

Anthropology
RELS 148(01) (#49471), Anth 148 (#47315)
Anthropology and Religion
Fall 2017

Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Jennifer L. Anderson
Office Location:	Clark 461
Telephone:	408-925-5561
Email:	Jennifer.Anderson@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	TTH 8:00-8:45 AM, 10:30 to 11:45 AM, and by arrangement
Class Days/Time:	TTH 12:00-1:15
Classroom:	Clark 202
Prerequisites:	Anth 11, Anth25, or consent of Instructor
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	NA

Course Format – On Campus

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Catalog Course Description:

Comparative anthropological study of religious systems and world views; Anthropological theories concerning origin and evolution of religion; structure and function of ritual and myth; types of religious specialists. Prerequisite: ANTH 11, ANTH 25 or instructor consent.

Supplemental Course Description: This class explores the ways in which people have attempted to gain mastery over the natural and supernatural worlds beginning in prehistoric times and concluding with the beliefs of modern day society and the contemporary world. It will include the cross-cultural study of the beliefs about the nature of reality, spirituality, death,

magic, science, and healing. This course is taught from a multidisciplinary perspective, introducing the systems approach to social science issues. The course is based in the discipline of Anthropology, however it will integrate other social and historic perspectives.

Course Goals

Learning Objectives of the Anthropology Department

Knowledge

- PLO1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution.
- PLO2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity.
- PLO3. Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline.
- PLO4. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history
- PLO5. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomenon shaping global society.

Skills

- PLO6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
- PLO7. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.
- PLO8. Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and the ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline.
- PLO9. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.

Professional Values

- PLO10. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research

Learning Objectives for this Class

Course Content Learning Outcomes (CCLO's)

The student will:

CCLO1 - Learn what constitutes an anthropological approach to religion (PLO7)

CCLO2 - Learn how various religious and magical forms of behavior developed and what they have contributed to modern conceptual schemes such as science; (PLO4)

CCLO3 -Learn how religion and magic are integrated with other social sub-systems and the way religion expresses human diversity. Emphasis will be placed on respecting the similarities and differences in spiritual belief systems: (PLO2)

CCLO4- Learn to identify the academic and cultural biases of individual authors and discuss the ethical implications of various view points; (PLO10)

CCLO 5-Learn to research a specific topic, while writing clearly and effectively and practicing academic integrity (PLO6 and PLO 9)

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

- **Ritual and Belief: Readings in the Anthropology of Religion**
by David Hicks **Publisher:** McGraw-Hill Humanities/Social Sciences/Languages (Third Edition, 2010)
(\$54 new, also available used and on Kindle)
- **ISBN:** 978-0-7591-1156-1 (Paperback)

Other readings will be made available through Canvas.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Course Requirements

Your final grade will be determined by your grades on weekly in-class quizzes, one writing assignment (2500 words), a midterm and an open-note final.

Grading: The total for graded material is 1) Midterm (100 points, 20%), Quizzes (108, points total, about 21%), Research paper (192, points, about 38%), Final (100 points, 20%)

Quizzes: Quizzes (108 points total, about 22% of total grade), There will be a short factual quiz each class session (one or two questions) designed to encourage you to do assigned reading on a weekly basis. You must attend class to take the quiz. There will be no make-up quizzes.

Research paper (192 points, about 38% of total grade): The assignment is designed to encourage the student to research a topic of personal interest in the topic area of anthropology and religion. The paper should be at least 2500 words, double spaced. Emphasis will be placed on clear and effective communication. Students are encouraged to use on-line resources for research; however, plagiarism will not be tolerated. References should be properly cited in Chicago Author-Date format and the bibliography should include both book and internet references. The research paper will be submitted in sections as follows:

Assignment 1- Preliminary Bibliography (30 points, 6% of total grade)

Assignment 2- Expanded Outline (25 points, 5% of total grade)

Assignment 3- Draft Paper Due (100 points, 20% of total grade)

Assignment 4 –Final Paper Due (37 points, about 8% of total grade)

Midterm (100 points, 20% of total grade): The midterm will include ten analytical essay questions. Participation in the midterm is required. You may bring one 3x5 notecard hand-written both sides.

