

## Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

ANT 2410

University of Florida, Department of Anthropology

Spring 2012

M, W, F, 1:55-2:45 pm

Turlington Hall L011

### Instructor: Alison Montgomery

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Office Hours: Mon 3-4 pm; Wed 12:30-1:30 pm

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Office Hours: Friday 3-4 pm

### Course Description and Objectives

Cultural Anthropology is the study of modern human societies around the globe. This course will explore the ways in which people navigate a complex and changing world, with special attention being paid to ethics, economic and political systems, and identity. By the end of the course, students will have an introductory understanding of the foundations of Cultural Anthropology and the discipline's theory, methodologies, key debates, interdisciplinary scope and applicability. Aside from the content of this course, students will also gain valuable experience in writing, debate, and critical thinking.

### Course Texts

Spradley, James and David W. McCurdy

2012 *Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology*, 14<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston: Pearson Press.

(referred to in syllabus as **CC**)

Bourgois, Phillipe

2003 *In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Marx and Engels.

2004 [1888] *The Communist Manifesto*. New York: Bantam Dell.

Other assigned articles will be made available through Sakai (referred to in syllabus as **SA**)

### Attendance

Students are required to attend class. Though attendance will not be taken, *the weekly quiz will be based on required readings, in-class videos, lectures, and class discussions*. Students will not be allowed to make-up missed quizzes or exams without a doctor's note and must notify the instructor before the missed class. Missing a weekly quiz will require a doctor's note if the student wishes to make up the quiz. The make-up quiz will be different from the original quiz and must be taken in the instructor's office during office hours or at another arranged time if this is not possible.

### Use of Electronics

Cell phones will not be permitted during class time. A student caught talking on their phone or texting will be asked to leave class. iPods and MP3 devices are not allowed. Computers are permitted for note taking purposes only. Students should remember that it is in their best interest to honor this policy.

### Classroom Respect and the Sharing of Ideas

Universities should be places where ideas are freely exchanged in a safe and supportive environment. Thus, students are encouraged to participate in class in order to both develop public speaking and critical thinking skills. Class discussion is one of the most useful learning tools. You will find that you learn a great deal from your fellow students and from paring thought with language. Mocking or otherwise degrading the ideas and opinions of your fellow student will not be tolerated. All ideas are useful and contribute to the communal learning experience.

### University Academic Honesty Policy

In meeting one of the major objectives of higher education, which is to develop self-reliance, it is expected that students will be responsible for the completion of their own academic work. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of

learning and the pursuit of knowledge are damaged by cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic dishonesty such as misrepresentation, conspiracy, bribery and fabrication. The use of any and all literature, notes, aids, or assistance from other sources should be clearly identified within any and all course assignments and assessments. If you have any questions about how to properly cite the use of a source in your assignments, please ask me.

### **Accommodations for Disabilities:**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Disability Resource Center will then provide documentation to the student, who is expected to meet with the instructor during office hours or by appointment, at which point the student will provide the documentation and discuss the required accommodations. Students who wish to find out if they are eligible for services can contact the Disability Resource Center at [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc). Students must notify the instructor of a disability before the first quiz, even if the paperwork is still in the process of being completed.

### **University Counseling Services**

Please be aware that the Counseling Center at the University of Florida has a variety of services that may be of use to students during the semester. This includes individual, group and couples counseling, as well as workshops for stress management and time management. For more information, students may visit 301 Peabody Hall or <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu>.

### **Grading**

No grades will be discussed via email. If the student has a problem with or question concerning the grade, please make an appointment to come speak with the instructor or stop by during office hours. Letter grades will be assigned based on the total percent of points according to the following scale:

A = 93% or above	C = 73-75.99%
A- = 90-92.99%	C- = 70-72.99%
B+ = 86-89.99%	D+ = 67-69.99%
B = 83-85.99%	D = 63-66.99%
B- = 80-82.99%	D- = 60-62.99%
C+ = 76-79.99%	E = 59.99% or below

Please note that the University implemented minus grades beginning in Summer 2009. Under the new system, a grade of **C-** will not qualify for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic Distribution credit. Please see the following for more information: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

### **Important University Dates for Spring 2012**

- January 9, 2012: First day of classes
- January 16, 2012: Martin Luther King Jr. Day; No classes
- March 5-9, 2012: Spring Break; No Classes
- April 25, 2012: Last day of classes
- May 5, 2012: Commencement

### **Assignments**

#### Quizzes:

Weekly quizzes will be administered in class each Friday in order to assess the student's comprehension of that week's assigned readings, in-class lectures, and videos.

