



ANTH 121 - Introduction to Cultural Anthropology Course Outline

Approval Date: 05/03/2013

Effective Date: 08/11/2013

SECTION A

Unique ID Number CCC000326575

Discipline(s) Anthropology

Division Arts and Humanities

Subject Area Anthropology

Subject Code ANTH

Course Number 121

Course Title Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

TOP Code/SAM Code 2202.00 - Anthropology / -

Rationale for adding this course to the curriculum Textbook updates.

Units 3

Cross List N/A

Typical Course Weeks

Total Instructional Hours

Contact Hours

Lecture 54.00

Lab 0.00

Activity 0.00

Work Experience 0.00

Outside of Class Hours 108.00

Total Contact Hours 54

Total Student Hours 162

Open Entry/Open Exit No

Maximum Enrollment 50

Grading Option Letter Grade or P/NP

Distance Education Mode of Instruction On-Campus
Hybrid
Entirely Online

SECTION B

General Education Information:

SECTION C

Course Description

Repeatability May be repeated 0 times

Catalog Description This introductory course positions culture as a key concept for understanding diverse ways of life both internationally and in American communities. Primary

anthropological methods and concepts of kinship, gender, ethnicity, race and class will be explored as formative elements of society and culture. Through analyzing the intersections between global processes and identity-making, this class will explore what it means to be "American," as well as to be human, in the contemporary world.

**Schedule
Description**

SECTION D

Condition on Enrollment

1a. Prerequisite(s): *None*

1b. Corequisite(s): *None*

1c. Recommended

- ENGL 90 with a minimum grade of C or better

1d. Limitation on Enrollment: *None*

SECTION E

Course Outline Information

1. Student Learning Outcomes:

- Recognize the varied contributions of diverse cultural groups and the interplay of global and local processes in shaping the everyday lives of people around the world
- Actively resist the tendency to formulate opinions and judgments based on emotional or "gut" reactions in favor of evidence-based approaches to exploring a problem or issue
- Understand the relevance of theories and methods in anthropology that are applicable in many academic fields and "real-world" employment

2. Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Distinguish between ethnocentrism and cultural relativity as responses to cultural diversity using examples from contemporary ethnic groups
- Compare and contrast the major theories and historical roots of cultural anthropology
- Perform the basic qualitative methods of ethnographic fieldwork (interviewing, participant observation, fieldnotes, etc.) and formulate logical conclusions based on data collection
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3. Course Content

- The Scope of Anthropology (for example: historic roots; geographic reach; fieldwork; subfields of anthropology; applied anthropology; theories and methodology)
- The Concept of Culture (for example: mechanisms of culture change; uses of culture; universality and particularity; elements of culture; types of cultures)
- Theories and Evidence in Anthropology (for example: characteristics of scientific theory; anthropology as a social science; ethnography; the comparative method; basic vs. applied research; anthropology in public debate)
- Communication and Language (for example: language origins; structural linguistics; historical linguistics; sociolinguistics; intercultural communication; kinesics; gendered speech patterns)
- Subsistence Technology (for example: foraging; horticulture; pastoralism; spread and intensification of food production)
- Economic Systems (for example: systems of exchange and reciprocity; redistribution; stratification; informal economies; division of labor; comparative economic roles of men and women)

- G. Sex, Gender, and Culture (for example: sexual orientation; diversity of human sexuality; gender patterns; sexual dimorphism)
- H. Marriage and Family (for example: diversity of marriage types; residence patterns; dowry and bridewealth; polygyny and polyandry)
- I. Kinship and Descent (for example: kinship structures; kin terms; lineages, clans, chiefdoms; patrilocality; matrilocality)
- J. Ethnicity, Identity and Race (for example: ethnicity and social status; prejudice and discrimination; multiculturalism; the biological and cultural dimensions of race, ethnicity, and identity; race and language)
- K. Religion and Magic (for example: diversity of belief systems; variation of rituals; spirit possession; healing magic; rites of passage; animism; religion and community)
- L. Bodies, the Arts, and Health (for example: concepts of embodiment and adornment; culture and disability; cultural interpretations of aging and death; medical anthropology)
- M. Culture Change (for example: diffusion, borrowing, colonialism, enculturation and acculturation; assimilation)
- N. Applied Anthropology and Social Problems (for example: development anthropology; non-governmental organizations; studies in poverty and inequality; the role of anthropologists on a global scale)
- O. Globalization and Identity (for example: multilocality and the media (Local, Global, "Glocal", etc.); development studies; cyberspace; mobility and speed; rural and urban studies; civil society and rights-based movements; indigenous peoples; migration, immigration, and transnationalism)

P.

4. Methods of Instruction:

Activity:

Critique:

Discussion:

Distance Education:

Field Experience:

Field Trips:

Lecture:

Mediated Learning:

Observation and Demonstration:

Projects:

Service Learning:

Visiting Lecturers:

Other: Other appropriate methods as determined by the instructor of record.

5. Methods of Evaluation: Describe the general types of evaluations for this course and provide at least two, specific examples.

Typical classroom assessment techniques

Exams/Tests --

Quizzes --

Research Projects --

Portfolios --

Papers --

Oral Presentation --

Projects --

Field Trips --

Simulation --
Class Work --
Home Work --
Final Exam --
Mid Term --

Additional assessment information:

Additional appropriate methods of assessment as determined by the instructor of record.

Examples:

1. Using data from the article "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema," choose one familiar aspect of your daily life and make it strange, writing in the style of Miner's article. What are the symbols and practices associated with your activity? By analyzing this aspect in an "unfamiliar" way, do you learn anything about American culture in general?

2. Choose an individual from an ethnic group different from your own and interview them in a series of short interviews throughout the semester. Record all areas of your interviewee's life including processes of enculturation and acculturation, rites of passage, identity formation, and religious beliefs. Summarize the interview in a written paper, including your fieldnotes and journal entries. You must include information about confidentiality, consent, and anonymity in your submission, as discussed in class.

Letter Grade or P/NP

6. Assignments: State the general types of assignments for this course under the following categories and provide at least two specific examples for each section.

A. Reading Assignments

General reading assignments and response questions, for example:

1. Read and summarize Chapter 4 of text.
2. Read article #2 from the course reader.

B. Writing Assignments

For example:

1. Read the article on aging in China in your reader and answer the following question: "How do you feel about the status of the elderly in America today?" Do your views coincide or conflict with the author's perspective?

2. After viewing the film "Globalization and Women," write a short essay on the advantages and disadvantages of globalization as depicted in the film. Include your personal viewpoint on globalization today.

C. Other Assignments

Other Assignments may include projects, portfolios, field experiences, etc. as determined by the instructor of record.

7. Required Materials

A. EXAMPLES of typical college-level textbooks (for degree-applicable courses) or other print materials.

Book #1:

Author: Kottak, C.

Title: Mirror for Humanity: A Concise Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Date of Publication: 2011

Edition: 8

Book #2:

Author: Kottak, Conrad

Title: Cultural Anthropology: Appreciating Cultural Diversity

Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Date of Publication: 2011

Edition: 14

Book #3:

Author: Podolefsky, A., P. Brown, S. Lacy

Title: Applying Cultural Anthropology: An Introductory Reader

Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Date of Publication: 2013

Edition: 9

B. Other required materials/supplies.