

# **ANT 122: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**

Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:50

Professor Will Hare

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## **Introduction:**

This course examines human life ways. Examples will be drawn cross-culturally to illustrate universal aspects of cultural life such as marriage and family, art and religion, ecology and economy, power and politics. Explanations for the existence of various kinds of human societies such as bands, tribes, and modern states will be addressed with a humanistic concern on how people view and experience life within them. Contemporary problems of cultural contact and change will be discussed with the objective of discovering ways and means of promoting intercultural understanding.

## **Conduct:**

Some simple rules to live by (if you want a good grade):

1. Arrive on time and stay for the entire class.
2. No late assignments (see below).
3. Be respectful of your classmates and the professor.
4. Use the writing center.
5. Participate in class.
6. Read and abide the college's academic honesty policy.
7. Do not wait until the last minute to read the assignments.
8. Study!
9. Ask for help!

## **Academic Dishonesty:**

Any form of cheating, including plagiarism, will result in the immediate failure of the assignment and an official report to academic officials. Any additional acts of dishonesty will probably lead to failure of the course. Please see me if you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism.

## **College Withdrawal Policy:**

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course **MUST** complete a withdrawal form obtained from the Registrar's Office. Students may withdraw from class anytime during the first ten weeks of the semester without being in good standing or obtaining permission of the instructor. After that period, a student wishing to withdraw must obtain written authorization of the instructor to receive a "W" grade for the course. Students who fail to properly withdraw, and discontinue coming to class, will be assigned an "F" grade. Eligibility for refund of tuition is based upon date of withdrawal through the registrar's office. Verbal withdrawals will not be accepted.

### **Learning Disabilities:**

If you have a disability that may require classroom or test-taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible.

### **Late Assignments:**

The simple thing is to just get your work in on the day it is due. However, for those who are unable to do this read on...

Assignments are due by the end of class on the day they are assigned. Anyone wishing to hand in a late assignment must bring it to my office and place it in "The Box." These assignments will be returned at the convenience of the professor, and will be graded on a pass/fail basis (a "pass" in this case will be graded as a "D" even if it is "A" level work). No box assignments will be accepted after the last day of classes.

Make-up exams will only be given at the discretion of the professor and will consist of two comprehensive essays worth 50 points each. These essays will be written "in house."

### **Required Texts:**

We, The Alien: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology by Paul Bohannan.  
First Fieldwork: The Misadventures of an Anthropologist by Barbara Anderson.  
Monique and the Mango Rains, by Kris Holloway.

### **Assignments: You should complete the reading assignment by the beginning of each week.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Papers and Exams</u>
Week 1 (1/22):	Text: 1	
Week 2 (1/29):	Text: 2	
Week 3 (2/5):	Text: 3	<b>Response Paper Due (Anderson Book)</b>
Week 4 (2/12):	Text: 4	
	<b>2/19 No Class</b>	
Week 5 (2/26):	Text: 5	<b>Exam: Chapters 1-5</b>
Week 6 (3/5):	Text: 6	
Week 7 (3/12):	Text: 7	
<i>Spring Break</i>		
Week 8 (3/26):	Text: 8	<b>Participant Observation Exercise Due</b>
Week 9 (4/2):	Text: 9	
Week 10 (4/9):	Text: 10	<b>Exam: Chapters 6-9</b>
Week 11 (4/16):	Text: 11	
Week 12 (4/23):	Text: 12	
Week 13 (4/30):	Text: 13	<b>Response Paper Due (Holloway Book)</b>
Week 14 (5/7):	Text: 14	
Week 15 (5/14):	Text: 15	<b>Final Essay Due on 5/14</b>

Your final grade will be determined as follow:

Exam= 60%

Papers= 30%

Pat/Obs= 10%

## **Exams**

The content will be a mix of term identification, short answer, and essay. A study guide will be provided one week prior to the examination. The last exam will include a take home essay that will challenge you to think conceptually about the entire semester's work.

## **Critical Response Papers**

Your response papers will be 3-4 pages long and will follow the guidelines attached to this syllabus.

## **Participant-Observation Exercise**

Choose one of the many "gathering places" in our society where people regularly visit and interact (this may include a laundry mat, coffee shop, grocery store, a bar, hair salon, etc). It should be a place where interaction can occur with more than one person, so, for example, a restaurant is not the best site because interactions tend to be private.

You are required to sit and observe the human interaction for one hour, taking notes on the physical features and the social interactions. In some cases you may want to participate in the activities (this is not to be interpreted as permission to engage in alcoholic consumption). How is culture created in these settings? What behaviors and/or values are reinforced?

After you have completed your observations, prepare a 2-3 page summary and analysis of your experience. Your field notes must be attached to your paper.