

**Anthropology 4701.002**  
**Psychological Anthropology – Spring 2017**  
**TR 11:00 AM – 12:20 PM, Wooten Hall 115**

Instructor: Beverly Ann Davenport, PhD, MSPH  
Office: Chilton Hall, 330H  
Phone number: 940-565-2292 (o)  
Email: [bad@unt.edu](mailto:bad@unt.edu)  
Drop in office hrs: Monday through Thursday, 2:15-3:30 (sharp) or by appointment

**REQUIRED BOOKS AND ARTICLES**

- Philip K. Bock, 1999, *Rethinking Psychological Anthropology: Continuity and Change in the Study of Human Action*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press (referred to as “Bock”)
- Watters, Ian, 2011. *Crazy Like Us: The Globalization of the American Psyche*. New York: Free Press. (referred to as “Watters”)
- **Articles and Chapters:** There will be selections from a variety of other sources. All selections will be on <https://learn.unt.edu> organized alphabetically in the readings folder located on the Homepage.
- I reserve the right to assign additional readings.

**COMMUNICATING WITH YOU**

I will be sending email messages to the class or to individuals in it, and **I will be using your “my.unt” email address**. If you prefer a different email address for your primary email account, I strongly suggest that you forward your “my.unt” email to that account.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**POINTS**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| • <b>Midterm</b> (will be administered via Bb)           | 300 |
| • <b>Papers</b> (Two, each 4-6 pages) @300pts.           | 600 |
| • <b>In class exercises</b> – best 5 out of ??? 20 pts.@ | 100 |

Total possible = 1000 points

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This class is an exploration of topics in psychological anthropology, but what IS psychological anthropology in the first place? Is it the study of cultural ideas about the processes and functions of the human mind? OR, does it study the question of the relationship between what are *conventionally* defined as psychological processes and culture, broadly defined? To what extent do neurobiology and genetics come into play in this discussion? Age-old questions come into play here, starting with questions philosophers from all corners of the globe have asked about human nature. I have organized a set of readings each week to cover a specific question. My goal is not to provide *definitive* answers to these questions but rather to examine various *approaches* to answering them. The topics are wide-ranging but not comprehensive; rather, they constitute a set of ideas that have persistently piqued my own interests.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES – By the end of this class you will:**

- Understand the origins of psychological anthropology
- KNOW leading theorists/contributors to the field of psychological anthropology and be able to distinguish between their varying approaches
- Be able to identify and critique methods of psychological anthropological research
- Be more aware of assumptions you and others may have about the relationship between mind, culture and behavior in everyday life – in media, in books, in movies, etc.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

1. Unless told otherwise, submit all written assignments for this class to Turnitin, via Blackboard (Bb). After submitting via Turnitin, you should receive an email documentation of their submission. **If you didn't receive an email from Turnitin, something went wrong and you need to resubmit it.** (So try again. Ask the Bb help desk for assistance if necessary.) *I will not accept papers submitted via email OR hard copy.* All works submitted for credit must be original works created by you uniquely for this class (see Plagiarism Policy).
2. **PERSONAL DUE DATES:** Those of you who have taken classes with me before know that I am flexible about when papers may be handed in, in order to accommodate the sometimes pressing multiple demands of your lives. **If you cannot hand in an assignment when it is due, you may establish a “personal due date” that is WITHIN 2 WEEKS of the assignment’s due date.** In order to make your personal due date official, please send an email to me and cc: Azure with the new date clearly stated on it. No excuses are necessary. *You cannot request another personal due date until you have submitted the assignment for which you originally requested one. Papers not submitted by two weeks after the assignment is due will receive a failing (gasp!) grade. No exceptions, except documented health excuses.*
3. **EMAIL POLICY:** Use your **my.unt.edu email** account. Use your **my.unt.edu email** account. Use **my.unt.edu email** account. Put your full name and ANTH 4701.002 in the subject line if you would, please. Much as I care about you, I would prefer not to receive emails when you can't make it to class, for whatever reason. I would much rather see you in class. If you are absent for an extended period of time, **please contact me** (see attendance policy), especially if you have a medical situation or a family emergency. I don't want to unkindly penalize people for serious life stuff.
4. **COMMUNICATION POLICY:** **you must check your my.unt.edu email account every day.** I will not accept any excuses. All announcements posted on Blackboard you will also receive as emails, too. I will reply to emails within 24 hours, or 48 hours if the email is sent over the weekend. *This means if you send an email to me after 5 PM on any given workday, don't EXPECT me to have read it before 5 PM the next day. If you send something on Friday, don't expect me to have read it until Monday.* I will extend the same courtesy to you.
5. **ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION (online) POLICY:** *Students who do well in this class attend class regularly.* Though I do not take formal attendance except at the beginning of the semester when I have to hand in paperwork to the Registrar's Office, I do notice who is present. This UNT policy statement, found [here](#), states that:

Any instructor who informs students in *writing* about the necessity of class attendance may request of the Registrar that a student be dropped from the course with a grade of WF upon the accumulation of the stated number of absences. Instructor drops for non-attendance may be processed up to two weeks prior to the first day of final examinations for fall or spring terms/semesters and equivalent dates for summer sessions. Refer to [www.unt.edu/catalog](http://www.unt.edu/catalog) for more information. Departments and similar academic units have authority to establish a department or course attendance policy, so long as the policy is in accord with the above stipulations. If the instructor-initiated drop action falls within the time the student is eligible to drop with instructor consent and without penalty, the Registrar's Office notifies the student that a WF will be recorded unless the student initiates the drop procedure, in which case a W will be assigned.