Final (100 points, 20% of total grade): The final will include ten analytical essay questions based on module completed since the midterm. Participation in the final is required. You may bring one 3x5 notecard hand-written both sides.

Final Examination or Evaluation

There will be a written final examination in this class on **Wednesday, December 13 between 9:45 A.M. and 12:00 noon in our classroom.**

Grading Information

Rubrics

Rubrics are associated with each assignment in Canvas. Please read them carefully before you submit your work to ensure that you receive maximum credit for your effort.

Use <https://www.grammarly.com> to check your writing. All papers will be submitted through Canvas and will be vetted by Turnitin.com.

Incompletes

Incompletes will be granted only if the instructor has been notified in a timely manner and has approved. Students with missing major assignments (over 50 points) will receive a WU (unauthorized withdrawal).

NO WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE LAST REGULAR DAY OF CLASS!

Notification of grades

Your final grade will appear in Canvas at the time it is calculated. I do round up. (Instructor reserves the right to take points off for students who do not contribute to group work.)

Marking Criteria for Written Work

A+ 98-100 A 94-97 A- 90-93

An “A” demonstrates originality, addresses the tasks effectively, shows effective organization and logical argumentation, uses clear, appropriate and accurate examples and a high level of writing competence and knowledge. Completes the task and consistently does extra work.

B+ 88-89 B 84-87 B- 80-83

A “B” may show a good level of competence, but uneven development of tasks. It may be generally well organized, uses appropriate examples, displays facility, with a few gaps, in argumentation, and demonstrates a good level of writing and knowledge. Completes the task and does some extra work.

C+ 78-79 C 74-77 C- 70-73

A “C” may show a fair level of competence, but may be uneven. It will address the task adequately, but only with parts of the task. It is adequately organized and may occasionally use examples. Argumentation may be inconsistent and writing and knowledge competence may be unclear.

D+ 68-69 D 64-67 D- 60-63 F < 60

A “D” will demonstrate poor competence with inadequate organization, task and argumentation development and inappropriate examples. It will display difficulty in using adequate academic language and errors in knowledge will be in evidence. A failure will only occur if no effort is made to address the question or topic.

Participation and Miscellaneous Activities

Attendance and participation in class discussions is required. “Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.” <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/AS1475.pdf>

Classroom Protocol

You may not collaborate on work in this class. Group study for the midterm and final are permitted, but anything you write on the midterm or final must be in your own words. If the text of answers on the midterm or final are found to be identical to that of another student or cut and pasted from another source, you will receive an “F” on the exam.

Late Papers

No late papers will be accepted unless a genuine emergency arrives and the student notifies the professor in advance.

Cell phones

Please turn off all cell phones at the beginning of the class and keep them off. If you have a family emergency that may require you to keep the cell phone on, inform me at the beginning of class. Text messaging in class will not be tolerated.

Laptops – Students are permitted to use laptops in class for note-taking **only**. Students who abuse this policy by surfing the web or playing games during class will be asked not to use laptops in class. If you want to use a laptop, you must sit in the front row of class.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
- In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Evacuation Procedures

Information from the campus police on evacuating a classroom can be found at:

http://www.sjsu.edu/police/docs/ept/ept_procedures_flyer.pdf

Note that in case of an earthquake, you should get under a sturdy desk or table, or move against interior walls and away from windows. Do not run out of the building. In case of fire, use the stairs, not an elevator.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Anth148/RELS 148 Anthropology and Religion, Fall 2017, Course Schedule

(The schedule may be changed on fair notice. Readings are to be done before the class with which they are associated. **You are responsible for turning in assignments on the due date. I will not remind you!** If changes are made, they will be made available through the Canvas modules.)

