

**San José State University**  
**Anthropology Department**  
**ANTH 11 Cultural Anthropology Section 2**  
**Fall 2018**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor: Jacqueline Gamboa  
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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:00-12:30pm  
Class Days/Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-11:45am  
Classroom: WSQ 004  
GE/SJSU Studies D1  
Category:

**Course Description**

Cultural anthropology is the study of how humans adapt to, interpret and affect the world in which they live. This course is designed to provide you with an overview to the discipline, as well as an appreciation of what it has meant to be human in different places at different times. Students will be introduced to important basic concepts, theories and methods used in the comparative study of socio-cultural systems. Includes cultural ecology and change; political, economic and kinship systems; language, art and religion; cultural perspectives on contemporary issues. GE Area: D1

**Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

GE/SJSU Studies Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.
2. Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.
3. Identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them.
4. Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.
5. Recognize the interactions of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals

Anthropology Department Objectives

*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. Be able to engage in cooperative learning activities, and identify culturally relevant information resources.

#### *Students who successfully complete this course will:*

CLO1. Be able to understand and apply appropriately the concept of culture to human behavior.

CLO2. Gain a working knowledge of how cultural anthropologists conduct field research through completing a class project

CLO3. Be able to recognize and analyze the interaction of social institutions, culture and environment with individual and collective behavior.

CLO4. Develop a cross-cultural perspective on how humans relate to each other and the material world through symbols;

CLO5. Have knowledge about several societies in depth using ethnographies; and

CLO6. Understand the relevance of cultural anthropology for understanding the complexities of modern life both globally and in the Santa Clara Valley.

CLO7. Be able to engage in cooperative learning activities, and identify culturally relevant information resources.

#### ANTH 11 Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will:

- be introduced to the culture concept and cultural approaches to understanding human behavior
- explore how cultural anthropologists conduct research by participating in a class project
- develop cross-cultural perspectives on how humans relate to one other and material world
- learn about several societies in depth by reading ethnographies
- the relevance of anthropology for understanding the complexities of modern life

#### **Required Texts/Readings**

1. James Spradley and David McCurdy, *Conformity and Conflict* (15th edition)  
Pearson ISBN: 9780205990795
2. Judith Marti, *Starting Fieldwork: Methods and Experiences*,  
Waveland Press, ISBN: 9781478632955
3. Robert Tonkinson, *The Mardu Aborigines: Living the Dream in Australia's Desert*  
Wadsworth Pub Co, ISBN: 0534440878

4. Carol Stack, *All Our Kin*  
Basic Books, ISBN: 0061319821

### Assignments and Grading Policy

My teaching philosophy is centered on the work of Paulo Freire, whose work proposes critical pedagogy, a problem-posing model, education as a mutual process and social change. For instance, *"The teacher is no longer merely the-one-who-teaches, but one who is himself taught in dialogue with the students, who in turn while being taught also teach. They become jointly responsible for a process in which all grow."* ~ *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. Therefore, it is important that all students play an active role in their education by completing all of the reading assignments and are prepared to participate in class discussions.

*You will be graded on the following:*

- *Mid-term exam.* You will take one mid-term exam consisting of short definitions, multiple choice, and essay. (25% of semester grade)  
(Meets GE Area D1 Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4)
- *Final exam.* You will take one final exam consisting of short definitions, multiple choice, and essay. (25% of semester grade)  
(Meets GE Area D1 Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4)
- *Term paper.* You will write an 8-page ethnographic term paper, due the last regular class day. Guidelines will be available on Canvas at the beginning of the semester. (30% of semester grade)  
(Meets GE Area D1 Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4)
- *Participation.* Over the course of the semester a great deal of class time will be dedicated to workshops and group activities. Your participation in these exercises will be evaluated by the course instructor. (20% of semester grade)

\*Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.

Grade scale: A = 100% - 90%, B= 89% - 80%, C = 79% - 70%, D = 69% - 60%, F=less than 59%

### Classroom Expectations:

Any behavior that interferes with class learning will NOT be tolerated and may include; private conversations that are unrelated to class; sleeping; reading non-class materials; not participating in class discussion or activities; text messaging; emailing; and ringing cell phones.

- Policy on Academic Honor Code: Academic dishonesty **will NOT be tolerated**. Examples of such dishonesty include cheating, plagiarizing on writing assignments, or violating other codes of academic integrity. Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's ideas and/or words and claiming them as your own whether intentional or unintentional. Whenever you use someone else's words or ideas in your own writing, you must acknowledge and properly cite the source (books, articles, magazines, internet and any other printed and non-published material). If found plagiarizing, you will **Fail** the assignment!
- Cell Phones/Laptops: Please turn OFF your phone or set them on silent before class. We have a no-ring policy and leave them in your backpack or car out of respect for each other and the instructor.

