

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION
ANTHROPOLOGY 2070 3(3-0-0), UT, FALL 2009
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Instructor: Dr. Laurie Nock

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11:30 a.m. Drop-ins welcome!

Prerequisite: Anthropology 1010

Calendar description: The comparative study of human society and culture, particularly non-western communities, with special attention to the family, social structures, economic and political institutions, religion and processes of change.

REQUIRED TEXTS: ONE OF

Berdan, Frances F. (2004). *The Aztecs of Central México: an imperial society*. Belmont CA.: Thomson Wadsworth:

Lee, Richard B. (2002). *The Dobe Ju/'Hoansi*. Toronto, ON: Thomson Wadsworth.

O'Meara, Tim (2002). *Samoan planters: Tradition and economic development in Polynesia*. Belmont, CA.: Wadsworth.

Barth, Fredrik (1961). *Nomads of South Persia: The Basseri tribe of the Khamseh Confederacy*. Long Grove, Ill.: Waveland.

Other readings are likely to be assigned during the term.

RECOMMENDED TEXT

An introductory anthropology text. At least one will be on reserve in the library; consult the instructor about your choice.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course has three main purposes:

- 1) to establish an anthropological framework which can be used to facilitate an understanding of the diverse cultures of this world, and to apply this framework to specific cultures;
- 2) to study a variety of topics in cross-cultural perspective; and
- 3) to introduce students to a variety of research methods used by anthropologists.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

Students will often be called upon to report on their learning activities (comments on readings, discussion of assignments and/or reflections of course content in life outside the classroom) and there will also be in-class assignments timed at the instructor's discretion; some of these may require a modest amount of work prior to class. These reports and assignments will be worth 25% percent of the final course grade. Ample opportunity to earn points will be provided, so there will be no make-ups for in-class work.

For in-class assignments and reports ONLY, calculate your mark as a percentage of total marks obtainable. All other assignments are marked on the alpha scale.

Alpha grade	4-point equivalent	Percentage
A+	4.3	80-100
A	4.0	76-79
A-	3.7	73-75
B+	3.3	70-72
B	3.0	67-69
B-	2.7	64-66
C+	2.3	60-63
C	2.0	55-59
C-	1.7	50-54
D+	1.3	45-49
D	1.0	40-44
F	0.0	< 40

Three written assignments are required, each worth 25% of the final course grade (75% in total). These are ethnographies, ethnologies, and reports on research methods. They are marked using the alpha scale. One of each kind of assignment must be submitted. Assignments must be submitted by 2 p.m. Wednesday of the week they are due, except for one late paper, which can be submitted as late as Wednesday of Week 14. For due dates and more detailed descriptions, see below. E-mailed assignments are not accepted. The instructor will store students' assignments until the second week of the following academic term, when they will be discarded.

YOU MAY WISH TO KEEP TRACK OF ASSIGNMENTS AND MARKS HERE.

ASSIGNMENT

MARK

Ethnography (25%)

Ethnology (25%)

Research Methods (25%)

IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND REPORTS (25%)

For this portion of this the course ONLY, calculate your mark as a percentage of total marks obtainable.

DATE										
YOUR SCORE										
OUT OF										

DATE										
YOUR SCORE										
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DATE										
YOUR SCORE										
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ANTHROPOLOGY 2070: ETHNOGRAPHY ASSIGNMENTS

Value: 25%

Due date: Wednesday of Week 6

Summarize the ethnography you have selected, seeking information on the topics below. Include at the beginning of your paper a brief presentation of your ethnographic source material: the ethnographer, when and how materials were collected, and your general evaluation of the text. In this way, you can avoid constant reference to source material. Do include a reference list, however! It is your responsibility to demonstrate that you have at least attempted to supplement information that is not in the ethnography itself. (For this purpose, use proper APA references.) You are also expected to use anthropological terms appropriately. Length: 10-15 pages, double-spaced.

ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION

geographical location, landscape, climate
productive activities, resources available and used, technological base
access to and ownership of resources, e.g. land, animals, tools
division of labor and/or occupational specialization
distribution of production: sharing, trade and/or tribute

POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

decision-making and decision makers
type of government and authority structures
dealing with conflict
social control--law, enforcers, coercion
relations w/ neighbors--war, trade, diplomacy, subordination

SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

demographic features (size of population and population density)
mobility / settlement pattern
type of community; egalitarian or hierarchical society
class relations, ethnic and race relations
non-kin based organizations
kinship structure: descent, kin terms
domestic unit, domestic life
marital patterns and practices; preferences and prohibitions; divorce
gender relations

IDEOLOGY, WORLDVIEW, RELIGION

Science, art forms, crafts
mythology, deities, forms of worship
celebrations, ceremonies and rituals
values and beliefs that shape behavior

ANTHROPOLOGY 2070: ETHNOLOGY ASSIGNMENTS

Value: 25%

Due date: Wednesday of Week 11

This is your opportunity to carry out cross-cultural research on topics and cultures which intrigue you. Concentrate on the topic; this is not just a description, but also an analysis of what can be learned through cross-cultural comparison. Expectations include but are not limited to

- a) library research in print materials and databases, supplemented by the Internet, with proper APA references to at least six sources;
- b) a length of up to 10 pages, double-spaced (2500 words);
- c) consideration of at least three cultures, one of which may be your own.

Sample topics:

war	rites of passage
family	voluntary organizations
child-rearing	mythology
gender	love
medicine / illness	racism / ethnicity
death	kinship
fabric	symbols
nutrition / food etiquette	media
tobacco use	

ANTHROPOLOGY 2070: RESEARCH METHODS

Value: 25%

Due date: Wednesday of Week 13

Following a discussion of the research methods, you will devise and carry out a short research project.

- a) Submit a report of up to 10 pages, double-spaced (2500 words).
- b) In your introduction to this report, demonstrate that your use of the chosen research method is consistent with anthropological methodology by referencing an anthropological source.
- c) Discuss both what you learn about the individual/s and cultural group or practice you are observing, and what light this sheds on our culture and society as a whole.
- d) Finally, evaluate the usefulness of the method to research and to yourself.

PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION

INTERVIEW

ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTS

CONTENT / COLLECTION ANALYSIS

QUESTIONNAIRE / SURVEY

ANTHROPOLOGY 2070, FALL 2009
SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1: Introduction and Ethnography

Start studying ethnographies immediately! **By 6 p.m. Sunday**, post the urls of at least two Internet sites dealing with the culture area of one of the ethnographies. Make sure they include lots of visual material! Write a short paragraph on each one with what you learned from it. Make your submission to the Discussion Board area of Blackboard. On Monday, be prepared to comment on the submissions of other students as well.

Week 2: Ethnography: Economic systems

Be familiar with the economic organization of the people you are studying. By Monday of next week, prepare, discuss and submit notes of what this section of your assignment will include as an in-class assignment. (Use ethnography assignment requirements as your guide.)

Week 3: Ethnography: Political systems.

Be familiar with the political organization of the people you are studying. By Monday of next week, prepare, discuss and submit notes of what this section of your assignment will include as an in-class assignment.

Week 4: Ethnography: Social systems.

Be familiar with the social organization of the people you are studying. By Monday of next week, prepare, discuss and submit notes of what this section of your assignment will include as an in-class assignment.

Week 5: Ethnography: Ideological systems.

Be familiar with the ideological organization of the people you are studying. By Monday of next week, prepare, discuss and submit notes of what this section of your assignment will include as an in-class assignment.

Week 6: Ethnography: The effects of modernization

ETHNOGRAPHY ASSIGNMENT DUE ON WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 6.

Weeks 7-10: Ethnology

Early in the term, we will select cross-cultural topics of interest to the class. Each week, students and the instructor will collaborate in organizing and presenting these topics to the class, assigning readings as appropriate. Student presentations will be worth 20 in-class assignment marks, and commentary will provide an opportunity to improve their final assignment.

ETHNOLOGY ASSIGNMENT DUE ON WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 11.

Weeks 11-13: Research methods

We will deal with a different research method each week. Be familiar with the methods used by the ethnographer you have studied. Student presentations will be worth 20 in-class assignment marks, and commentary will provide an opportunity to improve their final assignment.

RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT DUE ON WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 13.

