring culture and provides students in distress with support and coordination of a wide variety of appropriate resources. Contact umatter@ufl.edu seven days a week for assistance if you are in distress. Call 352-392- 1575 for a crisis counselor in the nighttime and weekends.
Resources are available at https://studentlife.ufl.edu/virtualstudentunion/support-services/ for:
   • Counseling and Wellness resources
   • Disability resources: https://disability.ufl.edu/
   • Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
   • Library Help Desk support

Course Schedule
See below for an overview of the course schedule. Complete information on the requirements for each module and due dates can be found through the Home Page on Canvas or in the Modules tab. Supplemental readings subject to change.

Dates	Module	Readings	Assignments
8/22-8/24	1: Introduction	Syllabus & Start Here pages	Discussion: Introduce Yourself
8/26-8/31	2: Anthropology	AQ Chapter 1 "Why Anthropology Matters" statement by EASA Abu-Lughod, "Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving?"	Discussion 1 Quiz 1
9/3-9/7	3: Culture	AQ Chapter 2 Williams, "Key Words" Rothman, "The Meaning of 'Culture'"	Quiz 2 Exercise 1
9/9-9/14	4: Ethnography	AQ Chapter 3 Lee, "Eating Christmas in the Kalahari" Van Tilburg, "Interviews of the Unspoken"	Quiz 3 Exercise 2
9/16-9/21	5: Power	AQ Chapter 8 Harcourt, "Making Docile Bodies"	Quiz 4 Exercise 3
9/23-9/28	6: Globalization	AQ Chapter 5 Holmes, "Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies"	Quiz 5 Discussion 2
9/30-10/5	7: Sustainability & Foodways	AQ Chapter 6 Bestor, "How Sushi Went Global"	Quiz 6 Discussion 3
10/7-10/12	8: Economies	AQ Chapter 7 Cronk, "Reciprocity and the Power of Giving" Newell, "Estranged Belongings"	Quiz 7 Exercise 4
10/14-10/19	9: Race & Racism	AQ Chapter 9 AAA Statement on Race, 1998 Coates, "Between the World and Me" Gravlee, "How Race Becomes Biology"	Quiz 8 Exercise 5
10/21-10/26	10: Language & Culture	AQ Chapter 4 Baldwin, "If Black English Isn't a Language…"	Quiz 9 Discussion 4

		Shankar, "Speaking Like a Model Minority"	
10/28-11/2	11: Gender, Sex, & Sexuality	AQ Chapter 10 Allen, "'Brides' without Husbands"	Quiz 10 Discussion 5
11/4-11/9	12: Social Ties	AQ Chapter 11 Scheper-Hughes, "No More Angel Babies on the Alto do Cruzeiro"	Quiz 11 Exercise 6
11/12-11/16	13: Religion	AQ Chapter 12 Gmelch, "Baseball Magic" Additional reading TBA	Quiz 12 Discussion 6
11/18-11/23	14: Medical Anthropology	AQ Chapter 13 Singer et al., "Why Does Juan Garcia Have a Drinking Problem?"	Quiz 13 Discussion 7
12/1-12/4	15: Things	AQ Chapter 14 Condry "Love Revolution"	Quiz 14 Final project