



University of North Texas  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences  
Anthropology  
ANTH 1150  
World Cultures through Film

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## **Anthropology 1150: World Cultures through Film Summer 2018**

**ANTH 1150.810/820 3.0 Hours**

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### **Course Description**

This course uses the discipline of anthropology to answer the question: How should we view cultural difference? We will explore this question through the theoretical prism of anthropology and case studies provided by ethnographic films. Specifically, we will discuss (a) the problems with ethnocentric portrayals of different cultures in mainstream cinema (ethnocentrism); (b) how cultures see themselves (the emic perspective); (c) whether we can compare cultures to each other (etic perspective); and finally, (d) what happens when different societies interact with each other in a globalized world (globalization).

### **Learning Objectives**

1. Students will be able to understand the anthropological concept of culture.
2. Students will be able to identify and challenge ethnocentric thinking.

3. Students will gain a working appreciation for the anthropological methods of cultural relativism and participant observation.
4. Students will be able to identify the emic concepts and categories significant to particular societies.
5. Students will be able to analyze the etic categories of cultural classification in anthropology.
6. Students will identify and analyze the relationship between colonialism and globalization.

### **Required Textbook**

*Cultural Anthropology: Global Forces, Local Lives* by Jack David Eller. Routledge Publishing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

\* All other readings will be offered as links on the Canvas course website

### **Technical Support**

Student Helpdesk:

UIT Helpdesk  
Sage Hall 130  
940-565-2324  
[helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

### **Technical Skill Requirements**

To be successful in this class, students will need to be able to: download and upload files, send and receive emails and navigate Canvas.

### **Netiquette**

Virtual Classroom Citizenship

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper *netiquette* when interacting with class members and the professor.

### **How the Course is Organized**

This class consists of 4 units within which there are 14 lessons. Since it is adapted from a 15-week semester to an 8-week summer term, we will cover one unit per (roughly) two weeks, or (roughly) two lessons per week.

Unit I: Lessons 1-4

Unit II: Lessons 5-7

Unit III: Lessons 8-11

## Unit IV: Lessons 12-14

Each week will be broken into two parts each corresponding to a different lesson: Monday-Wednesday and Thursday-Sunday. For each lesson, students will be expected to click on the corresponding link and fulfill the requirements there within, such as: *listen to* a lecture, *read* from the assigned text, articles and websites, *view* a film, *discuss* key questions with classmates, *signup* for world regions, *submit* assignments, *complete* quizzes, *play* games, and *do* exercises. All discussions, assignments, and quizzes will be due on the last day of each lesson at 11:59pm. The one exception will be the final quiz 5, which is due on the final day designated for finals, Friday, July 6th at 11:59 pm.

Keep in mind that each unit will open in the order of the class. You will be able to submit assignments and work for future lessons as they become available. However, you will not be able to work backwards; meaning you cannot submit work for a Lesson that has passed.

### What Should Students Do First?

Upon entering the Canvas course website for the first time, students should:

1. Click on the Modules tab in the left margin
2. Open the Course Introduction lesson
3. Watch the introduction video
4. Take Course Survey
5. Download and read syllabus
6. Download and read course schedule
7. Take Quiz 1, which covers the syllabus and course schedule (due Wednesday, May 16).

When starting each new lesson, students should:

1. Follow the instructions in each Lesson folder:

*Listen to:* Download the lecture/slideshow, listen to the audio recording of the lecture/slideshow. Occasionally, this link will include radio recordings and links to websites. **Please note that you may click on the cc tab in the lower right side of the screen to access the lecture's captions.**

*Read:* Read the required pages in the textbook; and any additional web articles or pdf files.

*View:* Follow the link to the Lesson's designated film. Login using your euid and password.

*Discuss:* Read the prompt and instructions, and follow the links to the Lesson's Discussion.

*Complete:* Follow the link to and take the Unit's quiz.

*Submit:* Read the instructions and follow the link to submit the Lesson's assignment.

*Sign up:* In Lesson 5, students will sign up for groups according to different world regions: Central America, West Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Oceania.

*Play:* In Lessons 8 & 9 you will play interactive exchange games on which those weeks discussion will be based.

*Do:* In Lessons 13 & 14, you will do short (ungraded) exercises that require applying your understanding of theories to case studies.

### **Course Requirements**

1. The student will access and follow all course instructions found in the Modules area of the course's Canvas page.
2. The student will listen to all online lectures provided in *Listen to* files in each lesson.
3. The student will read all required text readings, pdf files and web articles in the *Read* files in each lesson.
4. The student will view all required films, which can be accessed in the *View* files in each lesson.
5. The student will complete the assigned 'online' quizzes by accessing the *complete* files at the end of Lesson 4, 7, 11, and Finals.
6. The student will respond to posted online course discussion questions using the Canvas discussion forum in Lessons 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 12, and 13.
7. The student will write and submit assignments electronically in Lessons 3, 6, 10, 14.

### **Grading**

Grades will be determined according to the following weighted categories:

<b>Category</b>	<b>% of final grade</b>	<b>Final grade % per graded submission</b>
<b>7 Discussions</b>	10	1.43
<b>5 Quizzes</b>	50	10
<b>4 Assignments</b>	40	10

Students can learn their current grade in the course by going to My Grades and looking at the percentage score in the Weighted Total column.

## Grading Scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
Below 60	F

### A. Discussions (7 Forums worth 5 points each for 10% of final grade)

Throughout the course, there will be 7 Discussions in which students are required to participate. Upon completion of the assigned readings, lectures and viewings, students are expected to engage in an ongoing discussion with their classmates. Students will respond to the Discussion prompts or questions with one original response by writing in the "Reply" box under the prompt. After submitting an original response, students will then respond to *at least two* responses from other students. Discussion posts will be graded for originality and thoughtfulness. Out of the 5 points possible for each Discussion, the original post will be graded out of 3 points, and the additional two responses will be worth one point each.

