Syllabus

Spring 2019

Instructor Contact

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Course Information

Course Name	Cultural Anthropology
Course ID	ANT2410
Credit Hours	3
Semester/Year	spring 2019
Location	Full online class

Course Description

This class is an introduction to cultural anthropology, its methods, concepts and a survey of the cross cultural findings of anthropologists. In addition, we will be using research conducted by your instructor in a refugee camp as illustrations of the concepts you will learn and how they can be useful in understanding human behavior.

Course Objectives

- Students gain an appreciation of how culture impacts human behavior.
- Students comprehend that culture is a holistic phenomena, where subsistence, social organization, beliefs, technology, language, politics, and economics are all inter-related.
- Students understand the biological basis of culture and the unique capabilities of humans to create culture.
- Students understand the basis of natural selection and what biological evolution is.

- Students understand the relationship from some of the important developments of human evolution (bipedalism, big heads) and the biological basis of culture in Homo saliens
- Students understand that real cross-cultural comparisons must include all aspects of a culture including subsistence, social organization, religion and beliefs, etc.

Learning Outcomes

- Students demonstrate through answers to assignments and discussion responses that they have read and comprehended the online material and supplemental texts.
- Students demonstrate through answers to assignments that they have acquired the capability to be analytical when addressing aspects of cultures.
- Students demonstrate through answers to assignments that they have the capability to synthesize aspects of a culture to reveal the relationships between subsistence, social organization and beliefs.

Required Text

- *The Hutterites in North America* by John A. Hostetler
- *Friend by Day, Enemy by Night: Organized Violence in A Khoistani Community*
- Refugee Camp Readings provided in Webcourses

Course Requirements

Important Information: There is a syllabus quiz that you need to take before Friday 1/11 at 11:55 pm. The quiz establishes your engagement in the class for financial aid purposes so you need to take it. Failing to take the quiz by the Friday deadline can result in delaying your financial aid. The score on the quiz does not affect your grade.

The class is organized by weeks. Within each week, there are modules. The modules contain material from your instructor that supplements the texts. The modules are required. They are your instructor's way of providing what you miss in lectures. Consequently, there will be a substantial amount of material from the modules on the exams. Further, in some cases you will not be able to do the assignments unless you have done the modules. The assignments are things you must do for credit, and they have set due dates. Please consult the Schedule for more details.

Evaluation and Grading

Assignment	Points
Exam 1	100

Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
18 Online Assignments and Discussions @ 10 points each 3 Discussion posts and responses 20 points each	180 60
Total	540 points

Online Exams

The exams will be available for specified days (see Schedule). You must take the exam during those specified days or it will have been missed. Once you begin the exam, you will have two hours to complete it. At the end of two hours, it will automatically close. The exams will have only multiple choice questions and you should be able to complete the exams within one hour (this is the case when your instructor gives them in face-to-face classes), but you get two hours.

Online Assignments and Discussions

Within the week to week modules, there are activities; in this case, online assignments and online discussions. These are required postings that you must make to the assignments for that week. For example, in the Week 1 Module, there is a requirement to submit some specific assignments and discussions.

In contrast to the assignments for this class, which are focused on specific material in the modules or texts, the discussions pose questions for you to engage with the class material and think about it. The discussion format is also a way to consider how other students in the class think about the material or the issues presented in the class. The goal is to create a thoughtful and analytical response to the question, and also to other student's responses. The discussions are not for simply stating a preconceived opinion, or attempting to provoke an argument. So be thoughtful and respectful in your responses to the questions and other student's responses.

It is recommended that you write your response in Word, then go online and open that assignment or discussion and copy and paste your response. If you write first and save and then use copy and paste, you will have your responses saved to your computer in case something happens. If you write the response online and something happens during your composition and you are not finished, you will lose your work. Better to write it on your own computer and save it and then post it to the list.

Very Important note: this is not cable news. Answer the question you are asked, not the question you wished had been asked. If you do not answer the question you are asked to answer, you will not receive credit.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 or below

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit

Those who take all three regularly scheduled exams are exempted from the Final Exam. With advance notice of an issue or documented serious medical issue, I will allow a make up of an earlier exam. Anyone who misses a regularly scheduled exam MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM. The Final Exam will be CUMULATIVE.

