

**ANTH 2300-810/820 Culture and Society
Spring 2013**

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TAs

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Course Description: “think like an anthropologist”

This course introduces students to the field of Socio-cultural Anthropology—the study of human cultures in their diversity and variation. Rather than providing a collection of facts about other cultures, however, this class attempts to provide a sense of the general approach anthropologists take when they study another culture. In other words, it focuses on how to ask intelligent questions, rather than providing an inventory of answers. Its aim is to lead you to “think like an anthropologist” as you reflect on other cultures as well as your own.

Designer’s Note:

- The Syllabus is accessible on the Sidebar Menu.
- The Lessons are accessible under “Units and Lessons” located on Sidebar Menu. The class is organized into 3 Units and there are 5 Lessons per Unit.
- The Discussion Board is accessible on the Sidebar Menu.
- The Quizzes and Exams are accessible on the Sidebar Menu. These will be released according to the release date indicated on the syllabus.
- Do not use the MESSAGE system to send e-mails. Rather, use E-Mail found in the sidebar.
- Check your unt.edu e-mail address OR have your unt e-mail forwarded to your preferred account (gmail, Hotmail, yahoo, etc...)

Required Readings

1. Ember, Carol and Melvin Ember. 2011. Cultural Anthropology (13th edition), Prentice Hall: Boston.
2. Annual Editions 12/13 (AE): Anthropology.

Course objectives

- 1) To introduce students to the basic concepts and methods of sociocultural anthropology

- 2) To expose students to the richness and diversity of human life as it has been lived in the past and present
- 3) To develop and encourage critical thinking skills, especially as related to living in a diverse and globalizing society
- 4) To make students aware of the contributions of anthropology to public discourse and public policy
- 5) To make students aware of the ethical dimensions of anthropology

Course Requirements

Introductory Exercise:

- Follow the instructions given in the Week One – Orientation lesson.
- First, follow the instructions given in the “Class Roster assignment” to enter information about yourself.
- Then follow the instructions given in the “Class Map assignment”.
- You will earn one point for completing each assignment, for a total of 2 points possible.

Exams:

- There will be three tests. Students have to take the scheduled tests between Thursday and Wednesday.
- Once you start a test, you have 60 minutes to finish it. As long as you start the exam by 11:58 pm on Wednesday, you will be allowed the full 60 minutes to take it.
- My advice: don’t start a test unless you’re SURE you can finish it. And DON’T wait until the last minute.
 - If you wait until the last hour to take the test, AND your computer happens to crash at that same time, I won’t be sympathetic—in that case, you’ll have to miss that test.
- Test questions will consist of multiple choice questions.
- No exam will be cumulative.
- No study guides as such will be provided; however, a list of vocabulary terms for the online content will be provided. Vocabulary words for the textbook can be found at the back of each chapter.
- Make-ups will not be given unless students approach their instructor with a reasonable excuse BEFORE the scheduled test. No exceptions.
 - Students may not reschedule exams because of out-of-town trips and/or plane reservations.

Quizzes:

- There are 13 quizzes this semester.
- The quizzes are comprised of eight true/false questions.
- The questions cover the two Annual Editions articles assigned for that week; four questions will come from each reading.
- The quizzes will be available for you to take between Thursday and Wednesday of each week.
- You will have 15 minutes to take the quiz once you have started it.
- You won’t be able to submit any answers after the 15 minutes are up.

Technical Issues during Exams or Quizzes:

If you have any technical difficulties during an exam or quiz, follow these procedures:

1. Take a print screen capture of the issue
2. Contact the Student Blackboard HelpDesk at 940-565-2324
3. Give them the following info:

Student EUID: *****

Name & Section of the Course: Anth 2300 Culture & Society 810, 820

4. Once you have a ticket number from the HelpDesk, sent it to (instructor or TA)
5. The (instructor or TA) will follow up with you once the HelpDesk confirms the situation.