Two issues to consider when doing Discussions:

- For Discussions #3, #6, #7 (Lessons 5, 12, 13), students will discuss a given film in smaller groups. During Lesson 5, students will select a region on which to focus. This region will determine which films they view for Lessons 5-7 and 12-14.
- When writing discussion posts, keep courtesy in mind: Please be courteous to the other students in the class. You might find it helpful to read your posting out loud before you submit it: the "tone" is a very important part of electronic communication. When you read your message out loud does it sound the way you would speak to another student in the classroom? If not, you should rewrite it.

### 2. Online Quizzes (5 worth 20 points each for 50% of final grade)

There will be five quizzes throughout this course that cover online lectures and reading material (**with the exception of the first quiz which will cover this syllabus and schedule!**). Students can access quizzes by clicking on the *Complete* file in the designated Lesson. Each quiz will consist of **15-20 questions** worth 1-3 points each (for total of 20 points) and will consist of multiple choice, matching, and T/F questions. After completing quizzes, students can see which questions they got wrong and be directed to sections in the reading/lecture where the correct answer can be found. Then, students are allowed to **re-take** each quiz for one additional attempt. The final score will be calculated by taking the average of the two attempts (thus, giving you the possibility of gaining back 50% of missed points on the first attempt).

Students will have **30 minutes** to complete each quiz and it can be accessed only **one time** once started. If a student experiences any computer problems while taking the exam, he or she must contact the Helpdesk immediately so that the issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Without a ticket number, the instructor will not be able to help.

If students provide medical documentation (signed by a medical professional) of an inability to complete the quiz by the deadline, they will be allowed to submit at a later date.

Considerations regarding exam issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis based on the documentation. After each quiz is graded and released, students may check answers via the My Grades tab.

Quizzes will cover the following material:

Quiz 1: The Syllabus & Schedule

Quiz 2: Unit 1

Quiz 3: Unit 2

Quiz 4: Unit 3

Quiz 5: Unit 4

### **3. Assignments (4 worth 20 points each for 40% of final grade)**

There will be four short writing assignments throughout the term. For each assignment, students will submit a short piece of writing that builds on course material. The assignments will be submitted as word documents via a link in Canvas. Assignments submitted via any other medium (e.g.-email) will not be accepted. Additionally, late work will not be accepted unless students provide medical documentation (signed by a medical professional) of an inability to complete the assignment by the deadline. The assignments will be graded out of 20 points. Grading rubrics for each assignment will be made available to students. After assignments are graded, students will be able to view the grader's comments and rationale for assigning the grade. To do so, click on My Grades, then the assignment, then the particular paper, and once within the assignment make sure to click on the Gradermark tab in the upper bar (middle option).

### **Course Schedule**

A schedule of the course's lessons and due dates is available on the course website under the tab: Syllabus/Schedule

### **COURSE POLICIES**

#### **1. Assignment Policy**

Assignments will be due throughout the course before midnight on the following dates: **May 27<sup>th</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup>, and July 5<sup>th</sup>.** All assignments submitted for credit must be **original work** created by the student uniquely for the class (trust me: it is

easy to detect plagiarism). Papers submitted via any other medium (e.g.-email) will not be accepted. If students provide medical documentation (signed by a medical professional) of an inability to complete the assignment by the deadline, they will be allowed to submit at a later date.

## 2. Quiz Policy

Quizzes will be due before midnight on the following dates: **May 16<sup>th</sup>, May 30<sup>th</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup>, June 24<sup>th</sup>, and July 6<sup>th</sup>**. For each quiz, students are allowed one retake before the due date, but never **after** the deadline as make-up quizzes will not be allowed UNLESS the student provides the instructor with medical documentation (signed by medical professional) that attests to his/her inability to complete the quiz by the given deadline. If the student loses an internet connection while taking the exam, 1) the student is to call the student IT help desk, explain the situation and receive a ticket number; 2) then write the instructor with the IT ticket # (the instructor will not respond to your request without a ticket #).

## 4. Extra Credit

There will be two opportunities for students to earn extra credit. Students will receive one percentage extra credit if more than 67% of the class completes the SPOT course evaluation at the end of the term. Additionally, on quiz 5 there will be two core course evaluation questions that will be counted as extra credit.

## 5. Instructor Communication

- a) The instructor will be happy to answer questions regarding lectures, grades, discussions, assignments, quizzes, projects or any anything covered in the course.
- b) Students can expect to hear back from the instructor within 24 hours of the initial email (48 hours on the weekend).
- c) Students are expected to state their name and course number in the subject line of emails.
- d) **Please use a respectful and polite tone in emails.** Do NOT ask questions covered in this syllabus! And if using a mobile device, remember to proofread your message before sending!

## 6. Class Participation

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in Canvas to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as discussion boards, games, and exercises.

## 7. Virtual Classroom Citizenship

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper *netiquette* when interacting with class members and the professor.

#### 8. Copyright Notice

Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

#### 9. Administrative Withdrawal

If the student is unable to complete this course, the student must officially withdraw by the University-designated date (for a “W” with instructor approval) or contact the instructor in request of an incomplete. Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure that the student 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.”

#### 10. Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UNT Student Help Desk: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu) or 940.565.2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

#### 11. Academic Honesty Policy

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. 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/>.

#### 12. ADA Policy

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation



should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://disability.unt.edu/>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

### 13. Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses:

For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

#### University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email [internationaladvising@unt.edu](mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu)) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.