Course Abstract

The purpose of this course in ANTH F100X is to introduce the student to those facts, theories, and perspectives in the content of cultural anthropology as pertaining to the individual, society, and culture. Attention is given to various methods, areas of research, and hypotheses. An emphasis is placed on the comprehensive view of our own species within culture, society, and history within an evolutionary framework. The human being is presented as a symbolizing and a sociocultural animal. The anthropological orientation is scientific and rational; it includes a theoretical framework supported by evidence. Its major conceptual framework is grounded on the empirical fact of human evolution.

Topics include: (1) the divisions of general anthropology; (2) the origin and history of general anthropological theory; (3) major cultural theorist; (4) language and culture; (5) the origin and cultural development; (6) facts, ideas, and methodology; and (8) new directions in research.

The diversity in language, social structure, kinship systems, economic and political systems as well as the arts, magic and religion, and applied anthropology are examined from the historical and cross-cultural perspectives. Stress is placed on both understanding and appreciating the origin, evolution, and cultural diversity among our species in terms of evidence and rational speculation.

Prerequisite: ENG F111X or higher or permission from instructor.

Course Goals

1. To provide the student with a working knowledge in the adaptive relationship of the individual to society within a cultural context.
2. To provide the student with an understanding and appreciation for the value of anthropology as a comprehensive discipline.
3. To learn valuable knowledge about theories and methods in research and the problems that are inherent in fieldwork.
4. To gain a greater tolerance and respect for human biological and cultural diversity.
5. To promote critical thinking.
Spring 2015

Text

Method of Instruction

Lectures with PowerPoint are the primary instructional method. In addition to the lectures, appropriate videos will be shown (see below), followed by active discussions.

Class Videos
The Yupik Way
True Whispers
Where the Highway Ends
America before Columbus
Native American Healing in the 21st Century
Divine Horseman
Collapse

Nota Bene
Any student having a problem or problems with this course ANTH F100X should first meet with the instructor in order to work out a mutually agreed upon resolution. The student may contact the instructor via email or phone.

**Please read Ch. 1 and Ch. 2 BEFORE the first day of class. Also, answer the questions as instructed on page 6 of this syllabus.**

Course policies

Grading

1. Exams (2 @ 100 points)
2. Objective Quizzes (4 @ 25 points)
3. Homework (5 @ 20 points)
4. Class Discussions (3 @ 50 points)
5. In class assignments (15 @ 5 points)
Total Points = 625 points (excluding extra credit and class participation)

Class Participation (2 points extra credit when merited)
Extra Credit Opportunities (2 @ 5 points)
Grade Scale

- **A +** (98 – 100%)
- **A** (93 – 97%)
- **A –** (90 – 92%)
- **B +** (87 – 89%)
- **B** (83 – 86%)
- **B –** (80 – 82%)
- **C +** (77 – 79%)
- **C** (73 – 76%)
- **C –** (70 – 72%)
- **D +** (67 – 69%)
- **D** (63 – 66%)
- **D –** (60 – 62%)
- **F** (< 60)

**N.B.**

- A **minimum** grade of C (2.0) is necessary for all prerequisites and major courses.
- A **minimum** grade of C- (1.7) is necessary for all Core (x) courses.

**Exams**

There are two (2) exams based upon class lectures, videos, and those required readings from your text. Both the mid-term and final exam is divided into two (2) parts: Objective (60 pts.) and Critical Research Essay (40 pts.). The take-home critical research essay, each 4 to 6 pages in length, will be assigned two weeks before the exam and will be submitted on the day of the exam.

**N. B.** For the essay, you should save the file and keep a second hard copy of the research essay for your own records.

**Library Research**

This course will require the student to conduct library research for the critical research essay. Students are suggested to use academic books and journal articles (refer to Guidelines for Research Paper handout).

**Quizzes**

There are four (4) objective quizzes (25 points each). The quizzes are based upon class lectures, videos and any required readings from your text.

**Homework Assignments**

The student will be assigned weekly reading assignments and **at least** five (5) homework assignments. N.B. it is important that the student reads the assigned chapter(s) BEFORE the scheduled class. The assignments must be typed and each question must be at least one (1) paragraph in length.

The two (2) critical research essays (the written portion of the mid-term and final) will be given two (2) weeks prior to the exam.

All assignments must be physically submitted on the due date. Emailed assignments will be accepted with a 15% penalty in addition to the late assignment penalty.
Group Discussions

The student will participate in two (2) group discussions and a “Roundtable” discussion. The topics will be assigned by the instructor prior to class. Answers must be typed and at least one (1) page in length. The written page is worth 20 points and the discussion is 30 points. Attendance is mandatory and any absence will result in failure of the assignment.

In Class Assignments

Students will be required to answer questions and prepare to discuss information based on readings and videos that are appropriate for each class section.

