ANTHROPOLOGY 1100 - WORLD CULTURES  
FALL 2014, MW, 2:00-3:20, GAB 104

Instructor: Beverly Ann Davenport, PhD, MSPH  
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OR BY APPOINTMENT (call or email to schedule)

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Office hrs: To be announced

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course uses the concepts of cultural anthropology to introduce you to the ways that humans have solved the pressing questions of existence – acquiring food and shelter, creating rules for living in groups, finding answers for “what it all means.” We will examine three different cultural worlds: tribal, imperial, and commercial, looking carefully at how humans have interacted with varying environments and created and adapted their cultures accordingly. We pay attention to the crucial role that social power has in affecting cultural change from the very beginning of human existence up to the present. The end of the course addresses questions of sustainability in our increasing interdependent world.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
1. You will learn the basic vocabulary, research methods, and ethical principles of sociocultural anthropology.
2. You will be able to describe the processes of cultural “evolution” through the study of specific present-day and historical cultures at the tribal, imperial, and commercial scales.
3. You will be able to provide examples of solutions that humans have developed in order to live in their different, and changing cultural worlds.
4. You will demonstrate awareness of the impact that commercial scale culture has had on cultures around the globe.
5. You will learn to collaborate with other students at colleges across the United States in an ethics exercise organized by Center for a Public Anthropology and found at the Community Action Website (https://www.publicanthropology.net/).
6. You will develop practical skills for college survival including:
   a. How to use the UNT Library catalog to research news articles
   b. How to compose short papers with scholarly citation format.
   c. How to learn from constructive feedback on both papers and exams.

REQUIRED TEXT
ANTH 1100 COURSE PACK Fall 2014 - available at UNT Student Store

LAB FEE
$10.00 payable on line, required for participation in Community Action Website ethics project.
WHAT IS “NEXTGEN” ABOUT THIS CLASS?
THE CENTRAL ROLE OF BLACKBOARD LEARN

Oftentimes, college lectures are devoted to delivery of “information,” without adequate time for critical inquiry about its application. I seek to provide much more time IN CLASS for questions and class discussions, as it is through these activities that you begin to APPLY what you are learning and thereby understand it better. In order to create that in-class time, we have developed an online system for taking quizzes pertinent to what you are studying. Each quiz will be available for approximately 2 weeks, and you may take each one more than once until you receive a passing grade. These quizzes will drill you in the “information” aspect of the course. Taking these quizzes on your own should encourage you to keep up with the work. That way you will come to class ready to think more broadly about what you have studied. The quizzes, and the instructions for taking them, will be found on our course Blackboard Learn (BB Learn) page (https://learn.unt.edu/)

In addition, you are expected to use BB Learn to find important information related to the class. These items are available to you:

- Course syllabus
- Occasional “mini-lectures” (5” or less) on topics where you need extra help
- Detailed instructions for both papers, including samples of excellent papers
- Detailed instructions for the Community Action Website
- Self-paced Quizzes!! (see above)
- PowerPoint slides AFTER the day’s lectures (these are not a substitute for YOUR OWN notes)
- Announcements as necessary throughout the term
- Extra Credit opportunities
- Grades when they become available

Thus, it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that you set the features on Blackboard so that you can be alerted when an announcement is posted or when I send an email related to the class. The more alert you are to all the communication channels available to you (Lecture, Blackboard, Buddy System, and Office Hours), the likelier you are to do well in this class.

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS SEEKING ADA ACCOMMODATION

Please give me your official “Request for Accommodation” letter during the first week of class. Please plan to come to see me during my office hours (or make an appointment) as early in the semester as possible so that we can make sure that all reasonable steps are being taken to maximize your learning opportunities in the class.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS:

1. **Show up!** – Come to class!
2. **Find support!** – Ask us!
3. **Take control!** – Start tasks early, note due dates in your calendar (buy a calendar and use it!), and participate in a workshop or two at the Learning Center in Sage Hall. [http://learningcenter.unt.edu/learning101](http://learningcenter.unt.edu/learning101)
Please know that we all understand that students come from a variety of backgrounds and ALL have strengths AND weaknesses. If you have any questions or feel unsure about any class material, come see me or a TA after class or during office hours. Don’t wait, don’t be shy! We will work together to find a solution. It is better to come in sooner than later – don’t wait until the end of the semester. This is another scholarly skill I am trying to encourage in you and me – **start early, do some coursework most days, ask questions when you don’t understand** – these deceptively simple steps will help you to avoid the deadly effects of procrastination.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**
- Except at the very beginning of the semester, I will not take attendance, **but I do pay attention to the presence and/or absence of familiar faces.**
- **Not attending class will make getting a good grade difficult.** The course is organized around the required text, but lectures will not simply follow the text.
- There will be a variety of learning activities during class time. These activities are designed to help you become a more active learner.
- I will show several movies. Content of those movies will be covered in exam questions. **Therefore, students should attend class regularly.**

**CLASSROOM COMMUNITY**
- I encourage you to ask questions during class, or email me questions (if that makes you more comfortable) which I will address at the next scheduled class time.

