Cultural Diversity: Cultural Anthropology and Linguistics

ANTH 104
Summer 2013
Dates: May 21 – June 13
Times: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; T, W, TH

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Course Description

The discipline of Anthropology challenges us through a comparative approach to become aware of our own cultural preconceptions and to appreciate the tremendous variety of human experiences. In this course we will learn how other perspectives of the world can challenge our assumptions about our own way of life. As an introduction to the field of cultural anthropology students will become acquainted with concepts and methodologies utilized by cultural anthropologists as well as the social and ethical dilemmas that we face conducting cross-cultural research.

Learning Goals

To help create global citizens who are open to and comfortable with interacting in a multicultural, multilingual world by helping you:

- gain an appreciation of the rich cultural diversity of human societies;
- learn to think critically about assumptions and representations of culture and society.
- gain competence in the history and central theoretical and methodological concepts and practices of socio-cultural anthropology and linguistics;
Therefore, by the end of this course you should have:

- an appreciation of Anthropological Perspectives, specifically a holistic and comparative perspective of humans and their cultures across time and space and the relevance of anthropology to everyday life;
- a developing knowledge base of the major concepts, theoretical orientations, methodological approaches and historical trends in anthropology;
- exposure to and familiarity with ethnographic methods central to the field of cultural anthropology;
- a more nuanced understanding of how people give meaning to their lives in a rapidly globalizing world and;
- preparation for intermediate level cultural anthropology courses.

Course Evaluation
Quizzes (12 @ 2 pts each) 24%
Attendance 6%
Exam #1 20%
Exam #2 25%
Cumulative Final exam 25%

COURSE INFORMATION:
1) Quizzes (12 quizzes @ 2 pts each)
Weekly quizzes are taken through the Moodle System to help you keep up with the assigned readings and make connections between readings and in-class materials. Questions on the quiz can be drawn from any material for that week’s readings, films or in-class discussions. Quizzes cannot be made up. The Moodle System allows you to access the quiz beginning 48 hours before the close of the quiz. Quizzes close at class time for the day of the assigned quiz. You have only one attempt permitted and the quiz remains open for 30 minutes. If you close the quiz without submitting that will count as your one attempt.

2) Attendance is taken for every class and worth 6 pts of your final grade. This is calculated as a percentage lost for each day missed.

TO SUCCED IN THIS CLASS
- Carefully read the syllabus and be secure that you understand the class structure, assignments and schedule. Locate our class Moodle site and check it to prepare for each class. For exam preparation I will post class lecture notes and powerpoints. These do not replace the need for class attendance!
- Attend class, keep up with the readings, follow assignment guidelines carefully. Readings listed in the syllabus are due on the day listed. Come to class with the syllabus in order to record any announced changes.
• Engage with the material. Think critically about what you are reading. Question and ask yourself about the underlying assumptions and logic of the arguments presented.

• If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to obtain notes and missed information from fellow students and to discuss with me any work you may need to or be able to make up.

• Please be courteous and do not noisily enter and leave the classroom during class time. Cell phones and other digital devices must be turned off before class begins and put away out of sight. **Computers cannot be used during class time unless they are requested due to issues of Academic Accommodations.**

**Note on General Education**

Anth 104 (Section 001) fulfills requirements for the Anthropology Major and Minor and BSS (Breadth Social Science) and DVIT (Diversity International) in general education requirements.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:** Should you require academic accommodations, you must file a request with the Office of Disability Services (BC 119B, extension 3962, anambiar@drew.edu). It is your responsibility to self-identify with the Office of Disability Services and to provide faculty with the appropriate documentation from that office at least one week prior to any request for specific course accommodations. There are no retroactive accommodations. The **deadline to request Letters of Accommodations for all students currently registered with the Office of Disability Services is 05/2013.**

