

DEPAUW UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTH 151C: HUMAN CULTURES

Course Information:

Semester: Fall 2009
Location: JSC 157
Meeting Days: T Th
Meeting Times: 10:00-11:30am

Professor Information:

Marie Hopwood
Office Phone #: x4716
Office Location: Asbury 205C
Office Hours: MW 10:00-11:00am,
T 2:30-3:30pm or by appointment
Email: mariehopwood@depauw.edu

Course Description:

An introduction to the perspectives, methods and ideas of cultural anthropology. Analysis of human diversity and similarities among people throughout the world, both Western and non-Western, through cross-cultural comparison. Topics include: culture and society; ethnographic research; ethnocentrism vs. cultural relativism; how societies adapt to their environment; different forms of marriage and social relationships; male, female and other forms of gender; the social functions of religion; and processes of socio-cultural change. *May not be taken pass/fail.*

Objectives of the Course:

By the end of this course students should have a better understanding of what constitutes humanity in a broad sense; how cultures are different from each other and how they are similar. This should be evident in the students understanding of their own culturally-bound circumstances and assumptions.

Required Texts:

Delaney, Carol Lowery

2004 *Investigating Culture: An Experiential Introduction to Anthropology.*
Blackwell Publishing Limited, London.

Fernea, Elizabeth Warnock

1965 *Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village.* Anchor Press.

Basso, Keith

1996 *Wisdom Sits in Places: Landscape and Language Among the Western Apache.* University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque.

Readings:

Scholarly articles will be assigned for reading in addition to the required texts. These articles will be made available electronically through the Moodle classroom. All assigned readings are to be completed **before** the class in which they are listed. Class meetings will incorporate discussion of the assigned reading material, as well as the collection of exercises based on the reading.

It is suggested that students print out copies of these articles and take notes directly on the hard copies. If a student opts to not print out the articles, s/he should take substantial notes from the electronic copy. With either method students must bring the assigned article and/or their notes to class on the day that the article is to be discussed in class. All students must be prepared to participate in class discussions every day.

Films:

Films viewed in class may not be available from the DePauw University library, and will be shown in class only on the day as marked in the syllabus. If a film is missed, it is the student's responsibility to get notes from a fellow classmate.

Exercises:

All exercises are due at the beginning of the class period as marked on the syllabus. These can be single-spaced and double-sided to save paper, but they must be computer-printed and hand-delivered to the professor either in class or at her office. No emailed or electronically submitted assignments will be accepted. All assignment pages must be stapled together **before** handing in the assignment to the professor. Exercises make up 10% of your overall grade.

It is always a good idea to keep all graded exercises until after the end of the course. Mistakes can be made in the grading process, but with the graded exercises on hand, they can be easily fixed.

Papers:

Two papers will be written for this course totaling 25% of your overall grade. In each case a detailed description of the assignments will be handed out in class and made available on Moodle. Be sure to follow these instructions carefully as points will be deducted for incomplete papers, as well as for those that are incorrectly formatted. All papers must be double-spaced and stapled.

Exams:

Three exams will be given during the course of this semester, with each exam making up 20% of your total grade. These exams are not cumulative. Exam 1, for example, covers the material from Day 1 of class until the day before the exam is given. Exam 2 will pick up on material from the next day of lecture. However, the final exam may incorporate questions designed to get you to synthesize course information. The final exam cannot be made up or changed to a different date.

Course Attendance Policy:

In order to perform well in this or any course it is in your best interest to regularly attend class. For this course, attendance and participation make up 5% of your final grade. Do not underestimate the importance of this portion of your grade.

If for any reason an absence is unavoidable, each student is responsible for obtaining the missed class material from another classmate. For this reason it is a good idea to share email addresses with another student in this class. If absences are the result of injury,

illness or family emergencies, it is the student's responsibility to inform the Student Life Office and the instructor as soon as possible. In these cases, always make sure to stipulate that you allow Student Life to inform your professors that you have contacted their office concerning your absence. The Student Life Office can be reached at (765) 658-4270.

Evaluation of Student Performance:

Assessment of student performance is based on assignments, two papers, three exams and attendance/course participation, as shown below. The exams are not cumulative, but stand on their own. However, the final exam incorporates elements designed to get you to synthesize course information. The final exam cannot be made up or changed to a different date. Grades are non-negotiable.