#### Debates:

There will be three in-class debates in place of the weekly quiz (Ethics, Worldview and Cultural Relativism, and Ethnography). Students will assemble in groups of four and each group will prepare a 2-3 minute position and argue it in class. The instructor will assign groups. Students are urged to remember that there are no right or wrong answers, just well-founded and well-articulated arguments. Debates should be conducted professionally and respectfully. Grades will *not* be administered on a competitive basis (i.e. you do not have to "win" your debate to score well).

Book Question:

Students will be given a prompt and write a 3 page essay on “In Search of Respect.”

Midterm paper:

Students will write a play about fieldwork and Anthropological ethics. The play should focus on a Cultural Anthropologist conducting fieldwork and an ethical dilemma that s/he faces. Make sure to note: 1) where the Anthropologist is going and a little about this country; 2) what the researcher is studying; 3) what ethical dilemma(s) s/he faces; and 4) how the ethical question is resolved. Any dialogue that is in a foreign language must be footnoted in English, but when possible, please use English.

Final paper:

The final paper will be on a course-relevant topic of the student’s choosing.

Final exam:

The final is comprehensive and will cover key themes from the semester.

**Writing Assignment Guidelines**

All papers should be in Times New Roman 12 point font and double-spaced with one inch margins. Students should use the American Anthropological Association citation style: [http://www.aaanet.org/publications/style\\_guide.pdf](http://www.aaanet.org/publications/style_guide.pdf). Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated. Please refer to the University Academic Policy section of the syllabus for further details.

**Assignment Due Dates**

- *Quizzes*: Every Friday, unless otherwise noted in syllabus
- *Debates* in place of weekly quizzes:
  - Wednesday, January 18 and Friday, January 20
  - Wednesday, February 15 and Friday, February 17
  - Wednesday, March 21 and Friday, March 23
- *Midterm paper*: Friday, February 24
- *Book Question* for “In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio,” Friday, March 30
- *Final paper*: Friday, April 20
- *Final exam*: According to the UF exam schedule

**Grading Scheme**

Weekly Quizzes or Debates (12 quizzes @ 10 points per quiz)	120 points
Book Question	50 points
Midterm Paper	100 points
Final Paper	100 points
Final Exam	100 points

**Course Schedule and Reading List**

All reading assignments are required. Students are expected to read the assigned material *prior* to the class designated on the syllabus and to *bring* the reading material to class with them.

Weekly Themes	Dates	Readings	In-class objectives and Assignments
Methods and fieldwork	January 9-13	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CC- Spradley “Ethnography and Culture”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CC- Lee “Eating Christmas in the Kalahari”</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CC- Sterk “Fieldwork on</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Syllabus; Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guest speakers’ presentations of fieldwork</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p>

		Prostitution in the Era of AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "The Origins of Cultural Anthropology"</li> <li>Weekly quiz</li> </ul>
Anthropological ethics	January 16-20	<p><u>Mon:</u> No class, MLK Jr. Day</p> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Online-</b> American Anthropological Association Code of Ethics</li> <li><b>CC-</b> P. Tierney "The Fierce Anthropologist"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Adriana Petryna "Ethical viability, drug development, and globalizing clinical trials"</li> <li><b>SA-</b> Nancy Scheper-Hughes "The last commodity: Post-human ethics and the global traffic in 'fresh' organs"</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u> No Class</p> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class debate</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class debate</li> </ul>
Foundations of Cultural Anthropology	January 23-27	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Mauss "The Gift"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Malinowski "Argonauts of the Western Pacific," selections</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Meillassoux "The articulation of modes of production"</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture "Ethics, fieldwork, and navigating an unclear world"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture "Foundations of Cultural Anthropology"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture "Concepts of Economic Anthropology"</li> <li>Weekly quiz</li> </ul>
Economic Anthropology	January 30-February 3	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CC-</b> Patten "Malawi versus the World Bank"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marx and Engels "The Communist Manifesto"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marx and Engels "The Communist Manifesto"</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "Structuralism, Functionalism, and Marxism"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video: The Shock Doctrine</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video: The Shock Doctrine</li> <li>Weekly quiz</li> </ul>
Political Anthropology	February 6-10	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Lewellen "Political Anthropology"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Online-</b> National Geographic "Myanmar: Land of Shadows"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Geertz "Negara: The theatre state in nineteenth</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video: Invisible Children</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "History of Political Anthropological thought"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "Anthropology and transformative political</li> </ul>

