

San Jose State University

Department of Anthropology

Instructor

Dr. William Reckmeyer

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ANTH 115

Emerging Global Culture

Fall 2008

W 6:00 – 8:45 PM

WSQ 004

Office Hours

W 10:30-12:00; 2:30-6:00

Teaching Assistant

Kim Pham

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www.sjsu.edu/faculty_and_staff/faculty_detail.jsp?id=840

Course Resources

English-Lueck, Jan; Reckmeyer, William J., et al., eds. *Emerging Global Cultures*. 2nd Edition. Boston: Pearson, 2006.

Course Description

This is an undergraduate course for people who are interested in learning more about the nature of the emerging global culture of the early 21st century and mix of critical issues that are shaping humanity's future. It is a general education course that is open to upper-division students and satisfies the requirements for SJSU Studies Area V (courses meeting areas R, S, and V must be taken from three different departments). We will explore globalization and the factors that are forging human societies into an increasingly interconnected world. Of particular interest is the interplay between global and local interests as evolving changes affect different cultures, regions, and sectors of our planet. We will place special emphasis on a systems approach to understanding social complexity and change.

Course Objectives

The goals of this course are to help people learn how to think more strategically about broader issues and the planet as a whole, appreciate multiple perspectives on complicated matters, work with others to address common concerns, and act in ways that make the world a better place for all to live. Specific objectives include:

- developing a better sense of the big picture, an interest in shaping humanity's future, and the basic leadership skills required for meaningful change
- clarifying the nature of cultural systems, societal development, environmental concerns, and the evolution of political economies around the world
- exploring the role of trade and technology in the modern world, their effect on different cultures, and their pivotal role in the emerging global culture
- learning how to critically analyze underlying assumptions, address issues from different perspectives, and comprehend shifting worldviews

Our primary focus throughout the course will be on improving participants' ability to think globally and act locally in more effective and responsible ways, through the use of selected systemic teaching-learning strategies.

Course Format and Requirements

This is an undergraduate course and will be participatively designed by the class as a whole. The first two weeks will be devoted to organizing our course work. The majority of the semester will be devoted to addressing selected topics through the reading, discussion, and writing of assigned materials; presentations by the instructor and outside experts; and a variety of class activities. The last two weeks will be devoted to pulling everything together into a coherent result. Everyone is expected to participate in helping us create a systemic teaching-learning experience. SJSU has a minimum 3,000-word writing requirement for all Area V courses. Specific responsibilities include the following assignments: a team Delta project that includes an individual paper, 3 team summaries, and a team poster presentation; a final exam; and active participation in the learning teams.

Each person's learning will be evaluated on the basis of his/her performance on the individual paper (??%-??%), 3 team summaries (??%-??%), team presentation (??%-??%), final exam (??%-??%), and responsible class participation (15%) as specified in his/her personal learning contract.

☺ Holiday ☺

Course Schedule and Topics

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Content Topics</u>	<u>Learning Topics</u>
27 August 08	Course Introduction	Systemic Teaching
3 September 08	Systemic Course Design	Learning Contracts
10 September 08	Emerging Global World	
17 September 08	* <i>Mindwalk</i> *	* <i>Mindwalk</i> *
24 September 08	Cultural Systems	
1 October 08	Roots of Globalization	
8 October 08	Great Revolutions	
15 October 08	Colonialism & Development	
22 October 08	Global Evolution	
29 October 08	Global Challenges	
5 November 08	Futures Thinking	
12 November 08	Global Commons	
19 November 08	Global Citizenship	
26 November 08	☺ Holiday ☺	☺ Holiday ☺
3 December 08	Team Poster Presentations	Presentations
10 December 08	Synthesis & Closure	
17 December 08	Final Exam Period	Final Exam Period

Course Grading Policies

To enhance student learning, I have developed an integrated set of course materials that are available in electronic form on the course website. Among the most important of these are detailed rubrics and templates for all course assignments, which include expectations for completing those assignments and the criteria used to evaluate your learning. *You should familiarize yourself with all of these materials and proactively use them to prepare for class sessions on a timely basis.* Good communication skills are vital for people who work and live in a globalizing world that depends on the exchange of sophisticated information, knowledge, and wisdom. SJSU graduates are expected to write well, which usually requires several iterations of focused editing to refine ideas as well as language before your work is sufficiently polished to be shared with others. You are strongly advised to pay close attention to the guidelines laid out in the rubrics and templates for each assignment, as well as seeking out other sets of eyes (including members of your learning teams) to help finalize your work. SJSU also offers assistance – including workshops, tutoring, and individual consultations through the SJSU Writing Center (<http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>).

SJSU Academic Integrity Policy

San Jose State University expects all students enrolled in the University, whether on a matriculated or extended education basis, to act in accordance with accepted academic and professional standards for integrity at all times. Official SJSU policy states that:

“Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the University’s Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs.”

This policy and detailed guidelines for complying with it can be found electronically online (<http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf>). The most common issues of academic integrity are usually associated with some form of plagiarism, which is using other people’s ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. Sometimes it is tempting to copy other people’s ideas (from the Internet, textbooks, magazines, lectures, or even from other student papers) and incorporate them into our own work. As a result, it is very important to give proper credit to those sources. If proper credit is not given, then you are passing these ideas and words off as our own – which is both unethical and illegal. Students who engage in any form of academic dishonesty that contravenes SJSU policy will result in a failing grade (F) on that assignment for all parties involved and may lead to dismissal from the course and possibly the University.

SJSU Disability Policy

SJSU also recognizes that some students may require special accommodations to participate in a course. If any student in this course needs such assistance and/or would like to share emergency medical information, especially as it might affect potential safety issues like evacuation procedures, please contact me privately as soon as possible so we can decide how to proceed. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register at the Disability Resource Center (924-6000) to establish a record of their disability so they can utilize the University’s resources.

Department Learning Objectives

Knowledge

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

Skills

- Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
- Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.
- 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.
- Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.

Professional Values

- Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

Area V Learning Objectives

For those students beginning continuous enrollment in Fall 2005 or later, completion of or co-registration in a 100w course is required for enrollment in all SJSU Studies courses. Courses used to satisfy Areas R, S, and V must be taken from three separate SJSU departments or other academic units. ANTH 115 has been designed to meet the University's Area V requirements. Students shall be able to:

Student Learning Objectives

- To compare systematically the ideas, values, images, cultural artifacts, economic structures, technological developments, and/or attitudes of people from more than one culture outside the United States (examinations; class activities).
- To identify the historical context of ideas and cultural traditions outside the United States and how they have influenced American culture (Delta team project; examinations)
- To explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external pressures (Delta team project; examinations)

Area V Content Areas

- *Diversity.* Issues of diversity shall be incorporated in an appropriate manner (class activities; Delta team project; lectures and readings)
- *Writing.* Written assignments should include both in-class and out-of-class writing, giving students practice and feedback throughout the semester. Evaluative comments must be substantive, addressing the quality and form of writing. A single final term

paper would not satisfy the requirement. A minimum of 3000 words of writing is required in a language and style appropriate for the discipline (Delta team project assignments and paper; examinations)

- *Civic Learning.* Courses shall address the civic relevance of the topic in an appropriate manner (Delta team project)
- *Values Clarification.* Students should demonstrate their ability to articulate and discuss their values and engage in civil discourse (Delta team project; ethnographic interview paper; examinations)
- Courses will address significant achievements of the human intellect and imagination in a comparative context to understand and appreciate different ideas, cultures, values, religions, institutions, languages, and peoples of the world (class activities; Delta team project; lectures and readings)