

San José State University
Metropolitan University Scholar's Experience (MUSE) Seminar

Anthropology 96HQ - Vietnam! Fall 2009

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Cate

Office Location: Clark 463

Telephone: 408-924-5714

Email: scate@ix.netcom.com

Office Hours: M 1000-1200, TR 1230-1330

Class Days/Time: MW 1200-1315

Classroom: Clark 127

GE Area: D1 (Human Behavior)

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on [Sandra Cate's web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/people/Sandra.Cate) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/Sandra.Cate>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU.

Course Description

The past decade has witnessed a tremendous amount of change in Vietnamese culture and society. Since 1986, when the Vietnamese government instituted the renovation policy (*doi moi*), Vietnam has become a popular tourist destination, religious practices have flourished, and many Vietnamese-Americans have returned to visit their country of origin. This course will explore culture and society in Vietnam, focusing on recent social and cultural changes, and the relationships between Vietnamese and Vietnamese Americans.

Introduction to MUSE

University-level study is different from what you experienced in high school. The Metropolitan University Scholar's Experience (MUSE) is designed to help make your transition into college a success by helping you develop the skills and attitude needed for the intellectual engagement and challenge of in-depth university-level study. Discovery, research, critical thinking, written work, attention to the rich cultural diversity of the campus, and active discussion will be key parts of this MUSE course. Enrollment in MUSE courses is limited to a small number of students because these courses are intended to be highly interactive and allow you to easily interact with your professor and

fellow students. MUSE courses explore topics and issues from an interdisciplinary focus to show how interesting and important ideas can be viewed from different perspectives.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

This course qualifies as an Area D1 (Human Behavior) course in your General Education requirements. Social Science courses should increase the student's understanding of human behavior and social interaction in the context of value systems, economic structures, political institutions, social groups, and natural environments. Human Behavior (D1) students will be able to recognize the interaction of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals.

Learning Objectives and Activities for this Course

As an Area D1 (Human Behavior) course, the content and activities are designed to enable you to achieve the following learning outcomes

1. Students will be able to place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts [GE]. [class activities, the research poster/paper, and the field trip]
2. Students will 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.[GE] [Class activities and the field trip]
3. Students will evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues. [GE] [Research exercises, class activities, and research poster/paper].
4. To understand the learning process and their responsibility and role in it. [MUSE] [MUSE workshops, research activities, and class activities].
5. To know what it means to be a member of a metropolitan university community. [MUSE] [Peer mentor and class activities]

Goals of the Anthropology Department:

Knowledge

1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution.
2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity.
3. Knowledge of the significant findings of cultural anthropology.
4. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomena shaping global society.

Skills

5. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.

6. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.
7. Knowledge of the research methods of cultural anthropology.
8. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.

Professional Values

9. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

Required Texts/Readings

Duong, Uyen Nicole. 2005 *Daughters of the River Huong: A Vietnamese Royal Concubine and Her Descendants*. Oakdan, VA: RavensYard Publishing. ISBN 1-928928-16-1

Kendall, Laurell. 2003. *Vietnam: Journeys of the Mind, Body and Spirit*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN 0-520-23872-9

A course reader has been designed specifically for this course. It is available at Maple Press (481 E. San Carlos Street, between 10th and 11th Streets).

I will provide handouts for assignments and the basics of academic note-taking, paper-writing, and exam-taking in class.

Library Liaison

Bernice Redfern: 408-808-2038, Bernice.Redfern@sjsu.edu

Classroom Protocol

Please be respectful, to your instructor and your classmates. If you come late to class or leave early, please enter and exit quietly, without letting the door slam. Cell phones must be **turned off and put away. No text messaging in class.** Computers may be used only for note-taking, not surfing the Web or e-mail.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes. [Information on add/drop deadlines is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/](http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/). [Information about late drops is available at: http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/) .

