

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, COMMERCE AND EDUCATION
ANTHROPOLOGY 2270 3 (3-0-0), WINTER 2008
INDIGENOUS AND CULTURAL MINORITIES IN THE MODERN WORLD

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Office Hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m. Drop-ins welcome.

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Calendar description: This course examines the survival of indigenous and minority cultures in various societies. Anthropological perspectives on relationships among race, class, culture and politics, and on genocide, ethnocide and the future of native peoples in the modern state are studied.

Prerequisite: a 3-credit course in a Social Science.

Transfer: UA, UC, UL, AU, CU, CUC, KUC, AUC.

REQUIRED TEXT

David Maybury-Lewis, 2002, Indigenous peoples, ethnic groups, and the state. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Other required readings may be assigned during the term.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Over the last five centuries, many peoples of the world have been reduced to indigenous minorities in their homelands, experiencing colonization, population decimation, compulsory labor, the loss of land and other vital resources, missionization, miscegenation, etc. Those who escaped the initial onslaught now find their territories invaded by urban refugees and threatened by increasingly efficient means of exploiting natural resources and by environmental devastation. Alternatively, they are forced into urban migration. The penetration of a cash economy, wage employment, modern education and national administrative structures have undermined political and economic autonomy, and the bases of aboriginal culture. For some, the response has been assimilation, but many indigenous peoples are exploring strategies to combat the loss of their traditional ways through cultural revitalization, political mobilization and/or escape.

Class lectures will be devoted to studying significant themes regarding the impact of the modern world on indigenous societies, using examples from many areas of the world, pointing out differences and similarities. Students will provide specific ethnographic examples by studying particular areas in depth, and sharing their findings with other students.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

In-class assignments (quizzes, group work, reports on work, etc.) will be timed at the instructor's discretion and will be worth 20% percent of the final course grade. Several of these are "Questions on readings", to be prepared for the class when the reading is assigned. Contributions to the student scrapbook are included among in-class assignments. Ample opportunity to earn points will be provided, so there will be no make-ups for in-class work. As a bonus "in-class" assignment worth ten points, students may meet with me for an in-depth writing tutorial on one of their assignments (or to discuss any topic related to the course) at any point during the term before the last week of classes. For this portion of this course ONLY, calculate your mark as a percentage of total marks obtainable.

Four assignments are required, each worth 20% of the final course grade, They are marked using the alpha scale. Assignments must be handed in to the instructor by 3 p.m. of the Monday following the week they are assigned. One and only one late assignment may be handed in any Monday until Week 14, as long as only one assignment is submitted that week. E-mailed assignments are not accepted.

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

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Each of these assignments should be approximately eight pages (2000 words) in length. Double-space all work. Proper references are required.

Assignment 1 (Due Week 2) 20%
Using an introductory anthropology text, define and provide at least one example each of band, village, chiefdom and pre-industrial state societies, showing your understanding of each. Pay particular attention to political and economic organization.

Assignment 2 (Due Week 4) 20%
Use current media sources to provide evidence of the operation of the world system, modern states and transnational corporations (not necessarily all three at the same time!). Use proper references to at least a dozen sources.

Case Study 1 Any Monday in February 20%

Case Study 2 Any Monday in March 20%

CASE STUDIES

Using one of the case studies placed on reserve in the Library (or another of your choice, with the instructor's approval), describe how modernization has impacted the community. Take into account at least three of the following:

- economic organization
- political organization
- social organization
- ideology / worldview / religion
- physical well-being (environment and/or health)

Making use of anthropology's concept of holism, demonstrate how these areas are connected to each other.

How is the community accommodating to or resisting the effects of modernization?

To avoid excessive referencing, you may introduce your case study at the beginning of your paper.

If more than two of these are submitted, the best two marks will be used in calculating the final course grade.

ANTHROPOLOGY 2270
IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENT: STUDENT SCRAPBOOK

Once every two weeks, you are expected to make a contribution to the Student Scrapbook for AN2270, for a total of six contributions. These may consist of a short article, an image, a website or list of websites, a story, etc., and will be stored on Reserve in the Library for all students to access. Include all relevant publication data. It is most important that you include a written explanation of why you have made this contribution and what it means to you. How does it reflect what you are learning about Indigenous and Cultural Minorities in the Modern World? How can this item help others learn? This will be an indicator of the thought and effort you have put into your selection. Provide a title, your name, and the date. These contributions will be added to the student scrapbook after a brief oral description. Not more than one contribution may be made at a time. Each is worth 5 in-class assignment marks.

GUIDE TO REFERENCES

It's not as difficult as it seems!

If you use a direct quote from an author, your source must be acknowledged. The quotation must be exact!

- Example: "In various, often subtle ways, schools reproduce the status hierarchy, although this process is not always evident to students or even to teachers" (Macionis & Gerber, 2005, p. 503).

If you paraphrase an author or use ideas (or diagrams or statistics) which are not your own, your source must still be acknowledged.

- Example: Although a university degree is likely to result in relatively high income over a person's lifetime, many people cannot afford the costs of a university education (Macionis & Gerber, 2005, pp. 505-508). This is one way in which education perpetuates inequality.

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

- Example: We tend to see educational credentials as "badges of ability" rather than at least partially the result of social privilege (Sennett and Cobb as paraphrased in Macionis & Gerber, 2005, p. 508).

REFERENCES

Macionis, J. J. and Gerber, L. M. (2005). Sociology. Toronto, Ontario: Pearson Education Canada Inc.

Saletan, W. (1996, June). The dark side: What you need to know about Bob Dole. Mother Jones. Retrieved June 15 from the World Wide Web: <http://www.mojones.com/MOTHERJONES/JF96/dole/dole.html>

Smuts, B. (1993). What are friends for? In P. Whitten & D.E.K. Hunter (Eds.), Anthropology: Contemporary perspectives (pp.54-58). New York, NY: HarperCollins.

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 titles of books or journals. Consult an APA formal style guide, if you have doubts.