Exercises = 10%
Paper 1 (Door Art) = 5%
Paper 2 (Culture Paper) = 20%
Exam 1 = 20%
Exam 2 = 20%
Exam 3 = 20%
<u>Attendance/Course Participation = 5%</u>
Total = 100%

As stipulated by the DePauw University Student Handbook:

- A, A- grades reflect "achievement of exceptionally high merit"
- B+, B, B- grades reflect "achievement at a level **superior** to the basic level"
- C+, C, C- grades reflect "basic achievement"
- D+, D, D- grades reflect "achievement which falls short of satisfying the quantitative and qualitative requirements yet warrants credit"

Grading Scale:

100 – 94 = A	76 – 74 = C
93 – 90 = A-	73 – 70 = C-
89 – 87 = B+	69 – 67 = D+
86 – 84 = B	66 – 64 = D
83 – 80 = B-	63 – 60 = D-
79 – 77 = C+	59 – = F

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism means copying or paraphrasing someone else's work and presenting it as one's own or without sufficient acknowledgement of another person's work. Plagiarism is a form of cheating even if there is no intent to deceive. Copying from textbooks or articles without sufficient acknowledgement is plagiarism. Paraphrasing a book or article without sufficient acknowledgement is plagiarism. Copying another person's unpublished work is plagiarism. I recommend that you read the *Code of Student Conduct and Related Policies* in the *College Handbook*. Knowing what constitutes academic dishonesty will enable you to identify it and thereby avoid such practices.

This document can be found at:

<http://www.depauw.edu/univ/handbooks/dpuhandbooks.asp?ID=521&parentid=518>

Laptop Use in Class:

Unless otherwise specified by the professor, laptops and similar devices may **not** to be used in class. The lecture and discussion format of this course does not lend itself to working well with that type of technology, and in fact can be disruptive to class flow. If this poses a difficulty for any student, please see the professor.

Students with Disabilities:

In accordance with the University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability, or any other medical reason, are encouraged to discuss this matter with the professor. Please take care of this early in the semester so that accommodations can be made in a timely manner.

** I reserve the right to amend this syllabus in the event that changes are necessary. Any changes will be announced to the students in class and on Moodle.*

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Disorientation and the Field

August 27: Disorientation and Orientation

Required Reading:

Delaney – Chapter 1: *Disorientation and Orientation*, p. 1-31

Assign: Fieldwork Disorientation Exercise **and** Paper 1: Door Art

Week 2: Space

September 1: Beyond Arm Chair Anthropology

Film: Off the Veranda

Required Reading:

In Delaney – Laura Bohannan: *Shakespeare in the Bush*, p. 25-31

Assign: Culture Paper (Topic Meetings)

Exercise Due: Fieldwork Disorientation

September 3: Locating Ourselves in Space

Required Reading:

Delaney – Chapter 2: *Spatial Locations*, p. 33-63

Assign: Constructing Space Exercise

Week 3: Time (Individual Topic Meetings)

September 8: Liminal Space

Required Reading:

In Delaney – Sue Bridewell Beckham: *The American Front Porch*, p. 64-74

Assign: Bending Time Exercise

Exercise Due: Constructing Space

September 10: Creating and Shaping Time

Required Reading:

Delaney – Chapter 3: *All We Have is Time*, p. 77-109

In Delaney – Ellen Goodman: *Time is for Savoring*, p. 109-110

In Delaney – Marshall Sahlins: *The Original Affluent Society*, p. 110-133

Assign: Topic Proposal with Three Potential Citations

Language Exercise

Due: Bending Time **and** Paper 1: Door Art

Week 4: Language

September 15: Language as Reflection and Referent

Film: Do You Speak American? (60 min.)

Required Reading:

Delaney – Chapter 4: *We Are What We Speak*, p. 135-168

In Delaney – Ursula LeGuin: *She Unnames Them*, p. 169-170

In Delaney – Alan Dundes: *Seeing is Believing*, p. 170-174

Exercise Due: Language Exercise

September 17: The Importance of Silences

Required Reading:

Basso, Keith

1971 "To Give Up on Words": Silence in Western Apache Culture
Anthropological Papers 21:151-161.