  - There is no such thing as a stupid question. **The only thing that is stupid is NOT TO ASK a question when you have one.**

  - **AS A COURTESY TO YOUR CLASSMATES AND ME, PLEASE PUT AWAY YOUR LAPTOPS, TABLETS, AND CELL PHONES DURING CLASS UNLESS YOU ARE USING YOUR LAPTOP OR TABLET TO TAKE NOTES. I WILL SPOT-CHECK.**

**STUDENT EVALUATION**
- Online quizzes (10 pts. each) 10% 100
- Midterm Exam 20% 200
- Final Examination 20% 200
- Community Action Website Project 20% 200
- Two Papers (each worth 15%) 30% 300

**TOTAL POSSIBLE PTS:** 100% 1000 points

Grades will be standard: 90% or higher = A, 80-89% = B, etc.

**EXTRA CREDIT POLICIES**
You can get a MAXIMUM of 50 (fifty) extra credit points over the semester. Opportunities will be announced in class and periodically posted in BB Learn.
COURSE SCHEDULE, READING ASSIGNMENTS and CRUCIAL DUE DATES

Monday, August 25
Topics: Orientation to World Cultures, a “NextGen” class; What is culture?
No assigned reading

Wednesday, August 27
Topic: Key concepts and research methods in socio-cultural anthropology
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 1-18

Monday, September 1 – LABOR DAY - No Class

Wednesday, September 3
Topic: Understanding Socio-cultural systems: Culture Scale, Growth, and Process
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 19-31

Monday, September 8
Topics: Australian Aborigines: Material Environment and Spiritual Life
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 32-44 (end of the section)

Wednesday, September 10
Topics: Making a Living with Foraging Technology; Bands, Clans, and Tribes
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 44 (begin new section) – 55 (end of the section)

Monday, September 15
Topics: Kinship and Social Organization in Australian Aboriginal Culture
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 55 (begin new section) – 64

Wednesday, September 17
Topic: Wrap-up – Australian Aborigines
Assigned Reading: Review Reader, pp. 32-64

MONDAY, September 22 – Community Action Website Project Action Period BEGINS

Monday, September 22
Topics: Native Amazonians: Making Culture in the Rain Forest
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 65-78 (end of the section)

Wednesday, September 24
Topics: Social Organization among Amazonian Peoples; Amazonian Cosmology
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 78 (new section) - 89 (end of section)

Monday, September 29
Topic: Raiding and Feuding; Intro to Anthropological Research Ethics
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 89 (new section) - 98
Wednesday, October 1  
Topic: Wrap-up Amazonia  
Assigned Reading: Review Reader, pp. 65-98

Monday, October 6  
Topic: Pastoralism in East Africa – The Cattle Complex  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 99-110 (end of section)

WEDNESDAY, October 8 – Community Action Website Project Action Period ENDS

Wednesday, October 8  
Topic: Marriage and Gender Relations among East African Pastoralists  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 110-118 (end of section)

Monday, October 13  
Topics: Power, Wealth, and Age Classes in East African Pastoral Cultures; Conflict Management  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 118 (new section) -132

Wednesday, October 15  
Topic: Wrap-up – The Tribal World; Review for Midterm  
Assigned Reading: Review Reader, pp. 1-132

Monday, October 20 – MIDTERM

Wednesday, October 22  
Topic: Pacific Islanders: Necessary Skills for Living in Oceania  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 133-147 (end of section)

Monday, October 27  
Topics: Inequality and Ranking Systems; How Inequality Becomes Structural  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 147 (new section) – 156 (end of section)

Wednesday, October 29 - PAPER #1 DUE  
Topic: From Tikopia to Hawaii: Moving from Chiefs to Kings; What about the Commoners?  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 156 (new section) - 171

Monday, November 3  
Topics: Ancient Empires: The Emergence of “Civilization”  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 173-182 (end of section)

Wednesday, November 5  
Topic: Mesopotamia  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 182-199 (end of section)

Monday, November 10  
Topic: The Inca Empire  
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 199 (new section) - 215
Wednesday, November 12
Topics: South Asian Great Traditions
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 217-231

Monday, November 17
Topic: Hindu Ideology, Society, and Culture
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 232-244

Wednesday, November 19 – PAPER #2 DUE
Topic: Why States Break Down
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 253-273

Monday, November 24
Topics: Introduction to the Commercial World; The British Industrial Revolution
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 275-299

Wednesday, November 26
Women in South Asia – MOVIE: Saheri’s Choice
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 244-252

Monday, December 1
Topic: The Rise of Factory Farming in the United States
Assigned Reading: Reader, pp. 301-313

Wednesday, December 3 – Wrap-up and Review Session

Monday, December 8 – FINAL EXAMINATION, 1:30 – 3:30 PM (note time), GAB 104