



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION
COURSE OUTLINE - WINTER 2016
AN2070 (A3): INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
– 3 (3-0-0) 45 HOURS

Instructor: Laurie Nock, PhD Phone: 780-539-2830 (office)
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Office hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 11:30-12:45 p.m.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None. Second year standing and an introductory course in anthropology are recommended.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Fedorak, Shirley (2006). *Windows on the world: Case studies in anthropology*. Canada: Thomson Nelson.
O'Neill, Dennis (1997-2014). *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/tutorials/cultural.htm>
Other readings will be assigned during the term.

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.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and Discussion

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- 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;
- to study a variety of topics in cross-cultural perspective; and
- to introduce a variety of research methods used by anthropologists.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will

- be able to correlate particular kinds of economic, political and social structures, and to see the independence of ideological systems as a result of using several ethnographic case studies and comparing them with others studied by their peers.

- working in groups, listen to and question their colleagues on their ethnographic findings.
- learn of cultural universals and cultural diversity and practice cultural relativism by researching topics from warfare to nutrition to hairstyles in different societies. Exposure to the research of other students enhances the experience of ethnology..
- implement one of several qualitative research methods, e.g. interviews, participant observation, content analysis or archival research. Through their own work and hearing of others, they are then equipped with a variety of strategies for conducting research in other settings.
- learn anthropological vocabulary and concepts through the use of an on-line text and subsequent testing.
- critically analyze ethnographic case studies to pick out details relevant to particular topics, identifying gaps and seeking out information from other sources.
- utilize ethnographic film to enhance their understanding of ethnographies.
- practice the pecha-kucha format for presenting cross-cultural research.
- present qualitative research methods orally in a safe environment, enhancing their public speaking skills.
- be able to write research papers using APA reference format.

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU, AF, CU, CUC, KUC

Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

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 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 the ethnography section of the course, students are required to submit brief reports on the case study assigned to them for specific topics: economic, political, social, and ideological. These reports will include a comparison with case studies presented by peers.

An additional two substantial assignments are required, one on a cross-cultural topic (ethnology) and one on research methods.

Assignments must be submitted at the instructor's office by 2 p.m. Friday of the week they are due.

In compliance with the Examination Policy, students must sign in for the Final Examination scheduled by the Registrar's Office. At that time, one of the above three assignments will be submitted for 30% of the course mark. (This assignment may have been submitted and graded previously, when originally due. To improve your grade, you may

correct the assignment as suggested in comments on your work; the original must accompany the corrected version.) Only paper copies of assignments are accepted. Double-space all work. The instructor will store students' assignments until the second week of the following academic term, when they will be recycled.

Assignment	Percentage of course grade	When due
Ethnographies	22.5 or 30%	Fridays, Weeks 2-5
Ethnology	22.5 or 30%	Friday, Week 9
Presentations Weeks 7-9	(In-class assignment)	
Research methods	22.5 or 30%	Friday, Week 12
Presentations Weeks 10-12	(In-class assignment)	
In-class assignments	25%	Throughout the term
(Final examination	30%)	Registrar-scheduled

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Links to all Academic and Administrative policies can be found at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM:

For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

- Week 1: Introduction and Ethnography
- Week 2: Ethnography: Economic systems
 O'Neill, Dennis (2001-2011). Patterns of subsistence: Classification of cultures based on the sources and techniques of acquiring food and other necessities. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/subsistence/default.htm>
 O'Neill, Dennis (2003-2013). Economic systems: An introduction to systems of distribution and exchange. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/economy/default.htm>
 Assigned ethnographic case study.
 Assignments due Friday at 2 p.m.
- Week 3: Ethnography: Political systems.
 O'Neill, Dennis (2004-2008). Political organization: An anthropological view of political systems. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/political/default.htm>

O'Neill, Dennis (2004-2008). Social control: Common methods used by societies to maintain order. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/control/default.htm>

Assigned ethnographic case study..

Assignment due Friday at 2 p.m.

Week 4: Ethnography: Social systems.

O'Neill, Dennis (1997-2013). Kinship: An introduction to descent systems and family organization. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/kinship/default.htm>

O'Neill, Dennis (1997-2009). Sex and marriage: An introduction to the cultural rules regulating sexual access and marriage. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/marriage/default.htm>

Assigned ethnographic chapter.

Assignment due Friday at 2 p.m.

Week 5: Ethnography: Ideological systems.

O'Neill, Dennis (2000-2008). Anthropology of religion: An introduction to folk religion and magic. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/religion/default.htm>

O'Neill, Dennis (2003-2012). Medical anthropology: How illness is traditionally perceived and cured around the world. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/medical/default.htm>

Assigned ethnographic chapter.

Assignment due Friday at 2 p.m.

Week 6: Ethnography: The effects of modernization

O'Neill, Dennis (1997-2008). Culture change: An introduction to the processes and consequences of culture change. *Cultural anthropology tutorials*. Retrieved from <http://anthro.palomar.edu/change/default.htm>

Weeks 7-9: Ethnology

Students and the instructor will collaborate in organizing and presenting these topics to the class, assigning readings as appropriate. Presentations Weeks 7-9. Written version of ethnology assignment due on Friday of Week 9.

Weeks 10-12: Research methods

We will deal with several research methods. Students will develop a research project using one, and present their experience to the class. Presentations Weeks 10-12. Written report on research assignment due on Friday of Week 12.