**Required Texts**
Peoples, James and Garrick Bailey
Wadsworth Cengage Learning

**Additional Readings:** links or pdfs posted on Moodle as indicated

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**CLASS SCHEDULE**

**PART I: Anthropology - History, Theory, Concepts**

**WEEK 1**

*Introduction*

Video clips: What is anthropology and why should we teach it?
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMFsgPy1H5M&feature=related
Web 2.0...The Machine is Us/ing by Dr. Michael Wesch, KSU, Digital Ethnography
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gmP4nk0EOE&feature=channel

*Anthropology and the Study of Culture*

Video: Faces of Culture #1: The Nature of Anthropology

**Readings:** Humanity Chapter 1
**The Nature of Culture: Being Human**

**Video clip:** The Wild Child

**Readings:**

- Humanity Chapter 2
- Surowiecki, James
  
  
  (follow hyperlink)
  
  [http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2004/04/05/040405ta_talk_surowiecki](http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2004/04/05/040405ta_talk_surowiecki)

- Miner, Horace
  
  *Nacirema.*
  
  [https://www.msu.edu/~jdowell/miner.html?pagewanted=al#otherslinks](https://www.msu.edu/~jdowell/miner.html?pagewanted=al#otherslinks)

**Becoming A Member: Enculturation, Acculturation and Ethnicity**

**Video clip:** Russian Child Rearing

**Video:** Bathing Babies in Three Cultures

**Moodle Quiz #1**

**Readings:** Humanity Chapter 10

- Gottlieb, Alma (pdf on Moodle)
  

**From Where Anthropology?**

**Video:** Strangers Abroad: Franz Boas - Shackles of Tradition

**Readings:** Humanity Chapter 4

**Website with notes on Franz Boas:**

[http://classes.yale.edu/02-03/anth500a/viewing_notes/VN_FranzBoas.htm](http://classes.yale.edu/02-03/anth500a/viewing_notes/VN_FranzBoas.htm)

**How Cultures are Studied: Fieldwork and the Ethnographic Method**

**Videos:** Strangers Abroad: Brownislaw Malinowski - Off the Verandah

"Doing Anthropology"

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhCruPBvSjQ&list=PLENUAVAT3WB6QD0XB5TW6N6RSK8-PJ9A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhCruPBvSjQ&list=PLENUAVAT3WB6QD0XB5TW6N6RSK8-PJ9A)

In this short film, three members of MIT's Anthropology Department, Stefan Helmreich, Erica James, and Heather Paxson, talk about their current work and the process of doing fieldwork.

**Moodle Quiz #2**

**Readings:** Humanity Chapter 5

- Online site documents fieldwork of "First woman anthropologist" Alice Fletcher: [www.nmnh.si.edu/naa/fletcher/fletcher.htm](http://www.nmnh.si.edu/naa/fletcher/fletcher.htm)
**Doing Anthropology – Fieldwork and Ethics**

Video clip: Ishi, the Last Yahi  
Video clip: Conversations with History: Nancy Scheper-Hughes  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XYu6VMC_42k  
Readings: Humanity Chapter 5 pg. 100-101  
Rohde (follow hyperlink)  
http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/05/world/asia/05afghan.html  
The Story of Ishi  
http://history.library.ucsf.edu/ishi.html

**Language and Culture: Symbols and Meaning**

Video: Human Language, Part 2: Acquiring Language  
Moodle Quiz #3  
Readings: Humanity Chapter 3

**Language and Culture: Digital Worlds**

Video:"The Machine is Us(ing) Us"  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NL1GopyXT_g  
Evolution of Mass Media - Visual Language & Culture project  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EC2zfQ9Rb1s&feature=related  
http://mediatedcultures.net/  
"A Vision of Students Today"  
Moodle Quiz #4  
Readings: Watch the lecture: "An Anthropological Introduction to YouTube" (55 mins)  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPAO-lZ4_hU&feature=relmfu  
Kansas State University Digital Ethnography Working Group  
Prof. Michael Wesch

**EXAM #1**

**Making a Living: Subsistence and Economic Systems**

Video: "Through These Eyes" 2004 (MACOS and the Netsilik Inuit)  
http://www.nfb.ca/film/through_these_eyes  
Readings: Humanity Chapter 6

