

ANTHROPOLOGY 1100
WORLD CULTURES
SPRING 2016

Class: T/TH 9:30 – 10:50 AM, LIFE A117

Instructor: Adam Dunstan
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Office: 330G Chilton Hall (Anthropology Department)
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11-12:15 PM, Thursdays 2-3:15 PM, or by appt.

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Course Description

University students in 2016 face the challenge and opportunity of living in a globalized and cross-cultural world. This course is designed to provide students with knowledge of both the historical and contemporary cultural landscape of this globalized world through the lens of cultural anthropology. Using concepts from cultural anthropology, this course will introduce students to the diverse ways in which humans have survived, organized themselves, and made meaning of the world through in-depth exploration of several case study societies. We will examine these societies as typifying three different “cultural worlds” or ways of organizing social relations: tribal, imperial/state, and commercial. In the process of this examination, we will focus on the crucial role of the physical environment, ideologies, and arrangements of social power in affecting human daily life and large-scale cultural change from the start of human existence to the present. This leads to the conclusion of the course, which considers the issue of sustainability and other pressing issues facing contemporary society.

Learning Objectives

- Students will gain familiarity with several world cultures, past and present.
- Students will understand the basic concepts, methods, and ethical principles of cultural anthropology.
- Students will synthesize processes of culture change and understand the interactions of ideology, environment, and social power in determining the forms cultures take.
- Students will demonstrate awareness of the impacts of globalization and capitalism on the cultural and environmental landscape.

Training/Skills Objectives

Recognizing the importance of marketable skills to an undergraduate education, this course will additionally provide opportunity to improve knowledge and proficiency of the following skills:

- Foundational ethnographic research methods
- Scholarly research and citation for short papers
- Holistic analysis of social and cultural issues
- Cultural diversity awareness
- Students will collaborate with peers at colleges across the United States in an ethics exercise organized by the Center for a Public Anthropology, thereby increasing their written communication and argumentation.

Required Text

- ANTH 1100 Course Pack – available **only** at the UNT Bookstore

Lab Fee

- \$10.00 payable online, required for participation in Community Action Website ethics project.

Grading Scale: 90-100 A / 80-89 B / 70-79 C / 60-69 D/ 59 and Below F

Grade Components

Online Quizzes (10 pts. Each).....	100 Points
Cultural Analysis Paper.....	150 Points
Midterm Exam.....	300 Points
Website Project.....	150 Points
Final Exam.....	300 Points
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Total.....	1000 Points

Course Assignments

1. **Online Quizzes:** There will be quizzes on the reading throughout the semester. Quizzes will be available through Blackboard (learn.unt.edu) for a week and you may retake until you receive a passing grade. These quizzes are designed to ensure you have kept up with the readings and gleaned the basic information from the textbook so that class time can be devoted to discussion and higher, synthetic learning.
2. **Cultural Analysis Paper:** Students will write a short paper, using scholarly research, on a current issue relevant to the topic of this course, World Cultures. Additional instructions and a rubric will be provided in class. This will be due on Thursday, April 21st.
3. **Midterm Exam:** On Thursday, March 10th, students will take an in-class midterm examination including a variety of question types.
4. **Website Project:** This project involves collaboration and writing on a topic of anthropological ethics using the platform of www.publicanthropology.net. This is a multi-stage process, from March 7th to March 23rd, so you need to pay careful attention to the due dates announced in class and on Blackboard.
5. **Final Exam:** On Thursday, May 12th, from 8:00-10:00 AM, in our usual classroom there will be a final exam. The exam will be cumulative, although heavily focused on the latter half of the course. It will be a mixture of question types.

Calendar of Due Dates

03/10/2016: Midterm Exam

04/21/2016: Cultural Analysis Paper

05/12/2016: Final Exam (8:00-10:00 AM)

Quizzes: As announced in class/Blackboard.

Website Project: As announced in class/Blackboard.

Instructor's Approach: I hope to make this course educational, thought-enhancing, useful, and enjoyable; I would also be very pleased if every student received a good grade. However, this is a two-way street: if you want to succeed in this course, you should come to class, do the readings ahead of time, complete assignments, and contact me as soon as possible if issues arise or you are not understanding something.

Course Policies

Late Work: Unexcused submissions of late work (i.e. of the cultural analysis paper) will incur a 20% loss of points per calendar day. Most assignments (such as the exams, quizzes, and website project) cannot be done late.

Discussion Participation: Students are expected to complete required readings and to be prepared to discuss these in class. Discussion will play a critical role in this class and will be a benefit both to you and your colleagues.

Withdrawal: If you are unable to complete this course, you must officially withdraw by the University-designated date (for a “W” with instructor approval). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure that YOU must initiate. I cannot do it for you. If you simply stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an “F.”

Attendance: There is no attendance requirement; however, without attendance you will likely learn much less and do poorly on assignments and exams. Miss class at your own risk.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit planned at this time; however, I will notify you if this changes.

Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.deanofstudents.unt.edu.

