

University of Lethbridge
The Anthropological Perspective
Anthropology 1000B
Fall 2013

Class: MWF 3:00-3:50 PM

Instructor: Dr. Jeremy J. Cunningham

Instructor Phone: 329-5102

Office Hours: Wed 11:30-12:30

Classroom: PE250

Dropbox: A874

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Introduction:

This course provides an introductory overview of Cultural Anthropology. We begin by defining anthropology, its various subfields and core concepts, and then examine topics such as the evolution of modern humans, the ethnographic method, ethics, and the concept of culture. We then shift our focus to look cross-culturally at the various dimensions of human societies, including different languages, political and kinship systems, genders and religions. Our course concludes with a critical discussion of anthropology's uncomfortable relationship with colonialism and we explore some of the new types of applied anthropological research that have emerged in recent years.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course, students should have the necessary skills and knowledge to:

- Define the key concepts used by anthropologists to analyze human societies.
- Describe the variability found in the symbolic, economic, political, and social dimensions of modern human societies.
- Describe the different forms of ethnographic research typically undertaken by anthropologists.

Course Texts:

Kottak, Conrad P.

2012 *Mirror for Humanity: A Concise Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*. 8th Edition. McGraw-Hill, New York.

Shostak, Margorie

1981 *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge.

Walsh, Andrew

2012 *Made in Madagascar: Sapphires, ecotourism and the global bazaar*. University of Toronto Press, Toronto.

DELIVERABLES

Component	Weighting	Date
Quiz 1	30%	Oct 4
Quiz 2	30%	Nov 8
Final Exam	40%	Exam Period

Quizzes (2 X 30%)

Quizzes are multiple-choice exams that you will write online through Moodle **on Oct 4th & Nov 8th**. Questions are drawn from all course materials, including readings, ethnographies, lectures and films. The quizzes are not cumulative and cover material dealt with only since the previous quiz. While the exact chapters covered on the exam may change slightly depending on how fast we move through the course, Quiz 1 will likely cover Chapter 1-4 and lectures on human evolution while Quiz 2 will likely cover *Nisa* and Chapters 5-9.

Final Exam (40%)

The Final Exam will be a cumulative exam also written through Moodle during the exam period. It will consist of matching & multiple-choice questions drawn from all course content, including lectures, films, texts, and both ethnographies.

COURSE POLICIES

Percentage to Letter Grade Conversion

Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent
A+	95+	C+	67-69%
A	87-94%	C	63-66%
A-	83-86%	C-	60-62%
B+	78-82%	D+	57-59%
B	74-77%	D	50-56%
B-	70-73%	F	0-49%

Returned Exams and Assignments

I will strive to return marked exams and assignments to students within 2 weeks of their due date. Marks will be posted in Moodle's Gradebook.

PowerPoint Slides

PowerPoint slides related to lectures will be posted on Moodle *after* the lectures in which they are used. It is my goal to have the slides available for you on Moodle within 72 hours of the lecture, however it may take longer if the lectures carry over into subsequent classes.

COMMUNICATION POLICIES

Outside lectures and office hours, the primary forms of communication in the course take place through Moodle, including the bulletin board and chat rooms.

Bulletin Board

Any questions that you may have that relate to course content, course procedures, the assignments or the readings should be posted to the main bulletin board. This allows everyone in the class to see the responses that I give and it makes my life a bit easier because I won't have to answer 6 identical questions. It also will hopefully jump start the bulletin board as a venue for informal discussions about the course.

Email: (jerimy.cunningham@uleth.ca)

Questions on more personal issues can be sent to my email. I will check my email once a day during the week and I will try to reply to you within 72 hours. At certain times during the semester, I will be away from my office for 2-7 days at a time and thus I may be delayed in replying to any questions.

Office Hours & Chats

A single set of office hours tends to be quite difficult for most students to work into their diverse schedules, yet other students do still enjoy a time when they can drop in to ask their professor a question. As a result, this term I have opted to schedule one office hour for our course on Wednesdays between 11:30-12:30 and I will also be available at other times by appointment. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to meet and discuss the course or exams. I do ask that you please give me sufficient notice for appointments so I can rearrange my schedule. Appointments can be held either in person at my office, adjacent to our classroom, or electronically in our Moodle chatroom.

Telephone

I have posted my office telephone number on the course outline. I would stress that this is given *for emergency purposes only*. Questions relevant to the course are best directed to me through the bulletin board and email.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE & ASSOCIATED READINGS
(Subject to change**)**

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings	
			Text	Ethnography
0	Sept 4 & 6	Introduction to the course		
1	Sept 9-13	What is Anthropology	Ch 1	
2	Sept 16-20	Human Evolution & Culture	Ch 2	
3	Sept 23-27	Ethnography	Ch 3	
4	Sept 30-Oct 4	Linguistics **Quiz 1 – Oct 4**	Ch 4	
5	Oct 7-11	Production & Exchange	Ch 5	<i>Nisa</i>
6	Oct 16 & 18	Political Systems	Ch 6	
7	Oct 21-25	Kinship	Ch 7	
8	Oct 28-Nov 1	Gender	Ch 8	
9	Nov 4-8	Religion **Quiz 2 – Nov 8**	Ch 9	
10	Nov 13-15	The World System	Ch 10	<i>Madagascar</i>
11	Nov 18-22	Identity	Ch 11	
12	Nov 25-29	Applied Anthropology	Ch 12	
13	Dec 2-9	Anthropology & Global Issues	Ch 13	