GUIDE TO REFERENCES

If you use a direct quote (or a diagram, or statistics) from an author, your source must be acknowledged. The quotation must be exact! For example:

“There is a basic contradiction in the structure of girls’ social relationships. Friends are supposed to be equal and everyone is supposed to get along, but in fact they don’t always. Conflict must be resolved, but a girl cannot assert social power or superiority as an individual to resolve it” (Maltz & Borker, 2007, p. 158).

If you paraphrase an author or use ideas which are not your own, your source must still be acknowledged. Include the name of the author, publication date, and (usually) page number. For example:

Anthropologists are increasingly committed to collaborative research: learning with communities rather than about them (Miller and Wood, 2006, pp. 126-128).

In referring to an author whose work is cited in a text you are using, refer to the latter, not to the original source. For example:

This collaborative approach is partly a result of the realization that our research has an effect on people’s lives (Crapanzano, as cited in Miller and Wood, 2006, p. 123), and we’d prefer our influence to be intentional and positive

References to information downloaded from the Internet are similar to those used for print materials. For example,

In seventeenth-century Turkish cafes, coffee was accompanied by smoking tobacco from elaborate *narghile* (Gercek, 1986).

REFERENCES

- Barnes, N., et al. (coproducers), and Weitz, P. and Weitz, C. (Directors) (2002). *About a boy*. Universal Pictures.
- Diamond, J. (2007). Easter's end. In Aaron Podolefsky and Peter J. Brown (Eds.), *Applying anthropology: an introductory reader* (pp. 100-105). Boston, Mass.: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.
- Ember, C.R., Ember, M. & Peregrine, P.N. (2005). *Anthropology*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall.
- Gerkec, G. (1986). Narghiles. *Antikas, the Turkish journal of collectable art*, 11. Retrieved December 22, 2002 from <http://hookahkings.com/articles/article4.htm>
- Maltz, D.N. & Borker, R.A. (2007). A cultural approach to male-female miscommunication. In Aaron Podolefsky & Peter J. Brown (Eds.), *Applying anthropology: an introductory reader* (pp. 154-165). Boston, Mass.: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.
- Miller, Barbara D. and Wood, Bernard (2006). *Anthropology*. Toronto: Pearson Education.
- Moyers, B. (Executive Editor) & Tatge, C. (Producer) (1988). The first storytellers, Program Three of *The power of myth*. New York, NY: Mystic Fire Video, Inc.
- Theroux, P. (2002, December). Hawai'i: Preserving the breath. *National Geographic* 202 (6), 2-41.

These go in alphabetical order according to the (first) author's surname. Anthology articles (and journal articles) are attributed to the author/s of the article, not the editors of the volume. The year of publication is the year of the anthology, not the original year of publication of the article. Underline or italicize (not both) titles of books or journals. Consult an APA style guide (some of which are available on-line), if you have doubts. (This one might work for you.)

<http://www.wooster.edu/psychology/apa-crib.html>

REFERENCES – ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR WEBSITES

Principles:

The reader should be able to quickly locate items in the list of references from information in in-text references. Authors, places of publication etc. are all of interest.

Reader isn't reading at computer, doesn't have computer copy to click on URL.
Authors must receive credit for their work.

In-text references

(Author, year)

(Title, year)

Not a URL.

List of references

Author. (year of publication). **Unitalicized, uncapitalized, unbolded, unquoted** title of article. In *Whatever website title*. Retrieved on the date from the URL – cut and paste.

Unitalicized, uncapitalized, unbolded, unquoted title of article for which you can find no author. (year of publication). **Look hard for the author's name and for the original date of publication.** In *Whatever website title*. Retrieved on the date from the URL – copy and paste.

Not a URL alone.

Wikipedia is not an author; in general, *Wikipedia* articles do not have an author.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citing_Wikipedia

For example:

Plagiarism. (2004, July 22). In *Wikipedia, The free encyclopedia*. Retrieved August 10, 2004, from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plagiarism>

These go in alphabetical order in the list of references according to the surname of the first author or (lacking an author) according to the first letter of the first word after “the” or “an”. **Not arranged by date of publication or place of publication.**

A great site:

Neyhart, D. et al. (2009). APA formatting and style guide: reference list: electronic sources. *The OWL at Purdue*, retrieved March 14, 2009, from

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/10/>