In this classroom, “**acceptable student behavior**” includes (but is not limited to):

1. Being respectful of others’ thoughts, opinions, and perspectives.
2. Arriving to class on time.
3. No usage of cell phones, internet browsing, or social media unless directed by the instructor.
4. Refraining from engaging in side-conversations.
5. Giving every student a chance to participate by not dominating discussions.

Contacting the Professor: Please feel free to come by office hours for assistance. Otherwise, email is the best way to get in touch with me outside of class: adam.dunstan@unt.edu. In the email, **you must indicate your course and full name to facilitate my response. You must also use your official UNT email, not a private email.** Understand that I have hundreds of students and may not respond immediately. However, if I have not responded within a week, feel free to email me to make sure I have received your email.

Do Not Miss Due Dates or Exams: If you have a conflict with any due date or exam date, it is your responsibility to make alternative arrangements ahead of time – NOT the week of the due date. Students may not take exams late unless there is written permission from the instructor beforehand. Allowing alternative arrangements is up to the discretion of the instructor.

Academic Misconduct: The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. Students suspected of any of these will be provided the opportunity for a hearing; a guilty finding will merit an automatic “F” in the course. In addition, I reserve the right to pursue further disciplinary action within the UNT legal system, which may result in dismissal from the university. Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. Any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of any information that is not common knowledge, should be cited. For more information on paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism, and how to use citations, see <http://www.unt.edu/anthropology/writing.htm>. For information on the University’s policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/>.

ADA: The Anthropology Department does not discriminate based on an individual’s disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Our program provides academic adjustments or help to individuals with disabilities, and attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements. Please see me if you have a documented disability so that appropriate arrangements can be made to help you get the most out of this class. In such cases, please make sure to obtain documentation through the Office of Disability Accommodation.

Reading and Topics Schedule

- 01/19:** Orientation to the Course; the Culture Concept
Reading: No assigned reading
- 01/21:** Methods and Approaches of Cultural Anthropology
Reading: Reader, pp. 1-18
- 01/26:** Social Power in Cultural Worlds
Reading: Reader, pp. 19-31
- 01/28:** Australian Aborigines, Part 1; Environmental Adaptation and Material Culture
Reading: Reader, pp. 33-44
- 02/02:** Australian Aborigines, Part 2; Cosmology and Sacred Teachings
Reading: No assigned reading
- 02/04:** Australian Aborigines, Part 3; Bands, Clans, and Tribes
Reading: Reader, pp. 44-55
- 02/09:** Australian Aborigines, Part 4; Kinship/Social Organization
Reading: Reader, pp. 55-64
- 02/11:** Native Amazonians, Part 1; Cultures of the Rainforest
Reading: Reader, pp. 65-78
- 02/16:** Native Amazonians, Part 2; Gender and Shamanic Symbolism
Reading: Reader, pp. 78-89
- 02/18:** Native Amazonians, Part 3; Feuds and Raiding
Reading: Reader, pp. 89-98
- 02/23:** Native Amazonians, Part 4; Conclusions; Website Project
Reading: No assigned reading
- 02/25:** Anthropological Research Ethics: Yanomamo Case Study
Reading: No assigned reading
- 03/01:** East African Pastoralism, Part 1; The Cattle Complex
Reading: Reader, pp. 99-110
- 03/03:** East African Pastoralism, Part 2; Marriage, Wealth, and Descent
Reading: Reader, pp. 110-118
- 03/08:** East African Pastoralism, Part 3; Ritual, Social Control, and Age-classes
“Tribal World” Conclusion
Reading: Pp. 118-132
- 03/10: MIDTERM**

03/14 & 03/16: No Class (Spring Break)

03/22: Pacific Islanders, Part 1; Pacific Settlement

Reading: Reader, pp. 133-147

03/24: Pacific Islanders, Part 2; Chiefdoms and Hierarchy

Reading: Reader, pp. 147-160

03/29: Pacific Islanders, Part 3; Consolidation of Power in Hawai'i

Reading: Reader, pp. 160-171

03/31: Ancient Empires and the Origins of States

Reading: Reader, pp. 173-182

04/05: Mesopotamia; Hierarchy and Empire

Reading: Reader, pp. 182-199

04/07: The Inca; Andean Imperialism

Reading: Reader, pp. 199-215

04/12: South Asia, Part 1; Hinduism and Islam

Reading: Reader, pp. 217-231

04/14: South Asia, Part 2; Hindu Cosmology and the Social Order

Reading: Reader, pp. 232-244

04/19: South Asia, Part 3; The Status of Women

Reading: Reader, pp. 244-252

04/21: Collapse? Why States Dissolve

Reading: Reader, pp. 253-273

04/26: Introduction to Global Capitalism

Reading: Reader, pp. 275-285

04/28: British Colonialism and the Industrial Revolution

Reading: Reader, pp. 287-99

05/03: Industrialized Agriculture in the United States

Reading: Reader, pp. 301-313

05/05: Conclusions and Review

Reading: No assigned reading

05/12: FINAL EXAMINATION (8:00-10:00 AM, LIFE A117)

PLEASE NOTE: The schedule is subject to change at instructor discretion. Please regularly check email and Blackboard, and attend class, to be apprised of any changes.