Discussion posts:

- Each week, you will be assigned two readings from the Annual Editions book. You will have to submit a one paragraph (at least three sentences) regarding each reading and a one paragraph response to one other student's post (per reading).
- You must submit your original post for each reading by Monday at 11:59 pm. You will get one point per post, so two points are possible for posting each week with the 2 AE articles assigned.
- You must respond to another student's post for each reading by Wednesday at 11:59 pm. You will get one point per response, so two points are possible for responding each week with the 2 AE articles assigned.
- Try to "think like an anthropologist". Think about anything that stood out to you in the article. Are there any aspects of the featured culture that you found interesting? Why? Be specific. Don't just state facts from the articles - reflect on them. Quote from the readings to support what you are saying.
- For those who may not have participated in online discussions before, it's definitely ok to have different opinions from others; in fact, that's part of what can make online discussions so rich and vibrant. Just remember to address those differences in a professional manner. If you have a different opinion or idea about something, support what you are saying with evidence from the article or your own experiences.

Evaluation Summary

Introductory Exercise	2 x 2 = 4 Points Total
Quizzes	8 points x 13 quizzes = 104 Points Total
Exams	3 exams x 80 points= 240 Points Total
Discussion Posts/Responses	4 points x 13 AE articles = 52 Points Total

How to Calculate Your Grade

- There will be a total of 400 points available in this class. To calculate your grade, you divide the number of points you have received by the number of points possible at any given point in time.
- For example, if there have been the introductory exercise (4 points), 1 exam (80 points total), 3 quizzes (24 points total) and 6 AE articles covered in discussion posts/responses (12 points total), then there have been 120 points available so far.
- If you received 4 points on the introductory exercise, 75 points on the exam; 8 points on quiz 1, 5 points on quiz 2, and 7 points on quiz 3; and 10 points for the discussion posts/responses, then you've accumulated 109 points.
- 109 points divided by 118 is 91%, an A in the course so far.

Withdrawal: If you can't complete the course, you have to withdraw by the University's deadline for a "W" (after this date, you'd receive either a "WP" or a "WF"). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure which **YOU** must initiate. I can't do it for you. If you simply stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an "F."

Your primary responsibility as a student is to master the material presented in Blackboard and in the readings and do well in the course. This is an easily achieved objective. Do the readings, participate in discussions, and take notes! At times concepts or issues raised in class might be unclear. Students come from a variety of backgrounds and have various strengths and weaknesses. If you have any questions or feel unsure about any class material, see me after class or during office hours as soon as you realize a problem. We will work together to find a solution. DON'T wait until the end of the semester. You will find me much less patient and able to help you at the end of the semester. Please realize that my goal as an instructor is not just to test, grade, and evaluate, but to help you gain a valuable life perspective to carry outside the class, into whatever you do.

All grades will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59-under	F

"Classroom" Policies

1. Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.deanofstudents.unt.edu

2. **EXTRA CREDIT:** No extra credit opportunities will be given, under any circumstances. I am not responsible for making sure that you receive a given grade, even if you need that grade to maintain financial aid, health insurance, university enrollment, etc.. If this is the position you are in, communicate with the TA regularly to make sure that you are taking solid notes and know how to study.
3. **REACHING ME:** The best way to reach me is via email, and I require 24 hours to respond to any emails sent between Monday and Friday. Over the weekends and on holidays I require 48 hours to respond. Please include the name of the course you are taking with me in the body of your email. I have over 300 students, and cannot remember which class each individual student is in. If you do not include your course information in your email, my response to you will be delayed because I have to take extra time finding out what class you are in, and uncovering more information about your situation/your request, etc..
4. **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. I am furthermore of a mind that your integrity as a person is ALWAYS worth more than getting an “A” in one course – choosing to not cheat and perhaps get a lower grade is choosing to be a person of whom you can be proud. 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/>
5. **ADA:** The Anthropology Department does not discriminate based on an individual’s disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Our program provides academic adjustments or help to individuals with disabilities, and attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements. Please see me if you have a documented disability so that appropriate arrangements can be made to help you get the most out of this class.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Readings	Quiz/Exam Availability Dates
Week One	Orientation	None	Class Roster and Class Map assignment due Jan 16
Week Two	Intro to Anthropology	Ember, Ember Ch. 1 AE articles: 1. Lee – “Eating Christmas in the Kalahari” 2. Shenk – “Can White Men Jump?”	Quiz 1 Thurs., Jan 17 - Wed, Jan 23

