Peoples of the World

ANT3212W • Dr. Sandra Wheeler • The College of Sciences at UCF

Professor Contact

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Course Information

Course name:	Peoples of the World
Course ID:	ANT 3212 (0W59)
Credit Hours:	3.0
Semester/Year:	Summer/2018
Location:	Fully online in Webcourses

University Catalogue Description

A comparative study of religion, family, politics, philosophy, and other elements of socio-cultural organization of societies.
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing.

Course Description

Culture surrounds us. It seems increasingly as if everyone is talking about "culture" or "cultures" to define or explain what people and entire societies do – but what is culture exactly? Cultural anthropologists study culture worldwide, researching similarities and differences among contemporary peoples. Anthropology initially studied people living traditional lives in very remote places, but as the world has changed, so has the discipline. Today, anthropologists research and work with urban populations, including indigenous and peasant peoples whose lives – and cultures – are transforming rapidly as a result of globalization.

This course presents a brief survey of peoples and cultures whose lives and beliefs represent a small part of human cultural diversity, with varied livelihoods - farming, herding, wage labor; religions - animism, animatism, polytheism, monotheism; and especially, differing views about what gives life meaning -yams, cattle, relationships, money, the arts, and so on. In this class we will explore the lifeways of peoples in diverse regions of the world, including Africa, the Pacific Islands, Asia, the Arctic, and the Americas. As anthropologist Ruth Benedict stated, "The purpose of anthropology is to make the world safe for human differences." Understanding different ways of life and different ways of thinking about the world helps us understand and appreciate the amazing diversity that is our human culture!

You will be assessed through online discussions, exams, and a short written food ethnography. The syllabus may be modified, as determined by the instructor. All changes will be announced on Webcourses.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will:

- Understand what anthropology is and what makes it unique as a discipline
- Learn about basic concepts and methods in cultural anthropology and how anthropology can contribute to debates about contemporary issues
- Understand and explain the impact of factors that underlie the diversity of cultural practices
- Examine issues confronting contemporary peoples, including identity, ethnicity, post-colonialism, dependency, modernization and globalization
- Appreciate our cultural diversity, as well as cultural similarities and differences

Course Format

This is a fully online course! Online learning is not for everyone; some people may not be able to manage learning in a course that does not fully meet face-to-face. Online learning requires planning and disciplined self-pacing to be successful in this learning environment. I highly recommend treating this course like a regular face-to-face lecture course, as this will help in keeping up with the posted modules each week. All content will be delivered in modules through Webcourses. You are responsible for **all** material presented in Webcourses as well as the readings from your text.

Links to videos, articles, podcasts, and/or other websites will be provided to supplement the material presented in the modules and to help you complete your discussions and exams. Never taken an online course before? Make sure you read the page on How to Study for an Online Course!

Required Text

There is only one required text for this class. You must purchase the book as **you will not pass this course** without it. There are lots of used copies floating around you can buy cheaply. I will provide any additional readings to you electronically on Webcourses.

For an electronic syllabus with readings and due dates by module click **here.**

Culture Sketches: Case Studies in Anthropology, 6th Edition.

Author: Holly Peters-Golden
Year: 2012
Publisher: Boston: McGraw Hill
ISBN: 978-0078117022 (paperback)

Grading Scale (+/- letter grades)

Letter Grade	Percent	Letter Grade	Percent
A	94-100%	C+	77-79%
A-	90-93%	C	70-76%
B+	87-89%	D	60-69%
B	84-86%	F	59%>
B-	80-83%		

Student Evaluation

Your final grade for the course is weighted and will be based on your performance on the following:

Assignment	Percent	Description
Discussion postings	45%	Discussion posts relating to the various cultures and topics presented in each module
Exams	45%	True/false, multiple choice, and/or fill in the blank questions
Food Ethnography	10%	A brief written report on a cultural food experience

Discussion postings: There are discussion postings for each of the 14 modules in this course. Everyone is **required to complete the first one** on Doing Anthropology. You will then **choose 9 others** to complete a **total of 10 of 14 required** Discussion posts. I will provide you Discussion points to address and your responses should be several paragraphs (i.e., enough depth to let me know you've done the readings and understand the content). **These are not opinion posts** unless I am asking your thoughts on a particular topic! You will then post **at least one** response to another classmate's post (thus the 'discussion' portion). After answering the questions by the **FIRST** posted due date, respond to **at least one other** student's comment by the **SECOND** due date in order to earn the full amount of points for each required discussion post. The grading criteria for the discussion postings is provided in the Discussion Assignment. There will be **no make-ups** for missed discussion postings.

Exams: There are **3** exams in this course. Exams are made up of true/false, multiple choice and/or fill-in-the-blank questions. There will be **no make-ups** for exams without proper documentation (this means an official doctor's note, police report, etc.). Once you begin an exam, **you must finish it!** The exams are timed so if you run over the allotted time, you will be cut off and you will not be able to make up the missed questions. **Important:** Once you start an exam, you must complete it. Exams close at midnight, even if you are still taking it, so make sure you give yourself enough time to complete them (i.e., start taking them well before 10:00 pm on their respective due dates). The final exam is scheduled during finals week and **is not** cumulative.