Due: Paper Topic and Three Potential Citations

Week 5: Constructing Gender

September 22: **Exam 1**

September 24: Construction of American Gender: Puritan Beginnings

Required Reading:

Fernea – Chapters 1-4, p. 3-56

Exercise Due: Questions from Chapters 1-4

Week 6: American Gender

September 29: Construction of American Gender: Victorians

Required Reading:

Fernea – Chapters 5-9, p. 37-115

Exercise Due: Questions from Chapters 5-9

October 1: Construction of American Gender: to the Present

Required Reading:

Fernea – Chapters 10-17, p 116-215

Assign: Rules and Relationships Exercise

Exercise Due: Questions from Chapters 10-17

Week 7: The Importance of Veiling

October 6: Veiled Revolution

Film: Veiled Revolution (with worksheet)

Required Reading:

Fernea – Chapters 18-Postscript, p. 216-333

Exercise Due: Questions from Chapters 18-Postscript

October 8: **No Class** – Library Day for Culture Paper

Required Reading:

Abu-Lughod, Lila

2002 Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving?: Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Relativism and Its Others. *American Anthropologist* 104(3):783-790.

Week 8: Identity

October 13: Who Are Your Kin?

Required Reading:

Delaney – Chapter 5: *Relatives and Relations*, p. 175-209

In Delaney – Penelope Eckert: *Symbols of Category Membership*, p. 209-222

In Delaney – A.M. Hocart: *Kinship Systems*, p. 222-227

Assign: Body Image Exercise

Exercise Due: Rules and Relationships

October 15: Constructing and Shaping Bodies

Required Reading:

Delaney – Chapter 6: *Our Bodies, Our Selves*, p. 229-265

In Delaney – Horace Miner: *Body Ritual Among the Nacirema*, p. 265-269

Due: Paper 2: Culture Paper

Week 9 (October 17-25): Fall Break *No class this week! – Study for Exam 2*

Week 10: Thoughts about Bodies

October 27: Medical Metaphors

Required Reading:

Martin, Emily

1994 Medical Metaphors of Women's Bodies: Menstruation and Menopause. In *Women's Health, Politics and Power: Essays on Sex/Gender, Medicine and Public Health*, pp. 213-232. Amityville, Baywood.

Assign: Identity through Fashion Exercise

Exercise Due: Body Image

October 29: **Exam 2**

Week 11: Constructing Bodies

November 3: Dressing Bodies in Culture

Required Reading:

Delaney –Chapter 8: *Clothing Matters*, p. 321-360

In Delaney – Julio Ramon Ribeyro: *Alienation*, p. 360-366

November 5: Inscribing Bodies

Required Reading:

Schildkrout, Enid

2004 Inscribing the Body. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 33:319-344.

Exercise Due: Identity through Fashion

Week 12: Wisdom Sits in Places

November 10: Quoting the Ancestors

Required Reading:

Basso – Preface and Chapter 1: *Quoting the Ancestors*, p. xiii-xviii, 3-35.

Exercise Due: Questions on Preface and Chapter 1

November 12: Stalking with Stories

Required Reading:

Chapter 2: *Stalking with Stories*, p. 37-70

Exercise Due: Basso Questions on Chapter 2

Week 13: Wisdom Sits in Places cont.

November 17: Speaking with Names

Required Reading:

Basso – Chapter 3: *Speaking with Names*, p. 71-104.

Exercise Due: Basso Questions on Chapter 3

November 19: Wisdom Sits in Places

Required Reading:

Basso – Chapter 4: *Wisdom Sits in Places and Epilogue*, p. 105-152.

Exercise Due: Questions on Chapter 4/Epilogue **and** Revised Culture Paper

Week 14: Cultural Constructions of Food

November 24: Food and Identity: *Dia de los Muertos*

Delaney – Chapter 7: *Food For Thought*, p. 271-319

Assign: Food and Family Exercise

November 26: No Class – Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 15: Food and Globalization

December 1: McDonald's in Japan

Required Reading:

Ohnuki-Tierney, E.

1997 McDonald's in Japan: Changing Manners and Etiquette. In *Golden Archaes East: McDonald's in East Asia*, edited by J.L. Watson, pp. 161-182. Stanford University Press, Stanford.

Exercise Due: Food and Family

December 3: The Meaning of Food

Film: The Meaning of Food

Week 16: Topics in Anthropology

December 8: Our Honour, His Glory

Required Reading:

Kressel, Gordon

1981 Sororicide/Filiacide: Homicide for Family Honour. *Current Anthropology* 22(2):141-152.

December 10: Anthropology and Militarism

Required Reading:

Gusterson, Hugh

2007 Anthropology and Militarism. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 36:155-175.

Week 17: Final Exam

Thursday, December 17, 1:00-4:00pm