

FEB 07 2003

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, COMMERCE AND EDUCATION
ANTHROPOLOGY 2070 3(3-0-0), WINTER 2003
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Instructor: Dr. Laurie Nock

Office: C215

Phone: Office: 539-2830; Home: 539-7348

e-mail: lnock@gprc.ab.ca

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:30-2:30. Drop-ins welcome.

Prerequisite: Anthropology 1010

Calendar description: The comparative study of human society and culture, particularly non-western communities, with special attention to the family, social structures, economic and political institutions, religion and processes of change.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Conrad Phillip Kottak, Mirror for humanity: A concise introduction to cultural anthropology. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2003.

William A. Haviland and Robert J. Gordon, Eds., Talking about people: readings in contemporary cultural anthropology. Mayfield Publishing, 1996.

Michael V. Angrosino, Doing cultural anthropology: Projects for ethnographic data collection. Prospect Heights, Ill.: Waveland, 2002.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course has three main purposes:

- 1) to establish an anthropological framework which can be used to facilitate an understanding of the diverse cultures of this world, and to apply this framework to specific cultures;
- 2) to introduce students to a variety of research methods used by anthropologists; and
- 3) to study a variety of topics in cross-cultural perspective.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

A total of six written assignments are required, each worth 12.5% of the final course grade (75% in total). They are marked using the stanine system. Assignments must be handed in to the instructor by Friday at 3 p.m., the week they are due. No late papers will be accepted. Timing is crucial, and you are advised to begin work quickly! You should have completed at least two assignments by week 7.

Ethnography assignments: At the beginning of term, students will select an ethnography of one culture in which they will become experts. At least twice during the term, they will submit a discussion of particular aspects of that culture, making use also of course texts and supplementary materials, with appropriate references. Two of these assignments are required.

Ethnology assignments: Many cultures and many topics are presented in class discussions and in course readings. Select two of these topics and pursue them through (primarily) a modest amount of cross-cultural research in the Library (in print materials) or on the Internet. Write up your findings with proper references. At least two of these are required.

Research methods: Students will implement two different forms of research methodology, to be written up in a report. Two of these are required.

More than two of any of these assignments may be submitted to improve grades, but one type may not be substituted for another. For due dates and more detailed descriptions, see below. You may submit one missed assignment of any sort one week after last class.

Students will often be called upon to report on their learning activities, and there will also be in-class assignments (quizzes, group discussions, etc.) timed at the instructor's discretion. These reports and assignments will be worth 25% percent of the final course grade. As one of these assignments (worth ten points), students are to meet with me for an in-depth writing tutorial on one of their assignments, at any point during the term. Ample opportunity to earn points will be provided, so there will be no make-ups for in-class work. For in-class assignments and reports ONLY, calculate your mark as a percentage of total marks obtainable

80-100%	= 9
72-79%	= 8
65-71%	= 7
60-64%	= 6
56-59%	= 5
50-55%	= 4
45-49%	= 3
26-44%	= 2
0-25%	= 1

ANTHROPOLOGY 2070: ETHNOGRAPHY ASSIGNMENTS

Two of these assignments are required.

At the beginning of term, select one ethnography and one culture in which you will become an expert. At the appropriate time during the term, submit a discussion of particular aspects of that culture, including the information specified below in a paper of up to 10 pages, double-spaced (2500 words).

You must include enough information about the way of life of the people you are studying to provide a context for your topic. Include at the beginning of your paper a brief presentation of your ethnographic source material: the ethnographer, when and how materials were collected, and your general evaluation of the text. In this way, you can avoid constant reference to source material. It is your responsibility to select topics on which your ethnography provides sufficient information, or to supplement this information.

You are also expected to demonstrate an understanding of how the practices of this culture make sense in the context of anthropology as a whole. For this, make use of the course texts, using the Reference Guideline.

ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION, WEEK 1

- geographical location, climate
- productive activities, resources available and used, technological base
- access to and ownership of resources, e.g. land, animals, tools
- division of labor and/or occupational specialization
- distribution of production: sharing, trade and/or tribute

POLITICAL ORGANIZATION, WEEK 3

- type of government and authority structures
- conflict resolution and social control--law, enforcers
- relations w/ neighbors--war, trade

SOCIAL ORGANIZATION, WEEK 6

- demographic features (size of population and population density)
- residence/settlement pattern
- type of community; egalitarian or hierarchical society
- non-kin based organizations
- family and kinship structure
- marital patterns and practices; gender relations

IDEOLOGY, WORLDVIEW, RELIGION, WEEK 9

art forms
mythology, deities, forms of worship
ceremonies and rituals
values and beliefs that shape behavior

DEVELOPMENT, WEEK 11

Explore the effects of modernization on the economic, social, political and ideological structures of the people in your ethnography. How have they changed with, accommodated to and resisted development?