Food Ethnography: Although the primary purpose of food is nutrition, food has an important cultural dimension by which people choose what to eat and what not to eat. This is your opportunity to explore a different culture from a food experience. For this assignment, you will choose a meal from a culture you have never tried before and write a post (500-600 words, so about 2 double-spaced typed pages - yes, I will be counting) on your food experience. You must also respond to at least one other student's post. You should definitely include pictures in your post!

Course Requirements

This course is **fully online**, so it is important to have **reliable and consistent** access to the Internet. Since you are enrolled in an online course, it is assumed you have regular access to the Internet, **even if you are traveling abroad**. If you **do not** or **will not** have ready access to the Internet, you may want to rethink taking an online course. Also, the **UCF mobile app is not a replacement for laptops or desktops** so don't rely on it for completing quizzes, exams or assignments!!

To do well in this course, you will need to:

- Check Webcourses regularly
- Complete all readings, discussions, and exams by their due dates
- Complete all assignments and exams during their scheduled times

Important Things

First and foremost, read this syllabus. The syllabus is your guide so that you can keep up with the scheduled readings, modules, and assignments. There are many due dates for assignments, so you have to stay on top of this as **no late work will be accepted**. Second, if you email me or your TA using your Knights account, include **ANT 3212W** in the subject heading and don't forget to include your full name so we know who you are. Otherwise, use the Inbox function in Webcourses to contact us. Lastly, read the syllabus, it really is like your best friend for this course.

Other Important Things: Classes start: **MAY 14**; Drop/swap deadline: **MAY 17**; Add deadline: **MAY 18**; Withdrawal deadline: **JUNE 7**; Classes end: **JUNE 22. The final exam is scheduled during Final's Week.** Check out UCF's Academic Calendar for other important dates.

Really Important Things: We are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, **YOU MUST TAKE THE GETTING STARTED QUIZ BY MAY 18, 2018.** Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. And no one wants that.

Academic Responsibility

Time management, problem solving, responsibility and personal accountability are among the most important things you can learn in college. To be successful in this class (and in college in general), you will need to check Webcourses regularly (and often!), keep up with assigned readings and make every effort to complete assignments and exams on time and in a professional manner!

Online courses: Taking courses online can be **more** difficult than taking traditional face-to-face courses because of the level of self-discipline needed to devote the time for coursework, meeting deadlines, and keeping up with ***all* the course materials**. Don't think that taking an online course is easier, it can actually be much more challenging and time intensive, so be prepared.

Academic honesty: Plagiarism and/or 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" or "Z" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the UCF Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume 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. Also, please keep in mind while the Internet is an excellent source of *quick* information, it is not necessarily an excellent source of *valid* information and may also be a source of plagiarism in its own right.

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. This is particularly the case when it comes to final grades.

Respect for diversity: This class will be conducted in a way that respects all aspects of diversity. It is expected that everyone show respect for one another and the diverse issues and topics that will be covered. **If you troll the Discussion posts with inappropriate content or comments, I reserve the right to block you from further posts.** This will seriously negatively affect your grade so please use respectful language.

Student Accessibility Services

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 be registered with Student Accessibility Services, Ferrel Commons 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, or sas@ucf.edu before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your professor to discuss your circumstances.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. **The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only**. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

There are many fraudulent websites claiming to offer study aids to students but are actually cheat sites. They encourage students to upload course materials, such as test questions, individual assignments, and examples of graded material. Such materials are the intellectual property of instructors, the university, or publishers and may not be distributed without prior authorization (see Copyright statement above). Students who engage in such activity are in violation of academic conduct standards and may face penalties. Also, it's just not cool.

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.

Course Lecture and Assignment Schedule

Changes to the lecture and assignment schedules are not expected but may occur. Your professor reserves the right to make reasonable adjustments to the assignment schedule. Any changes will be announced through Webcourses. Due dates for assignments can be found in the table below. Look in the Modules for a complete listing of the course schedule and materials.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Thu May 17, 2018	Anthropology Discussion Posting: EVERYONE MUST DO THIS!	due by 11:59pm
	Aztec Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
	Haiti Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 18, 2018	Getting Started Quiz	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 20, 2018	Anthropology Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Aztec Dicsussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Haiti Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
Thu May 24, 2018	Ojibwa Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
	Yanomami Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 27, 2018	Exam #1	due by 11:59pm
	Ojibwa Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Yanomami Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
Thu May 31, 2018	Basseri Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
	Inuit Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
	Roma Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 3, 2018	Basseri Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Inuit Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Roma Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jun 7, 2018	Ju/'hoansi Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
	Nuer Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 10, 2018	Exam #2	due by 11:59pm
	Ju/'hoansi Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Nuer Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jun 14, 2018	Food Ethnography	due by 11:59pm
	Oceania Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
	Samoa Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 17, 2018	Oceania Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Samoa Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jun 21, 2018	Hmong Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
	Minangkabau Discussion Posting	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 22, 2018	Food Ethnography Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 24, 2018	Exam #3	due by 11:59pm
	Hmong Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm
	Minangkabau Discussion Response Due!	due by 11:59pm