		century Bali”	climates” • Weekly quiz
Religion and Worldview	February 13-17	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SA-</b> Evans-Pritchard “Witchcraft, Oracles and Magic among the Azande,” selections</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> Miner “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema”</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Online-</b> National Geographic “The Birth of Religion”</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture “Religion, Worldview, and Cultural Relativism”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Debate</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class debate</li> </ul>
Anthropology and Kinship	February 20-24	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> Scheper-Hughes “Mother’s Love: Death Without Weeping”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> McCurdy “Family and Kinship in Village India”</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> Wolf “Uterine Families and the Women’s Community”</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video: “Daddy and Papa”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture: “Kinship”</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture: “Kinship”</li> <li>• <b>Midterm paper due</b></li> <li>• No quiz</li> </ul>
Anthropology and Gender	February 27-March 2	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SA-</b> Carolyn Bledsoe “Reproductive relativity: time, space, and Western contraception in rural Gambia.”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> Abu-Lughod, “Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving? Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Relativism and its Others.”</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> Shandy and Moe “The Opt out phenomenon: Women, work and identity in America”</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture: “Cross-cultural approaches to childbearing and livelihood strategies”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture: “ Women’s rights and empowerment in a cross-cultural context”</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture: “Rural Afrikaans male identity”</li> <li>• Weekly quiz</li> </ul>
Spring Break	March 5-9	No class	Have fun and BE SAFE!
Ethnography	March 12-16	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bourgois “In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio,” Introduction and Chapter 1</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bourgois, Chapters 2-3</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture: “What is ethnography?”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of book</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bourgois, Chapters 4-5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion of book</li> <li>Weekly quiz</li> </ul>
Ethnography	March 19-23	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bourgois, Chapters 6-7</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bourgois, Chapter 8 and conclusion</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bourgois, Epilogue</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "Modern ethnographies"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class debate</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class debate</li> </ul>
Globalization	March 26-30	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CC-</b> Bestor "How Sushi Went Global"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CC-</b> Ehrenreich and Hiochschild "Global Women in the New Economy"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Robbins "Global Problems and the Culture of Capitalism"</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture "Globalization and the modern era"</li> <li>Video: Inside Job</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video: Inside Job</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video: Inside Job</li> <li>No quiz</li> <li><b>Book Question due</b></li> </ul>
Transnationalism and Multi-scalar processes	April 2-6	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CC-</b> Condrey "Japanese Hip Hop and the Globalization of Popular Culture"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Aihwa Ong "Global Assemblages"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Ferguson "The anti-politics machine"</li> <li><b>SA-</b> Ong "Zones of Exception"</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture "Negotiating the spaces of Fair Trade in South Africa's Wine Industry"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture "Anthropology in the era of Global Assemblages"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "Late modern capitalism, unintended consequences, and zones of exception"</li> <li>Weekly quiz</li> </ul>
Introduction to Anthropological Theory	April 9-13	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Ortner "Theory in Anthropology since the sixties"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Bourdieu, selections</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SA-</b> Foucault, selections</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "History of Anthropological Thought"</li> </ul> <p><u>Wed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "Bourdieu and Foucault"</li> </ul> <p><u>Fri:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture: "Current trends in Anthropological theory"</li> <li>Weekly quiz</li> </ul>
Applied Anthropology: A new era of "engaged scholarship"	April 16-20	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CC-</b> McCurdy "Using Anthropology"</li> </ul>	<p><u>Mon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video: FLOW: For Love of Water</li> </ul>

		<u>Wed:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> Alverson “Advice for Developers: Peace Corps Problems in Botswana”</li> </ul> <u>Fri:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CC-</b> Omohundro “Career Advice for Anthropology Undergraduates”</li> </ul>	<u>Wed:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video: FLOW: For Love of Water</li> </ul> <u>Fri:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video: FLOW: For Love of Water</li> <li>• Weekly quiz</li> <li>• <b>Final paper due</b></li> </ul>
Review	April 23-25	Week of review	Week of review
Final Exam			