

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

ANTHROPOLOGY 307  
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

WINTER COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR: Rebecca Murray  
PHONE NO.: OFFICE: 539-2830 HOME: 354-2926  
CLASS HOURS: Wednesday evening, 6:30-9:20, unless notified  
otherwise.  
OFFICE HOURS: TBA  
REQUIRED TEXTS:

Freeman, James 1986	<u>Scarcity and Opportunity in an Indian Village</u> Illinois: Waveland Press
Harris, Marvin 1987	<u>Cultural Anthropology</u> (2nd edition) N.Y.: Harper and Row
Mitchell, W.E. 1986	<u>The Bamboo Fire: Fieldwork with the New Guinea Wape</u> (2nd edition) Illinois: Waveland Press
Wagley, Charles 1983	<u>Welcome of Tears: The Tapirape Indians of Brazil</u> Illinois: Waveland Press

Additional readings or handouts to be assigned  
in class.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

Written Assignment	20%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Written Assignment	20%
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>
	100%

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The main text, Harris' Cultural Anthropology, provides a general sequence of topics for organizing the course. Three predominant themes are:

- (1) The relationship between anthropological theory and the practice of ethnography and applied anthropology;
- (2) research methods in cultural anthropology and ethnology
- (3) the current theoretical perspectives in cultural anthropology - cultural materialism and symbolic anthropology

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

As an expansion of one of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, namely Social and Cultural Anthropology, this course attempts to broaden students' understanding and appreciation of human cultural diversity. It is hoped that this course will stimulate students to:

- (1) understand how culture shapes the way humans feel, behave, and perceive the world
- (2) expand on their repertoire of terms, methods, and theories used in anthropology
- (3) acquire a more objective understanding of their own culture, society, and lives
- (4) appreciate the cultural diversity and range of cultural values that exist
- (5) discover practical applications of anthropology
- (6) read and analyze with a critical perspective
- (7) explore interests further through individual study

The readings provide a general background for an understanding of the lectures. Lectures will not duplicate readings, but will expand upon reading assignments. Students should do readings prior to class to enable them to contribute and gain more from in-class discussion.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WEEK</u>	<u>ASSIGNED READING</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Jan 3	1	Harris, Chapter 1, start Mitchell	Definition of the field
Jan 10	2	Harris, Chapters 2, Appendix Mitchell	Scope and background
Jan 17	3	Harris, Chapters 4, 5 Mitchell	Production and Reproduction
Jan 24	4	Harris, Chapter 6, finish Mitchell	Economic Organization
Jan 31	5	Harris, Chapter 7, start Freeman	Social Organization
Feb 7	6	Harris, Chapter 8, Freeman	Kinship
Feb 14	7	Harris, Chapters 9, 10, 11 finish Freeman, <u>first assignment due</u>	Political Organization
Feb 21	8	Mid-Term Examination Chapters 1, 2, 4-11	
Feb 28	9	R E A D I N G   W E E K - NO CLASSES	
Mar 7	10	Harris, Chapters 3, 12, Wagley	Symbolic systems Language and religion
Mar 14	11	Harris, Chapter 12, 13, Wagley	Religion and art
Mar 21	12	Harris, Chapter 14, Wagley	Psychological Anthropology
Mar 28	13	Harris, Chapter 15, <u>second assignment due</u>	Applied Anthropology
Apr 4	14	Harris, Chapter 16	Applied Anthropology
Apr 11	15	Review	
Apr 16-24	16	F I N A L   E X A M   W E E K	

GRADING SYSTEM:

9	90-100%	Excellent
8	80- 89%	Very Good
7	72- 79%	Good
6	65- 71%	Fairly Good
5	58- 64%	Fair
4	50- 57%	Pass
3	49% and lower	Sorry

Exams will emphasize material from both class and readings. Consequently, any student who wishes to learn and do well in this course should make every effort to attend all classes and complete all readings. When marks are borderline, attendance and class participation will be taken into consideration.