Course Schedule

Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/24/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Course • Lecture: “The Anthropological Approach to Religion” • Text: Hicks “The Anthropology of Religion,” xiii-xxiii • Download the study questions for Module 1 and fill them out. • Note the Midterm (100 points) takes place in Module 14. It includes ten questions taken from the study questions provided in Modules 1-15. • Module 1 Study Questions • Quiz 1
2	8/29/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “What is Religion?” • Text: “Animism” by Edward B. Tylor in Hicks: pp. 3-7, and “The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life” by Emile Durkheim in Hicks: pp. 12-16. • Quiz Clues: What is animism? What are the two domains into which Durkheim divides the world? • Study Questions for Module 2
3	8/31/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Religion as a Cultural System” • <i>Download:</i> Geertz, Clifford, “Religion as a Cultural System” (Abridged by Jennifer L. Anderson) pp 1-7. • <i>Quiz Clues:</i> Know how Geertz defines religion. • Study Questions for Module 3
4	9/5/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “The Role of Myth in Life” • Text: Eric R. Wolf, “The Virgin of Guadalupe” in Hicks: 305-312 • Quiz Clue: Know how the Virgin of Guadalupe performs a social function in Mexican culture. Know how myths differ from stories and legends. • Study Questions for Module 4
5	9/7/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Peopling the Myths” • Text: “The Universality of Ancestor Worship” by Lyle B. Steadman, Craig T. Palmer, and Christopher E. Tilley in Hicks: 61-74. • Quiz Clue: Know how world religions differ from ancestor worship. • Study Questions for Module 5

Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
6	9/12/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “The Meaning and Function of Ritual” • Download from Canvas: “Ritual” by Edmund R. Leach • Quiz Clues: Be able to name a ritual and describe both a symbol and function related to it. • Study Questions for Module 6 • Bring a laptop or tablet to the next class. If it is inconvenient to bring one, you can check out a tablet from the Anthropology Department Office in Clark 469
7	9/14/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop on Using University and Online Resources for your Research paper • Do not miss this class! I will be teaching you things that will be valuable in all your classes. You will have a hard time doing your research paper if you miss this class. • Work on Assignment 1 - Preliminary Bibliography. It must be in Chicago Author Date format. It must be submitted to Canvas in .doc or docx format.
8	9/19/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Ritual Purity and Pollution” • Text: “Pollution” by Mary Douglas in Hicks: 33-43. • Quiz Clues: Be able to tell me about the relationship between social structure and pollution beliefs. • Assignment 1 due, Preliminary Bibliography (6 % of final grade, 30 points) • Study Questions for Module 8
9	9/21/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop on Research Paper Development including the concept of a hypothesis and paper structure • Do not miss this class. You will struggle with your research paper if you do!
10	9/26/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Rites of Passage” • Text: Arnold van Gennep, “Rites of Passage: Conclusions” in Hicks: 104-109 • Quiz Clues: Know the three stages Gennep proposes for transition ritual. • Study Questions for Module 10
11	9/28/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “The Role of the Ritual Practitioner” • Text: Victor Turner, “Religious Specialists” in Hicks: 138-149 • Quiz Clues: Know how a priest differs from a shaman. • Study Questions for Module 11
12	10/3/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: <i>In Pursuit of the Siberian Shaman</i> (XD0915) • Study Questions for Module 12
13	10/5/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Sacred Spaces” • Download from Canvas: Thomas Barrie, excerpt from “The Sacred Path and the Place” in <i>Spiritual Path, Sacred Place: Myth Ritual, and Meaning in Architecture</i>, pp.56-78. Boston: Shambala, 1996. • Quiz clue: Know what a “temenos” is and why it is important. • Study Questions for Module 13
14	10/10/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIDTERM (100 points, 20% of total grade)

Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring a laptop or tablet to the next class
15	10/12/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop: Outline Development for your Research Paper. We will work on your outline in this class. We will also discuss in-text citations in the Chicago Author Date format.
16	10/17/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Religion in Practice” • Download: Jennifer Anderson, “Japanese Tea Ritual: Religion in Practice.” <i>Man: Journal of the Royal Anthropological Society of Great Britain and Ireland</i>, 22: 475–498, 1987. • Assignment 2 – Expanded Outline Due (25 points, 5% of total grade) • Quiz Clues: Know how Girardot’s definition of religion differs from Geertz’s definition.
17	10/19/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “The Function of Magic” • Text: James G. Frazer, “Sympathetic Magic” in Hicks: 240-244 • Quiz Clue: Frazer divides “sympathetic magic” into two categories. What are they? • Study Questions for Module 17
18	10/24/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Witchcraft: The Power of the Mind” • Text: E.E. Evans Pritchard, “Men Bewitch Others When They Hate Them” in Hicks: 244-252 • Quiz Clues How do the Azande find out for sure if someone is bewitching them? • Study Questions for Module 18 • Notice that Assignment 3 – Draft Paper is due in Module 20! It must include in-text citations and a correctly formatted reference page.
19	10/26/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: <i>A Very British Witchcraft</i> • Study Questions for Module 19 • Notice that Assignment 3 – Draft Paper is due in the next module.
20	10/31/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Belief and Healing” • Download from Canvas: William K. Powers, “The Sweat Lodge: Inside.” • Quiz Clues: What were the problems that led Wayne to seek out Plenty Wolf? • Assignment 3 – Draft Paper Due to Canvas. (100 points, 20% of total) • Study Questions for Module 20
21	11/2/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Making It Personal: Funerals” • Text: Peter Metcalf and Richard Huntington, “Symbolic Associations of Death” in Hicks, 276-286 • Quiz Clues: Why do people need to socialize after a funeral?
22	11/7/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: <i>Departures</i> • Study Questions for Module 22-23
23	11/9/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude Video; <i>Departures</i> • Class Discussion of <i>Departures</i>

Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Questions for Module 23
24	11/14/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Religion and Society” Text: Heiko Henkel, “<i>Between Belief and Unbelief Lies the Performance of Salat, Meaning and Efficacy of a Muslim Ritual</i>” in Hicks, 109-115 • Quiz Clues: What is salat? • Notice Assignment 4, Final Research Paper is due in the next class. • Study Questions for Module 24
25	11/16/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: <i>A Sinner in Mecca</i> • Text: Heiko Henkel, “<i>Between Belief and Unbelief Lies the Performance of Salat, Meaning and Efficacy of a Muslim Ritual</i>” in Hicks, 115-130 • Assignment 4, Final Research Paper (37 points, approx.. 7% of total grade) due. • Study Questions for Module 25
26	11/21/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Gods, Man and Nature” • Text: G. Reichel-Dolmatoff, “Cosmology as Ecological Analysis: A View from the Rain Forest” in Hicks: 363-376. • Quiz Clues: How do the Tukano prevent each other from exploiting the environment? • Study Questions for Module 26
		Happy Thanksgiving!
27	11/28/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: “Seeing the Future: Revitalization Movements” • Text: Anthony Wallace, “Revitalization Movements” in Hicks: 423-440 • Quiz Clues: Name three kinds of revitalization movements. Describe a charismatic leader. • Study Questions for Module 27
28	11/30/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: <i>Going Clear</i> • Download: Kent, “Scientology—Is This a Religion?” 1-11 • Study Questions for Module 28
29	12/5/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: <i>Going Clear</i> • Text: Download: Kent, “Scientology—Is This a Religion?” 11-19 • Study Questions for Module 28
30	12/7/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review for Final
Final Exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final –Wednesday, December 13 between 9:45 A.M. and 12:00 noon in our classroom.