Anthropology 1150 Syllabus

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Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr

A major purpose of this course is to help you learn to view a society from within rather than from your view from the developed world. If you will try to follow the sentiments in the quotation below it will be easier.

"The world in which you were born in is just one model of reality. Other cultures are not faulty attempts at being you. They are unique manifestations of the human spirit." Wade Davis

The entire course is on the Internet including lectures, tests, films, discussions, and other tools except for the book. How to obtain the book is also noted below. It is your responsibility to make sure you have the necessary equipment and access to complete this online course. It is not a good idea to use one of the free internet services like Juno. These services tend to "kick you off" frequently. This causes many problems for test takers. A DSL or cable service is recommended for faster service.

It is the policy of the University of North Texas not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability (where reasonable accommodations can be made), disabled veteran status, or veteran of the Vietnam era status in its educational programs, activities, admissions, or employment policies. In addition to complying with federal and state equal opportunity laws and regulations, the university through its diversity policy declares harassment based on individual differences (including sexual orientation) inconsistent with its mission and educational goals. Direct questions or concerns to the Equal Opportunity Office, (940) 565-2456, or the Dean of Students, (940) 565-2648). TDD access is available through Relay Texas, (800) 735-2989.
OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

Through the use of ethnographic and documentary film, lecture and discussions, this course will illustrate the life ways, values, and beliefs of human societies throughout the world. This survey includes examples from native North America, the Caribbean, Latin America, Asia, Africa, Europe, Melanesia, Australia, and modern North America.

The goal of the course is to provide you with a knowledge and appreciation of the variety and diversity of societies throughout the world including Band Level/Tribal, Agricultural/Peasant, Industrial/Early Modern, and Information/Modern societies. It is hoped that students will gain a better understanding of the human experience as a result of taking the course.

The course does not pretend to provide a complete description of each society encountered or to answer every question about how such a society operates. The focus will be on expanding horizons, seeing the inter-connectedness of human-kind, and reviewing the differences between and among groups. We will explore the interaction between the economic, political, cultural, and social factors that contribute to both stability and change in human societies.

This course may create more questions than answers. We will probe and try to understand, but I will not dictate precise answers. Hopefully, we will all leave the course asking better questions as well as having better answers.

You can not succeed in this course if you do not want to work hard and explore new areas of enquiry. You must also be willing to integrate and synthesize material, not just remember facts.

Films are available from your computer. When the time comes you will be prompted in a lesson to view a film. Click on the link and follow the directions. A few students may need to use caution in viewing some films. There are portrayals of the killing of animals for food, initiation rituals that involve body scarring of the body, female circumcision, the handling of snakes, a murdered body, etc. If you are faint of heart you may need to look away from the screen briefly.

All films are also available in the UNT Media Library (Chilton 111). Hours are: Sunday -- 4:00 to 9 PM; M-Th. -- 7:45 AM to 10 PM; Friday -- 8:00 AM to 5 PM; .

They are also available in the UNT System Center in Dallas Library. Hours are: Sunday -- Closed; M to Th. -- 8:30 AM to 10 PM; Friday -- 8:30 AM to 6 PM; Saturday -- 9:00 AM to 5 PM.

I am available by email Mariela.Nunez-Janes@unt.edu if you wish to discuss aspects of the course. Please allow 24 hours for a response. I am also available during office hours or by appointment.

It is intended that the course will:

- Increase your knowledge about aspects of specific cultures from a variety of regions of the world.
- Demonstrate how culture is a unifying concept throughout the world.
- Expand your understanding of the forms of human adaptation and the complexity of human societies.
- Demonstrate the inter-connectedness of human experience among and between societies.

READINGS

The Challenge of Human Diversity: Mirrors, Bridges, and Chasms, Third Edition, Dwight Middleton, University Bookstore

Also available at www.amazon.com
Used books may be available on the Internet at:

http://half.com

**READINGS**

**Before Film Review I**

Read Lessons 1 and 2

Read the Introduction: Challenge of Diversity in your text

**Before Film Reviews II and III**

Read Lessons 3 and 4

Read the The Comparative Perspective in your text

**Before Quiz I**

Read Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4 in WebCT

Read the Introduction: Challenge of Diversity in your text

Read the The Comparative Perspective in your text

**Before Film Reviews IV and V, Quiz II**

Read Lessons 5 and 6 in WebCT

Read the Culture Shock in your text

**Before Film Reviews VI and VII, Quiz III**

Read Lessons 7 and 8 in WebCT

Read Common Ground in your text

**Before Film Reviews VIII and IX, Quiz IV**

Read Lessons 9 and 10 in WebCT

Read Meeting the Challenge in your text

Read Our Lived Difference in your text

**Before Film Reviews X and XI, Quiz V**

Read Lessons 11 and 12 in WebCT

Read Mirrors and Chasms in your text

**ASSIGNMENTS**

9/4 - Complete "Getting Acquainted" assignment

9/17 - View Cannibal Tours and submit the film review according to the directions in the Syllabus. You must complete by 11 PM.

10/8 - View Nomads of the Rainforest and the Neur and submit the film reviews according to the directions in the Syllabus. You must complete by 11 PM.

10/9 - 10/13 - Forum/Discussion on Bisha. Participate in discussion on these days. You must complete by 11 PM.

10/9 - 10/15 - Quiz I. You must complete by 11 PM.
10/22 - View Living Maya I and II and submit the 2 film reviews according to the directions in the Syllabus. You must complete by 11 PM.

10/23- 10/27 - Forum/Discussion on Kypseli. Participate in discussion on these days. You must complete by 11 PM.

