

INTRODUCTORY ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTHROPOLOGY 103/ Fall 2007

Class Clough 102
T/TR 11:00 am -12:15 pm

Dr. Katherine Mickelson

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This class will consider human culture, its development and variations through diachronic and comparative perspectives of certain aspects of cultural systems. Anthropology is not about documenting bizarre human customs; anthropology is about exploring the range of normal behavior. This course is about exploring the range of human behaviors and fostering an appreciation of the diversity of human beings.

Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course include: 1) to introduce the student to the nature and diversity of the field of anthropology, particularly the sub field of Cultural anthropology; 2) to create an understanding of the concept of human culture and a recognition of how human groups use culture to adapt to and survive within a changing natural and cultural environment; 3) to create a recognition that much of human behavior is learned rather than instinctive or "natural"; and 4) to bring an understanding of the concept of ethnocentrism and how it affects societies.

Class Structure:

Class periods will consist of lectures, discussions, and films designed to reinforce the concepts presented in the assigned readings.

Texts:

Bailey, Garrick & James Peoples

2006 *Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*. West/Wadsworth, Belmont Ca. **Purchase**

Nanda

2007 *Neither Man Nor Woman*. **Purchase**

Hicks, G.

ND. *Appalachian Valley*. **Handed out in class.**

A series of articles will be provided for students. These articles are required reading. These may include articles by :
Ruth Benedict: (methods)
Jill Dubich: (methods)
Marvin Harris: (adaptation/environment)
Marcel Mauss: (exchange systems/economics)
Radcliffe-Brown: (kinship systems)
W. Williams: (gender and sexuality)
Roy Rappaport: (political life)

Reading assignments are listed in the schedule below. **STUDENTS SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH THE ASSIGNED READINGS AND BE PREPARED TO ASK QUESTIONS OR PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS ON THE ASSIGNED DATE.**

Attendance:

Class attendance is important for success in this course. Although some of the examples provided in class will deal our own society, the practices and beliefs of other societies may be quite beyond the experience of those of

us who are a product of Western Culture. In any case, applying the concepts and methods of anthropology usually requires a rethinking of society, even one's own. Class attendance will be monitored and both attendance and participation will be assessed as part of the final grade. **If more than 4 absences are recorded your final grade will be lowered by a letter grade. More than 7 absences will result in a failing grade in the class.**

Exams:

There will be three exams, each valued at 100 points. Examinations will be spaced throughout the term. The final exam period will be announced in class. Generally, exams will not be cumulative in detail, but concepts and information presented early in the class may be required to address questions in subsequent examinations. Violations of Rhode's academic honesty codes during exams will not be tolerated. Academic honesty infractions will be dealt in accordance to Rhode's policy. If you feel that there are errors in grading of your exam please state in writing what question(s)/answers you question and submit it with your exam within one week after the exam has been returned. **Except under extreme, documented cases, make up exams will NOT be given. Even if a missed exam is documented, the decision to administer a makeup exam is solely at the discretion of Professor Mickelson.**

Group presentation: Each person will be part of a group presentation on a particular culture. Each group will give their presentation for the full class time and each student of the group must present some aspect of the culture in class. These presentations should enlighten the entire class about a particular culture. This is each group and individuals chance to illustrate their creativity and knowledge. For example, if there are four people in a group presenting on the Kayapo, one presentation could be on the location and environment in which the Kayapo live, another could present on the residence and marriage patterns, a third could present on subsistence and economic aspects and a fourth could present on aspects of religion. Additional topics include, but are not limited to a particular anthropologist who studied the group, gender and sexuality, health aspects, subsistence, music... No more than four people per group.

As part of this group presentation, each individual must turn in a TWO (2) page (double spaced) synopsis of the particular aspect that they presented on in class and turn in a third page with three potential multiple choice questions to be reviewed by the professor and may be used on the exam.

Essay paper: Each Student will write a short, 5 page essay based on both required ethnographies: Appalachian Valley and Neither Man nor Woman. Each paper should summarize the ethnography, describing methods and results of the researcher ethnographic work. You must also provide a personal and critical (not necessarily negative) evaluation of each ethnography.

The deadline for each essay is noted on the syllabus. **THE ESSAY WILL BE FIVE PAGES, IN 10-12 PT. STANDARD FONT (e.g., Times New Roman, Ariel, or Courier). (PAGE NUMBERS PLEASE!). NO late papers will be accepted.**

GRADE ASSESSMENT

You must complete and submit all assignments to receive credit for this course. The assignments will be graded according to the following point scale and the final grade will be based on the total points earned. **ALL WRITING ASSIGNMENTS ARE TO BE HANDED IN ON THE DUE DATE AND AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. LATE PAPERS ARE GENERALLY NOT ACCEPTED EXCEPT UNDER EXTREME DOCUMENTED CIRCUMSTANCES. I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REDUCE THE GRADE OF THE PAPER BY A LETTER GRADE FOR EACH DAY IT IS LATE.**

EXAM 1	100
EXAM 2	100
FINAL	100
Presentation	100
Presentation write-up	50
ESSAY PAPERS 2 @ 100 pt/each	200
Participation and quizzes /writing assignments up to	100

TOTAL points possible	750
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TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND EXAMS

DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNED READING Ch: Humanity text book Art: Article (by author name)
8/23, 28	Introduction to the Course: The Study of Humanity	Ch. 1,2
8/30;	Language and Culture	Ch. 2, 3, 4
9/ 4-6	Theory	Ch. 4 Art. Crapo
9/11	Maori Presentation	
9/13, 18	Anthropological Methods	Ch. 5 Art. Benedict Art. Dubisch
9/20	Amish Presentation	
9/25	Adaptation and Environment	Ch. 6 Art. Harris
9/27	EXAM I	
10/2	Adaptation and Environment	Ch. 6 Art. Harris
10/4	Exchange/Subsistence Systems Appalachian valley essay due at beginning of class	Ch 7 Art. Mauss
10/9	Exchange/Subsistence Systems	Ch 7 Art. Mauss
10/11	Maya presentation	
10/16	FALL BREAK	
10/18	Marriage and Family	Ch. 8.
10/23	Ainu Presentation	
10/25	Marriage and Family	Chap. 8
10/30	EXAM II	
11/1-6	Kinship: How do we all get along?	Ch. 9 Art. Radcliffe-Brown
11/8	Enculturation/Life cycle.	Ch. 10
11/13	Zulu presentation	

11/15-20	Gender/Sexuality 11/20 Neither Man Nor Woman Essay due at beginning of class	Ch. 11 Art. Williams
11/22-25	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
11/27	Political Life	Ch. 12 Art. Rappaport
11/29	Social Inequality and Stratification	Ch. 13
12/4	Religion: Relations with the Supernatural.	Ch. 14

Exam # 3 (Final Exam) TBA