**Therefore if you are absent from class more than 4 TIMES IN A ROW without notification,  
I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO DROP YOU FROM CLASS.**

***Anthropology Department Undergraduate Plagiarism Policy***

*Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. You should always provide references for any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of information that are not common knowledge. The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty. Students suspected of academic dishonesty will be given a hearing in which they are informed of the charges. Clear evidence in support of the charge will merit failure in the course. For more information on the university's policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities at <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/>.*

## ***SUGGESTED BOOKS FOR FINAL PAPER – CRITICAL BOOK REVIEW***

**You must select and purchase or otherwise obtain your choice by Valentine's Day. I want proof.**

1. Scheper-Hughes, Nancy (1979) *Saints, Scholars, and Schizophrenics: mental illness in rural Ireland*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
2. Rhodes, Lorna
  - a. *Emptying Beds*
  - b. *Total Confinement*
3. Edgerton, Robert, *The Cloak of Competence*
4. Luhrmann, Tanya, *Of Two Minds*,
5. Mead, Margaret, *Coming of Age in Samoa*
6. Sue Estroff, *Making It Crazy*
7. Benedict, Ruth (1946) *The Chrysanthemum and the Sword: Patterns of Japanese Culture*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.
8. Boddy, Janice. *Wombs and alien spirits: Women, men, and the Zar cult in northern Sudan*. Univ of Wisconsin Press, 1989.
9. Crapanzano, Vincent. *Tuhami: portrait of a Moroccan*. University of Chicago Press, 1985.
10. Herdt, Gilbert (1981) *Guardians of the Flutes*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
11. Bourgois, Philippe, *Righteous Dopefiend* my copy
12. Knight, Kelly Ray (2015) *Addicted, Pregnant, Poor*
13. Garcia, Angela *The Pastoral Clinic*
14. Briggs, Jean (1970) *Never in Anger: Portrait of an Eskimo family*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
15. Robert Desjarlais, *Body and Emotion*

## Weekly Topics and Reading Assignments -2017

**PLEASE NOTE: Bring physical copies of ALL ASSIGNED READING to class so that you'll have it for class discussions. This may be one of the "pop" assignments. Unless told otherwise, assume that reading is to be completed for the first day of class each week.**

### **1. January 17, 19 What is "human" nature?**

- Mahler, excerpts from chapters 1 and 2 (Bb)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_nature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_nature)

### **2. January 24, 26 "Total Human" – biology, psychology, and culture are intertwined**

- Mahler, Chapter 3 (Bb)
- Bock, Chapter 13

### **3. Jan. 31, Feb. 2 Emotions are cultural and biological**

- Hinton 1999 (Bb)

### **4. February 7, 9 The psychology of "primitive" people**

- Bock, Chapter 1

**MIDTERM AVAILABLE ON Bb FROM 2/8 TO 2/16 11:59 PM**

### **5. Feb. 14, 16 What's Freud got to do with it?**

- Bock, Chapter 2

### **6. Feb. 21, 23 Freud's Continuing Influence**

- Bock, pp. 149-156

### **7. Feb. March 2 What is the relationship between culture and personality?**

- Bock, chapter 3

### **8. March 7, 9 "National Character?"**

- Bock, chapter 5
- Mead, "Swaddling" (Bb)

*I will post hand out prompt for paper this week, if not sooner*

**SPRING BREAK**

### **9. March 21, 23 The criticisms of the culture and personality school**

- Bock, Interlude, pp. 109-116
- Wallace, "The Cultural Distribution of Personality Characteristics" (Bb)

**PAPER DUE FRIDAY 3/24, 11:59 PM**

**10. March 28, 30 Shamanism**

- Bock, Chapter 11
- Bodley, 2005 (Bb)

**11. April 4, 6 Mental Illness – Local or Global?**

- Watters, Introduction and Chapter 1

**12. April 11, 13 PTSD?**

- Watters, Chapter 2
- Pennebaker (BB)

**13. April 18, 20 Schizophrenia: Universal Diagnosis/Universal Cure?**

- Watters, Chapter 3

**14. April 25, 27 Globalization and Depression, Part I**

- Watters, chapter 4

**15. May 2, 4 Globalization and Depression, Part II**

- Wilce, chapter in Social and Cultural Lives of Immune Systems (Bb)
- Watters, Conclusion

**FINAL PAPER – CRITICAL BOOK REVIEW – DUE MAY 9, 11:59 PM**