

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

ANTHROPOLOGY 120 – CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

The nature of culture; cultural growth and history; survey of the range of cultural phenomena including material culture, social organization, kinship systems, religion, language and other topics; systematic study of similarities and differences among cultures through investigation of selected societies.

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Anthropological theories, methods and perspectives
- 2) Anthropological study of human cultures in comparative perspective
- 3) Subsistence patterns
- 4) Social, political and economic organizations
- 5) Language and communication
- 6) Family and kinship
- 7) Belief systems
- 8) Art and expressive culture
- 9) Ethnicity and race
- 10) Gender and sexuality
- 11) Social inequality and colonialism
- 12) Globalization and culture change
- 13) Professional ethics
- 14) Applied anthropology

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) Define the scope of anthropology and discuss the role of cultural anthropology within the discipline.
- 2) Recognize the methods, theories and perspectives used to study and understand human cultures.
- 3) Explain the importance of the ethnographic method in the study of culture.
- 4) Employ the relativist perspective while discussing cultural variation.
- 5) Demonstrate an understanding of anthropological concepts including ethnicity, gender, political organization, economic systems, kinship, rituals and belief systems.
- 6) Explain the interconnectedness of the economic, political and sociocultural forces of globalization amongst diverse cultural groups.
- 7) Analyze and evaluate the ethical issues anthropologists encounter, and professional ethical obligations that must be met in the study of and application in cultural groups different from their own.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Quizzes and exams that measure students' ability to recognize, describe, explain and provide examples of the various topics, information and issues related to the study of anthropology.
- 2) Written analytical papers that assess students' ability to recognize themes, organize information, and interpret the major themes and perspectives of cultural anthropology.
- 3) Group activities and class discussions that evaluate students' ability to recall and analyze major themes in cultural anthropology.
- 4) Written exams that assess students' ability to apply theory and interpret field research in the study of human culture.

Minimum Instructional Facilities

- 1) Smart classroom
- 2) Learning Resource Center (library)

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Small and large group discussion
- 3) Guest speakers
- 4) Individual and group projects, structured in-class exercises
- 5) Library materials and Internet exploration; other computerized instruction
- 6) Auxiliary use of study groups, peer tutoring and/or instructor office hours

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Written essays
- 2) Field trip observations
- 3) Research (library and internet)
- 4) Reading and exam reviews

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative examples):
 - a. Bodley, John. *Cultural Anthropology: Tribes, States and the Global System*. 7th edition. Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.
 - b. Ferraro, Gary and Susan Andreatta. *Cultural Anthropology: An Applied Perspective*. 11th edition. Wadsworth, 2018.
 - c. Haviland, William, et al. *Cultural Anthropology: The Human Challenge*. 15th edition. Wadsworth, 2017.
 - d. Kottak, Conrad. *Mirror for Humanity: A Concise Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*. 11th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2018.
 - e. Lenkeit, Roberta. *Introducing Cultural Anthropology*. 5th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2012.
 - f. Nanda, Serena and Richard Warms. *Culture Counts: A Concise Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*. 4th edition. Wadsworth/Cengage, 2018.
 - g. Peoples, James and Garick Bailey. *Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*. 11th edition. Wadsworth, 2018.
- 2) Supplemental (representative examples):
 - a. Angeloni, Elvio, ed. *Annual Editions: Anthropology*. 42nd edition. McGraw-Hill, 2019.
 - b. Knauft, Bruce. *The Gebusi: Lives Transformed in a Rainforest World*. McGraw-Hill, 2013.
 - c. Peters-Golden, Holly. *Culture Sketches: Case Studies in Anthropology*. 6th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2012.
 - d. Shostak, Marjorie. *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*. Harvard University Press, 2000.
 - e. Spradley, James and David McCurdy. *Conformity and Conflict*. 15th edition. Prentice Hall, 2016.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Define the field and scope of cultural anthropology, recognize methods, theories, and perspectives of the cultural anthropologist (including the ethnographic method of studying culture), and evaluate the ethical considerations and obligations of the cultural anthropologist.
- 2) Employ the relativist perspective in the context of cultural variation and demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of ethnicity, gender, political organization, economic systems, kinship, rituals and belief systems.
- 3) Explain the interconnectedness of the economic, political and sociocultural forces of globalization amongst diverse cultural groups.