Assignments and Grading Policy

1. Attending three MUSE workshops and writing 2-page reflective papers about the topic of the workshop (700 words each) (LO 4, 5)
2. Conducting two library tutorials and exams which prove you have successfully completed the tutorials (LO 4, 5)
3. A one-page research proposal (350 words) with an annotated bibliography (LO 4)
4. A four-page research paper (1400 words) and a poster presentation synthesizing research on your topic (LO 2, 3, 4)
5. A three-page analysis of a film (1050 words) (LO 2, 3)
6. An in-class midterm exam (LO 1, 2)
7. An in-class final exam (LO 1, 2)

Your final grade will be determined by the total points you earn:

MUSE workshops, reflective papers (20 pts. x 3)	60 points
Library tutorials (20 pts. x 2)	40
Research proposal/bibliography	50
Research paper/poster	100
Film Analysis	50
Exams (50 points x 2)	100
Participation	<u>50</u>
Total possible points	450 points

[Participation points are based on class discussion, participation in group work, and possible in-class writing responses. E-mailing professor will not count for participation. **Penalty for late work:** Late work will be accepted ONLY with an adequate reason. Late work will lose points for each class day after the due date. Extra credit assignments will be available, up to 6 points.]

Letter grades are determined by your total final points:

392-400 = A+	308-319 = C+
372-391 = A	292-307 = C
360-371 = A-	280-306 = C-
348-370 = B+	268-279 = D+
332-347 = B	252-267 = D
320-331 = B-	below 252 = F

Assignments

Muse Papers:

1. Choose and attend three different workshops over the term.

The workshops are all different -- some are "drop-in," some involve activities and some are 1 or 1 1/2 hour presentations. If the latter, I'd say you need to stay for the whole thing to get the benefit of the workshop. If "drop-in," no you don't have to be there all day. If an activity, you need to participate. Please see these not as "assignments" but as opportunities to learn about issues that will affect your academic future and beyond.

2. Write a 700-word (2 pages) "reflective paper."

The paper should include a brief description of the workshop, and if and how you found it valuable. If you find a workshop to be a waste of time, say so, but also say why. In other words, I want some kind of an evaluation of the workshop in your short paper (700 words), enough to convince me that you actually attended and thought about the experience. I don't need a lengthy summary of the workshop. Your paper does NOT have to be EXACTLY 700 words; this is approximate.

3. Paper format

Your papers should be word-processed (NOT handwritten).

You should use a common font, no larger than 12 point, with 1" margins, max.

Please double-space, so I have room for comments.

Put your name, date, and "Anth 96HY-Vietnam" at the top right of the paper, title the paper with the name of the workshop and then go. NO COVER PAGES, please.

If you don't have a stapler, I do. Please do not fold the corners of your papers, thanks.

Film Analysis:

We will watch *Daughter from Danang* in class – the story of a Vietnamese adoptee's visit to Vietnam to reunited with the birth mother who sent her for adoption in the United States during the American War. Your 3-4 page paper will analyze the film, covering the following questions. You must answer #1 and #2, then choose either #3 or #4.

1. Watch for your OWN reactions during the film. Who did you identify with in different situations? Why?

2. Compare and contrast some at least three differences between American culture and Vietnamese culture that come out in the film.

3. What might explain some of these differences? Consider issues of family, economy, history – all brought up in the film.

OR

4. Write a brief letter to BOTH women (Heidi and her mother), asking them to do _____ to restore the relationship between them.

Research Paper:

You will write a research paper analyzing the cultural significance of a specific individual or topic in Vietnamese society. Choices include a historical or mythical figure, a festival or coming-of-age ceremony, an ethnic group, or a specific religious tradition – I will provide additional instructions in class. Your paper should be four pages in length, double spaced, and written with no larger than a 12-point font. Please do not include a cover page or place your paper in a folder. Make sure that you begin your paper with a thesis statement and end with a conclusion that addresses the original thesis! Each paper MUST cite references in the body of the text and your must have a reference page. You may use APA or MLA styles of citation. In preparing for the paper you will submit first the assignment below.

Research proposal:

For the research paper proposal you are to write a 1-page paper with the following information:

- An introduction to the topic
- A basic outline of the issues you will cover and the approach you will take
- A brief discussion of why you selected the topic An annotated bibliography of three peer reviewed references. The annotated bibliography should cite the reference in MLA or APA format, and **present a short description of what the article is about.**

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. [The Peer Mentor web site is located at: http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/) .

University Policies

Academic integrity

[Students should know that the University's Academic Integrity Policy is available at: http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf). Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. [The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. [The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/).

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. [The Writing Center Website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/).