ANTHROPOLOGY 2070: ETHNOLOGY ASSIGNMENTS

Two of these assignments are required

This is your opportunity to carry out cross-cultural research on topics and cultures which intrigue you. Pursue your interest in a particular topic through further research in the Library (in print materials) or on the Internet. Write up your findings in a paper of up to 10 pages, double-spaced (2500 words), with proper reference to approximately three sources. Your topic must coincide with the subject area of focus in the course at the time (see Course Schedule), and deal with at least two cultures. Concentrate on the topic; this is not just a description, but also an analysis of what can be learned through cross-cultural comparison.

ECONOMIC TOPIC, WEEK 2

POLITICAL TOPIC, WEEK 4

SOCIAL TOPIC, WEEK 7

IDEOLOGICAL TOPIC, WEEK 9

DEVELOPMENT TOPIC, WEEK 12

Sample topics:

war	rites of passage
family	voluntary organizations
child-rearing	mythology
gender	love
medicine / illness	racism / ethnicity
death	kinship
fabric	symbols
nutrition / food etiquette	media
tobacco use	

ANTHROPOLOGY 2070: RESEARCH METHODS

Two of these assignments are required. You may hand in one a week at any time up to Week 12.

Following a discussion of the research methods, you will devise and carry out a short research project and evaluate the usefulness of the method to research and to yourself. A report on your experience and the results of your research will be presented to the class and submitted in writing to the instructor in a paper of up to 10 pages, double-spaced (2500 words). Demonstrate that your use of the chosen research method is consistent with anthropological methodology as discussed in Angrosino's text.

PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION

GENEALOGY

LIFE HISTORY

ORAL HISTORY

ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTS

CONTENT ANALYSIS

GUIDE TO REFERENCES

If you use a direct quote (or a diagram, or statistics) from an author, your source must be acknowledged. The quotation must be exact! For example:

"There is a basic contradiction in the structure of girls' social relationships. Friends are supposed to be equal and everyone is supposed to get along, but in fact they don't always. Conflict must be resolved, but a girl cannot assert social power or superiority as an individual to resolve it." (Maltz & Borker, 2001, p. 167).

If you paraphrase an author or use ideas which are not your own, your source must still be acknowledged. Include the name of the author, publication date, and (usually) page number. For example:

Poverty and ignorance are not necessarily the best explanation for why people avoid drinking milk. Lactase production is not common among adults around the world (Ember & Ember, 2002, p. 2).

In referring to an author whose work is cited in a text you are using, refer to the latter, not to the original source. For example:

Easter Island was apparently covered by subtropical forest for thousands of years before it lost its trees. (Flenley & King as paraphrased in Diamond, 2001, p. 101).

References to information downloaded from the Internet are similar to those used for print materials. For example,

In seventeenth-century Turkish cafes, coffee was accompanied by smoking tobacco from elaborate *narghile* (Gercek, 1986).

REFERENCES

- Diamond, J. (2001). Easter's end. In Aaron Podlefsky and Peter J. Brown (Eds.), *Applying anthropology: an introductory reader* (pp. 98-103). Mountain View, California, Mayfield Publishing.
- Ember, C.R., Ember, M. & Peregrina, P.N. (2002). *Anthropology*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall.
- Gerkec, G. (1986). Narghiles. *Antikas, the Turkish journal of collectable art*, 11.
Retrieved December 22, 2002 from <http://hookahkings.com/articles/article4.htm>
- Kinzer, S. (1997). Journal: inhale the pleasure of an unhurried Ottoman past. *New York Times*, 6/10/97. Retrieved December 22, 2002 from <http://hookahkings.com/articles/article4.htm>
- Maltz, D.N. & Borker, R.A. (2001). A cultural approach to male-female miscommunication. In Aaron Podlefsky & Peter J. Brown (Eds.), *Applying anthropology: an introductory reader* (pp. 162-173). Mountain View, California; Mayfield Publishing.
- Moyers, B. (Executive Editor) & Tatge, C. (Producer) (1988). The first storytellers, Program Three of *The First Storytellers*. New York, NY: Mystic Fire Video, Inc.
- Theroux, P. (2002, December). Hawai'i: Preserving the breath. *National Geographic* 202 (6), 2-41.

These go in alphabetical order according to the (first) author's surname. Anthology articles (and journal articles) are attributed to the author/s of the article, not the editors of the volume. The year of publication is the year of the anthology, not the original year of publication of the article. Underline titles of books or journals. Consult an APA style guide (some of which are available on-line), if you have doubts.