- **Late Policy:** All assignments must be completed in order to pass. I will not accept late assignments nor will I administer makeup exams unless documents can be presented as evidence of illness, death in family, jury duty, etc. No assignments will be accepted via e-mail—I must receive hard copies of all assignments.

## 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 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

**Credit hours:** Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

## ANTH 11 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology Fall 2018 Course Schedule\*

*\*Schedule is subject to change with fair notice.*

### Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/21-8/23	<b>Introduction to Course</b> (No required readings)
2	8/28-8/30	<b>Ethnography and the Fieldwork Experience</b> J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Culture and Ethnography" (CC, pp. 1-6) James Spradley, "Ethnography and Culture" (CC, pp. 7-14) Judith Marti, <i>Starting Fieldwork</i> (Ch. 1 and 2)
3	9/4-9/6	<b>Ethnography and the Fieldwork Experience</b> Judith Marti, <i>Starting Fieldwork</i> (Ch. 3-4, 6-8)
4	9/11-9/13	<b>Kinship and Social Organization</b> J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Kinship and Family" (CC, pp. 172-175) Nancy Scheper-Hughes, "Mother's Love" (CC, pp. 176-186) David McCurdy, "Family and Kinship in Village India" (CC, pp.187-194)
5	9/18-20	<b>Law and Political Systems</b> J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Law and Politics" (CC, pp. 259-262) Marvin Harris, "Life without Chiefs" (CC, pp. 272-280)
6	9/25-9/27	<b>Ritual, Religion, and Worldview</b> J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Religion, Magic, Worldview" (pp. 298-302) George Gmelch, "Baseball Magic" (CC, pp. 310-319) Jill Dubisch, "Run for the Wall" (CC, pp. 320-333)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
7	10/2-10/4	<b>Sex and Gender</b> J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Identity, Roles, Groups" (CC, pp. 210-214) Dianna Shandy and Karine Moe, "Heading Home" (CC, pp. 215-226)
8	10/9-10/11	<b>Language</b> J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Language Communication" (CC, pp. 52-55) Jennifer Boehlke, "Kinds of Talk: Tattoo World" (CC, pp. 69-78) Sarah Boxer, "Manipulating Meaning" (CC, pp. 56-68)
9	10/16-10/18	<b>Ecology, Environment, and Human Food Systems</b> J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Ecology and Subsistence" (CC, pp. 83-87) Richard Lee, "The Hunters" (CC, pp. 88-103) Richard Reed, "Forest Development the Indian Way" (CC, pp. 124-134) Carol Stack, <i>All Our Kin</i> (Introduction and Chapter 1) <b>MIDTERM EXAM: OCTOBER 18</b>
10	10/23-10/25	<b>Economic Systems</b> J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Economic Systems" (CC, pp. 135-138) Lee Cronk, "Reciprocity and the Power of Giving" (CC, pp. 139-145) P. Bourgois, "Office Work and Crack Alternative" (CC, pp. 227-239) Carol Stack, <i>All Our Kin</i> (Chapters 2-4)
11	10/30-11/1	<b>"Race," Ethnicity, and Identity in the Modern World</b> Jeffrey Fish, "Mixed Blood" (CC, pp. 248-258) Carol Stack, <i>All Our Kin</i> (Chapters 5-8)
12	11/6-11/8	<b>Anthropological Perspectives on Globalization</b> J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Globalization" (CC, pp. 340-343) Ian Condry, "Japanese Hip-Hop" (CC, pp. 365-379) Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Foreword, Preface, and Introduction)
13	11/13-11/15	<b>Colonialism and Resistance</b> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapters 1-2)
14	11/20-11/22	<b>Neoliberalism, Economic Development and Its Dilemmas</b> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapters 3-4) <b>*NO CLASS 11/22 Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
15	11/27-11/29	<b>Applied Anthropology in the 21st Century</b> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapters 5-6)
16	12/4-12/6	<b>Review and Discussion</b> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapter 7) <b>TERM PAPERS DUE DECEMBER 6</b>
Final Exam	12/12	<b>FINAL EXAM TO BE ADMINISTERED WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12 FROM 9:45-12PM IN REGULAR CLASS MEETING ROOM</b>