**Making a Living: Subsistence and Economic Systems**

Video: Chichicastenango / Faces of Culture: Highland Maya  
Moodle Quiz #5  
Readings: Humanity Chapter 7

**Making a Living: Subsistence and Economic Systems**

Video: Affluenza  
Readings: Humanity Chapter 6 and 16  
http://www.materialworldblog.com/  
The Social Life of Things  
http://www.seiselt.com/smutheory/Diana%20Fridberg/SocialThings.html
Expressive Culture: Symbols and Meaning

Moodle Quiz #6
Readings: Humanity Chapter 15
Terence Turner, "The Social Skin." In Reading the Social Body (1993), C. Burroughs and J. Ehrenreich, eds., pp. 15-39. Read the first two pages of this chapter on google books: http://books.google.com/books?id=65_wXDavMoUC&pg=PA83&lpg=PA83&dq=terence+turner+the+social+skin&source=bl&ots=ynda9Vasnc&sig=uL3TOyRPwWE_Ymfm_hb1EgylTo&hl=en&sa=X&ei=HFs1T8mBNuHy0gG5vXQAg&ved=0CCAQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=terence%20turner%20the%20social%20skin&f=false

PART II: The Structure of Society

Organizing Society: The Cultural Construction of Family
Readings: Humanity Chapter 8

Organizing Society: Kinship and Descent
Moodle Quiz #7
Readings: Humanity Chapter 9
Essig, Laurie and Lynn Owens (pdf)

Organizing Society: The Cultural Construction of Gender
Moodle Quiz #8
Video: Ma Vie en Rose
Readings: Humanity Chapter 11
Canada at Play - the history of toys and gender learning
http://www.civilization.ca/canadaplay/introduction/girls-room.php

EXAM #2

Systems of Belief: Religion, Disease and Illness
Video: Evil Wind, Evil Air
Readings: Humanity Chapter 14

Systems of Belief: Religion, Ritual and Revitalization Movements
Video clip: 500 Nations #1 - The Ghost Dance Religion
Moodle Quiz #9
Readings: Humanity Chapter 14
Ghost Dance Religion
http://clio.missouristate.edu/lburt/Resources510/WoundedKnee_2.htm

Organizing Society: Power and Status - Politics
Video Clip: Land of the Pharoahs
Readings: Humanity Chapter 12
Read and view photo gallery: Who Rules the Forest? By Paul Salopek

**Ethnicity, Class and Stratification**
Video: The Americas #4
Moodle Quiz #10
Readings: Humanity Chapter 13 and 17

**Culture Change: Power and the Idea of Progress**
Video: Rabbit Proof Fence
Readings: Humanity Chapter 13 and 17
Carlisle Indian Industrial School History
http://home.epix.net/~landis/index.html

**Culture Change: Ethnic Conflict and Responses**
Moodle Quiz #11
Readings: Humanity Chapter 13 and 17

**New Frontiers in Fieldwork: Public Anthropologists**
Video Clip: See Philippe Bourgois's short film, "Next Door But Invisible"
Readings: Defining Public Anthropology
http://www.publicanthropology.org/public-anthropology/
Photo ethnography
http://philippebourgois.net/
Business Anthropology - Maschio Consulting
http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.maschioconsulting.com/WhoWeAre.dir/Gra pix/OrionWhoWeAreThumb.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.maschioconsulting.com/WhoWeAre.dir /index.php&usg=__OPhJe_QKEVm0fTZ5J8JQx8Zx2o=&h=131&w=108&sz=22&hl=en&start =7&zoom=1&tbm=isch&bih=91&biw=75&ei=GfgJUdaDIIXq0QGw5YC wCw&prev=/images%3Fq%3DAntonella%2BFabri%26hl%3Den%26client%3Dfirefox-a%26sa%3DX%26rls%3Dorg.mozilla:en-US:official%26tbm%3Disch&itbs=1

**Development, Native voices and Nation Building**
Moodle Quiz #12
Readings: Humanity Chapter 18
Story Corps: http://storycorps.org/listen/
(choose any of the stories to listen to)

**Final Exam**