Week Three	Culture Concept	Ember, Ember Ch. 2 AE articles: 1. Watters – “The Americanization of Mental Illness” 2. Sandall – “What Native Peoples Deserve”	Quiz 2 Thurs., Jan 24 - Wed, Jan 30
Week Four	Methods	Ember, Ember Ch. 4 AE articles: 1. Monaghan and Just – “A Dispute in Donggo: Fieldwork and Ethnography” 2. Sterk – “Tricking and Tripping: Fieldwork on Prostitution in the Era of AIDS”	Quiz 3 Thurs., Jan 31 - Wed, Feb 6
Week Five	Theory	Ember, Ember Ch. 3	No Quiz
Exam 1			Thurs. Feb 7 - Wed Feb 13

Week Six	Getting Food	Ember, Ember Ch. 6 AE articles: 1. Wrangham – “How Cooking Frees Men” 2. Gadsby – “The Inuit Paradox”	Quiz 4 Thurs., Feb 14 - Wed, Feb 20
Week Seven	Eco Systems	Ember, Ember Ch. 7 AE articles: 1. Whiteley – “Ties That Bind” 2. Hitchcock – “Rising	Quiz 5 Thurs., Feb 21 - Wed, Feb 27

		Number of Dowry Deaths in India”	
Week Eight	Pol Org	Ember, Ember Ch. 14 AE articles: 1. Scheper-Hughes – “Death Without Weeping” 2. Lappe and Collins – “Why Can't People Feed Themselves?”	Quiz 6 Thurs., Feb 28 - Wed, March 6
Week Nine	Religion and Magic	Ember, Ember Ch. 15 AE articles: 1. Kozak – “Shamanisms: Past and Present” 2. Del Guercio – “The Secrets of Haiti's Living Dead”	Quiz 7 Thurs., March 7 - Wed, March 20
Spring Break March 11 - 17			
Week Ten	Marriage and the Family	Ember, Ember Ch. 11 AE articles: 1. Goldstein – “When Brothers Share a Wife” 2. Kristof – “Who Needs Love!”	Quiz 8 Thurs., March 21 - Wed, March 27
Exam 2			Thurs., March 21 - Wed, March 27

Week Eleven	Marital Residence and Kinship	Ember, Ember Ch. 12 AE articles: 1. Layng – “When Cousins Do More than Kiss” 2. Nanda - “Arranging a Marriage in India”	Quiz 9 Thurs. March 28 - Wed April 3
Week Twelve	Sex and Gender	Ember, Ember Ch. 10 AE articles: 1. Herek – “Sexual Orientation Differences as	Quiz 10 Thurs., April 4 - Wed, April 10

		Deficits” 2. Hussein – “Murder in Amman”	
Week Thirteen	Culture and Art	Ember, Ember Ch. 16 AE articles: 1. Simmons – “Where Fat is a Mark of Beauty” 2. Miner – “Body Ritual of the Nacirema”	Quiz 11 Thurs., April 11 - Wed, April 17
Week Fourteen	Lang and Com	Ember, Ember Ch. 5 AE articles: 1. Boroditsky – “How Language Shapes Thought” 2. MacNeil – “Do You Speak American?”	Quiz 12 Thurs., April 18 - Wed, April 24
Week Fifteen	Applied	Ember, Ember Ch. 17 AE articles: 1. Graham – “The Tractor Invasion” 2. Kunzig – “Population Seven Billion”	Quiz 13 Thurs., April 25 – Wed, May 1
Exam 3			Thurs., May 2 – Wed, May 8