10/23 - 10/29 - Quiz II. You must complete by 11 PM.

11/5 - View the films The Holy Ghost People and Chronicle of an American Suburb and submit the film reviews according to the directions in the Syllabus. You must complete by 11 PM.

11/6 - 11/10 - Forum/Discussion on But What if the Dream Comes True. Participate in discussion on these days. You must complete by 11 PM.

11/6 - 11/12 - Quiz III. You must complete by 11 PM.

11/19 - View the films The Goddess and the Computer and Malls R US and submit the film reviews according to the directions in the Syllabus. You must complete by 11 PM.

11/20 - 11/21 - Forum/Discussion on Rites and participate in discussion on these days. You must complete by 11 PM.

11/20 - 11/26 - Quiz IV. You must complete by 11 PM.

12/3 - View the films First Contact and Trekking on Tradition and submit the film reviews according to the directions in the Syllabus. You must complete by 11 PM.

12/4 - 12/5 - Forum/Discussion on Who Killed Vincent Chin and participate in discussion on these days. You must complete by 11 PM.

12/5 This is the absolute last date that any late paper can be turned in.

12/4-12/13 - Complete Assessment.

12/11 - 15 - Quiz V.

COURSE GRADE

Quizzes -- About 40% of the final grade -- Tests will be true/false and multiple choice. The tests must be taken at the times specified. The tests will be over lessons and readings only, not the films. There will be 20 questions on each test. The tests will be conducted on-line. Each student can log in at any time during the designated period by clicking on Quizzes and Reviews on the Home Page of the course. You will then receive 20 questions that are computer generated from a pool of questions. Each student will receive a separate group of questions. You will have 30 minutes to complete the exam. The exams must be completed in the time period indicated (on the days indicated in the Syllabus). The tests are not cumulative i.e., the final will only test material from Topic VI. Exams are as follows: Quiz I=Topics I and II; Quiz II=Topic III; Quiz III=Topic IV; Quiz IV=Topic V; and Quiz V=Topic VI. There are no make-up exams without a Doctors written verification.

Assessment -- 5 points -- It is an assessment required by the association that accredits UNT. They want to know whether students learn certain things in certain courses. There are no right or wrong answers on the assessment. But, in order to get the points you must fill it out. Please be honest in your assessment. Go to the Quizzes and reviews section to complete, on the specified date.

Film Reviews -- About 45% of final grade -- You must write (papers must be typed, spell checked, and delivered through the Film Review Icons at the bottom of the Home Page) a 400-500 word review of 11 films. Do not zip your files and it is preferable not to use Microsoft Vista. Reviews will be worth up to 10 points each. One paper must be written on films from Lesson I; and one paper must be written on films from each of the Lessons III through XII. Total of 11
**film reviews.** Reviews must be turned in by the time specified in the syllabus for that section. To write a review, type and save your review using your word processing program then click on the Turnitin icon you wish to complete, then upload or cut and paste and submit. It will then be available for grading. **Late papers will receive a one (1) point deduction if received within 7 days of the due date.** They must be turned on by the date indicated. Plagiarizing someone else’s paper or other sources will result in 0 on the assignment. That includes papers written in previous offerings of this course or material from the internet. If you are completing an incomplete or duplicating a grade and want to resubmit a paper email me for instructions. A format for reviews is below and a sample paper is noted in the assignment section of Lesson 1. Click on the underlined words.

**Film Discussion/Forums** -- About 10% of final grade -- You must join in discussion/forums, on the specified dates, for Topics II, III, IV, V, and VI. Films for discussion are indicated. Go to the Discuss Reviews area to complete this assignment. Please complete these discussions in the forum for your film, not in the main forum. Each discussion is worth up to 5 points. This is a participation grade so the more you read other posts and post yourself, the higher the grade.

**Grading Scale** --

- A -- 212 to 240
- B -- 183 to 211.09
- C -- 154 to 182.09
- D -- 125 to 153.09
- F -- 0 to 124.09

You can check your scores for each assignment by clicking on My Grades. The final score and grade will be shown in My Grades.

**HINTS FOR VIEWING FILMS**

1. Look for patterns of behavior, values, and beliefs and other indices of what ties the society together.
2. Look for examples of the "type" of society reviewed in the film.
3. How is this group of people different from the peoples portrayed in previous films?
4. Are there indications of more or less individuation, personal relationships, impact of institutions, relationship to environment, etc.?
5. Are there indications of culture change? Are stresses and strains occurring that may tend to produce imperatives for change?
6. What are the dominant symbols, values, and beliefs evident among this group of people?

**HINTS FOR WRITING FILM REVIEWS (Not all suggestions apply to every film)**

1. Describe the major theses of the film.
2. What is the film about...?
3. Where does the group live...etc.?
4. What are their families like...etc.?
5. What are the roles of males and females, etc.?
6. Use concepts from readings and lectures to amplify and explain what you see in the films. This is critical for A and B grades.
7. Indicate what basic characteristics of this type of society (from the lessons) are illustrated in this film.

8. Very briefly indicate how you felt about the film. Did you like it or not and why?

9. What effect did the film have on your view of the world and your place in it?

10. Write concise reviews that stay on the point and don't use unnecessary verbiage to convey simple thoughts.

11. These are formal reviews. Do not make comments without good reasoning.

12. These are only suggestions. Some films will vary in what is portrayed and you can write about. But always use concepts from the readings and lectures to help you make points.

You should keep a copy of all reviews submitted in case one is lost. This is your responsibility!