Anthropology 096 HY - Vietnam!
Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	M 8/24 W 8/26	Course Introduction: Reading the Greensheet Slides: Scenes of Fieldwork in Vietnam Peer Mentor: Ice Breaker activity, finding the reader What Is Anthropology? Activity: Do you Eat Hot Dogs or Pho for Breakfast? Peer Mentor: Finding your way around SJSU
2	M 8/31 W 9/2	Anthropology & Vietnam Read: Scupin, "Introduction to Asia" Peer Mentor: How to Take Class Notes Researching Vietnam Peer Mentor: Time & Stress Management DUE: Library Tutorial Exams (2)
3	M 9/7 W 9/9	Labor Day – No Classes! Southeast Asia: Geography, Environment Read: "Mountains and Rivers" (Reader) Class Activity: The Map of Vietnam
4	M 9/14 W 9/16	Vietnam & Ethnic Diversity Read: Saleminck, "One Country: Many Journeys" (Kendall); Prochan, "Vietnam's Ethnic Mosaic (Kendall) How to do Academic Research: Visit to SJSU Library, tutorial with Librarian Bernice Redfern DUE: MUSE Paper #1
5	M 9/21 W 9/23	Ethnocentrism Read: Uyen Duong, Part One Video: <i>Daughter From Danang</i> Finish Video, Discussion Peer Mentor: Brainstorming for Paper Topics
6	M 9/28 W 9/30	Chinese in Vietnam Uyen Duong, Parts Two & Three French Colonialism Read: Troung Buu Lam, "The Vietnamese Perception of Colonialism" (Reader) Peer Mentor: Essay writing DUE: Film Analysis
7	M 10/5 W 10/7	The American War Read: Uyen Duong, Parts Four & Five Peer Mentor: How to Study for an Exam The Vietnamese Diaspora (Part 1)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Read: Hue Tam Ho Tai: “Faces of Remembrance and Forgetting” (Reader) Class Activity: Exam Review Bingo
8	M 10/12 W 10/14	In-Class Midterm The Vietnamese Diaspora (Part 2) Read: Lam, “My Vietnam, My America” (Reader) Video: <i>Thanh’s War</i>
9	M 10/19 W 10/21	Renovation & Reconciliation Read: Hy Van Luong: “Wealth, Power and Inequality: Global Market, The State, and Local Sociocultural Dynamics (Reader) DUE Wednesday, 10/21: MUSE Paper #2
10	M 10/26 W 10/28	Tourism In Vietnam Read: Burkett, “Scenes from the Sa Pa Market” (Kendall); Kennedy and Williams, “The Past Without the Pain: The Manufacture of Nostalgia in Vietnam’s Tourism Industry” (Reader) DUE Wednesday: Research Proposals
11	M 11/2 W 11/4	Food of Vietnam Read: Andrea Nguyen, “How to Eat Pho,” at www.vietworldkitchen.com Class Activity: <i>Let’s Go Eat Pho!</i> The Family, Gender, Sexuality (Part 1) Read: Belanger and Hong, “Too Late to Marry: Failure, Fate or Fortune” (Reader)
12	M 11/9 W 11/11	The Family, Gender, Sexuality (Part 2) Read: Gammeloft: “The Irony of Sexual Agency: Premarital Sex in Urban North Vietnam” (Reader) Peer Mentor: Peer Review of Research Paper Veteran’s Day, No Classes!
13	M 11/16 W 11/18	Religion in Contemporary Vietnam Read: Fitzgerald, “Buddhism” (Reader); Malarney, “Weddings and Funerals in Contemporary Vietnam,” (Kendall) Len Dong Spirit Possession (slides, visitor?)
14	M 11/23 W 11/25	Class Research Presentations Due: Research Paper/Poster (or CD of Powerpoint)
15	M 11/30	Vietnam’s Festivals and Holidays Read: Nguyen Van Huy, “Tet Holidays: Ancestral Visits and Spring Journeys” (Kendall) Nguyen, Van Huy, “The Mid-Autumn Festival, Yesterday and Today (Kendall)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	W 12/2	Vietnamese-Americans and Vietnam Read: Khoi Luu, "A Heart of Sorrow: Exposing the Lighter Side of the Vietnamese American Experience (Reader)" DUE WEDNESDAY: MUSE Paper #3
16	M 12/7	Final Exam Review Peer Mentor: Jeopardy Game
Final Exam	T 12/15	Place: Regular classroom – Clark 127 Time: 0945-1200