Assignments have due date. You can submit late assignments, but they receive 1/2 credit.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must connect with Student Accessibility Services, Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

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Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Schedule

Week/Dates	Topics	Assignments	Due Dates
Week 1 1/7	• Course Orientation • Introduction Anthropology and to the Concept of Culture • Definitions of Culture	Syllabus Quiz	1/11 at 11:55pm EST

	• Characteristics of Culture • Aspects of Culture. • *What is anthropology? • *What aspects of anthropology are unique and different from other natural and social sciences? • *The scientific method. • *The sub-disciplines within anthropology and what they study.	Assignment: What is Anthropology? Assignment: What is Culture?	1/14 11 55 pm 1/14 11 55 pm
Week 2 1/14	American Culture	Assignment: American culture	1/21 11 55 pm
Week 3 1/21	• Introduction to one of the case studies we will use in this class: Vietnamese Refugees. (On-Line Reading) • Research Questions and Methods • Some History • The Research Setting • Aspects of Vietnamese Culture	Assignment: PRPC	1/28 11 55 pm
Week 4 1/28	• Human Beginnings and Human Evolution: Online modules • Principles of Evolution • Natural Selection • Forces of Evolution: Selection, Mutation, Migration, Genetic Drift, Assortive Mating	Assignment: What is natural selection?	2/4 11 55 pm
Week 5 2/4	• Human Beginnings: Online Modules • Bipedalism and Big Heads • Australopithecines: afarensis, africanus, robustus, boisei • Homo: habilis, erectus, neaderthalis, sapiens • The beginnings of culture, behavioral over physical adaptations	Assignment: Hominid Exam 1	2/11 11 55 pm 2/9 8 am to 2/11 11 55 pm

Week 6 2/11	• Language
	  ○ Language and Linguistics
	  ○ Design Characteristics of Human Language
	  ○ Language Acquisition
	  ○ Language and Culture
	  ○ Some Examples from Vietnamese Language
		Assignment: Language
		
		Culture discussion due
			2/25 11 55 pm
			
			2/25 11 55 pm

Week 7 2/25	• Subsistence Systems • Reading: Hutterites • Environments • Hunter Gatherers • Horticulture • Pastoralism • Agriculture • Intensive Agriculture	Assignment: Subsistence	3/4 11 55 pm
Week 8 3/4 Spring Break	• Social Organization • Kinship and Descent • Vietnamese Refugee Cases •	Assignment: Social Organization	3/18 11 55 pm 3/11 - 3/16
Week 9 3/18	• Economic Systems • Reading: Friend by Day, Enemy by Night and the online material on Friend by Day. • Reciprocity • Refugee Camp Examples	Assignment: Friend by Day Subsistence discussion due	3/25 11:55 pm 3/25 11 55 pm
Week 10 3/25	• Sex and Marriage and Family and Household ○ Growth, Development and Culture	Assignment: Family and Household Assignment Enculturation	4/1 11 55 pm 4/1 11 55 pm

	○ Reading: The Hutterites and the online material on the Hutterites ○ ○ Enculturation ○ Mead in Samoa ○ •	Hutterite assignment Exam 2	4/1 11 55 pm 3/30 - 8 am to 4/1 11 55 pm
Week 11 4/1	• Political Organization and Social Control • Bands • Tribes • Chiefdoms • States • A Riot in A Refugee Camp	Assignment: Social Organization	4/8 11 55 pm
Week 12 4/8	• Religion • Magical Thinking • Vietnamese, Khmer and Laotian Buddhism, Catholicism, Baptist Movies: Whatever Gets Me On The List	Assignment: Religion	4/15 11 55 pm
Week 13 4/15	• Cultural Change, American culture, Applied Anthropology, Globalization • Cultural Conservatism • Innovation • Diffusion • Revitalization • Friend by Day, Enemy by Night • Applied Anthropology • Globalization	Assignment: Culture change Assignment: Applied Anthropology Assignment: globalization Hutterite cross cultural discussion due Exam 3 (exam 3 is NOT the final it is exam 3 - for the final see below!)	4/22 11 55 pm 4/22 11 55 pm 4/22 11 55 pm 4/22 11 55 pm 4/20 8 am to 4/22 11 55 pm

Week 14 4/22	4/22 Last day of class: all assignments, discussions late or on time are due 4/22 11 55 pm		
Final - Make Up Exam	final - make up exam - this is only to make up a missed exam		4/24 8 am - 4/25 11 55 pm