Extra Credit

The extra credit work will give the student an opportunity to explore the material and earn extra points. Students will have an opportunity for two (2) extra credit projects (maximum 5 points each). Extra credit projects include papers or presentations. The papers will be 2 – 4 pages in length and the presentations must be about 20 minutes. Topics for the paper and/or presentation must be given during or closely after the relevant section.

Class Participation

Each student is encouraged to participate in class discussions and contribute information on relevant topics included in the lectures.

Late Assignments

Assignments are expected to be submitted on time. Any late work will be accepted. However, a 10% penalty will be given per class period. You will not be penalized valid reasons (as per policy).

Attendance

Attendance is required as per UAF policy. Roll call will be taken at the beginning of each class. It is imperative for the student to be on time. Remember, there’s only 9 classes. It is important for the student to attend class. One class absence will result in a lower grade. More than two (2) absences will result in failure. The student is responsible for all information missed during any absence or instances of tardiness.

Academic Integrity

Instances of plagiarism or any act(s) of academic dishonesty (cheating) will result in the failure of the paper, exam, or quiz. Please refer to UAF policy.

Student Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner (refer to UAF policy). Everyone has personal beliefs and/or philosophical positions. Please be respectful to the instructor and your fellow students. Also, please turn off any cell phones. Phone calls or texts during lectures are unacceptable. As for personal computers, students may use a computer for taking class notes. However, surfing the web and sending emails should be done outside of the classroom.
Disability Services

UAF has a Disability Services office that operates in conjunction with the UAF Community and Technical College. Disability Services, located in room 208 of the Whitaker Building, provides academic accommodations to enrolled students who are identified as being eligible for these services.

If you believe you are eligible, please visit http://www.uaf.edu/disability on the web or contact CTC’s student Assistance and Advising Center (455-2800). You can also contact Disability Services on the Fairbanks Campus at (907) 474-5655, uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu

Students with disabilities should contact The Office of Disability Services.

N. B. It is imperative that the student inform the instructor of any disabilities. Appropriate arrangements will be made in order to accommodate the student.
General Course Outline

Part I & II: Introduction & Theory

1. Anthropology: Aim and Scope
2. Anthropology: Major Divisions
3. Anthropological Orientation
4. Anthropology: Origin and History
5. Human Culture
6. Methodology

Part III & IV: Ethnography & Conclusion

7. Language and culture
8. Economic Systems
9. Social Stratifications
10. Politics
11. Sex and Society
12. Kinship Systems
13. Rites of Passage
15. Art
16. Anthropology and Worldviews
17. Cultural Change and the Human Future
18. Culture Anthropology: New Directions

Tentative Homework Assignments

Due 1.3: Ch. 1, Questions 1 & 3; Ch. 2, Questions 1, 3, and 4.
         Ch. 3, Questions 1 & 3; Ch. 4, Questions 1, 2, and 5.

Due 1.5: Ch. 5, Questions 1, 3, and 4; Ch. 6, Questions 2 and 3.

Due 1.6: Ch. 7, Questions 4 and 5; Ch. 8, Questions 2, 3, and 4.

Due 1.8: Ch. 15, Questions 1 and 3.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics/Readings</th>
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| 1.3  | Introduction (Ch.1)  
Culture and Cultural Change (Ch. 2)  
Theory/Methods (Ch. 3-4)  
In class assignment  
**Critical Research Essay (Due 1.7)** |
| 1.5  | Quiz 1: Intro and Cultural Change  
Theory & Evidence (Ch. 3-4)  
Communication & Resources (Ch. 5-6)  
Video: “True Whispers”  
In class assignment |
| 1.6  | *Quiz 2: Theory*  
Economics and Social Stratification (Ch. 7-8)  
Video: “The Yupik Way”  
Video: “Where the Highway Ends”  
In class assignment  
Discussion #1  
Review |
| 1.7  | Culture, Sex, and Gender (Ch. 9-10)  
*** Mid-Term Exam***  
Marriage and Kinship (Ch. 11-12);  
In class assignment  
**Critical Research Essay (Due 1.14)** |
| 1.8  | Quiz 3: Marriage and Kinship  
Politics and Interest Groups (Ch.13-14)  
In class assignment  
Video: “America before Columbus”  
Case Studies  
Magic and Religion (Ch. 15) |
| 1.9  | Magic and Religion (Ch. 15)  
Video: “Native American Healing in the 21st Century”  
Video: “Divine Horsemen”  
In class assignment |
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1.12 Quiz 4: Magic and Religion
Arts (Ch. 16)
In class assignment
Discussion #2

1.13 Global Problems and the Future (Ch. 18)
Video: “Collapse”
In class assignment
Final Review

1.14 Value of Anthropology
World Issues Roundtable Discussion: Universal vs Relativism
*** Final Exam