

San José State University
Department of Anthropology
Anthropology 11, Cultural Anthropology
Sec. 05, Fall 2011

Instructor	Ana Julia Casareto
Office Location:	Clark Hall 465
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Office Hours:	F 8:00am-10:00am
Class Days/Time:	Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Classroom:	DMH 164

Course Description: Human society is constantly being destabilized and re-formed through engagements with diverse flows of populations, commerce, mass culture, technology, and politics. No country or culture is cut off from transnational links and influences. This class stresses the picture of America as "a nation of immigrants" rather than "a stand-alone nation". This introductory course positions anthropology as a discipline with key concepts for understanding diverse ways of life, with special insights into our global contemporary situations. Together we will investigate how anthropology offers concepts and questions that help us better comprehend the contradictions and experiences of contemporary global America.

Course materials will illuminate the diverse nature of contemporary American societies through world experiences to emphasize the relevance of anthropology to students own lives and identities. Key anthropological concepts of kinship, gender, ethnicity, race, and power-- as ideas and as practices -- will be explored in overseas and American communities. Through engagement with the methods of cultural anthropology and a focus on the dynamic and transnational processes of identity-making we will explore what it means to be "American," as well as to be human, today.

This course also meets the area D1 Human Behavior Student Learning Objective in that students will be able to recognize the interaction of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Students who satisfactorily complete this course will:

1. Be able to understand and apply appropriately the concept of culture to human behavior.
2. Gain a working knowledge of how cultural anthropologists conduct field research through completing a class project.
3. Be able to recognize and analyze the interaction of social institutions, culture and environment with individual and collective behavior.
4. Develop a cross-cultural perspective on how humans relate to each other and the material world through symbols.
5. Have knowledge about several societies in depth using ethnographies.
6. Understand the relevance of cultural anthropology for understanding the complexities of modern life both globally and in this country.

Goals of the Anthropology Department

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 archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline;
4. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history;
5. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomenon shaping global society;
6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature;
7. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues;
8. 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;
9. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences;
10. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

Required Texts/Readings: you can purchase the required textbooks at the Spartan Bookstore.

1) Chagnon (1997) Yanomamo, 5th edition
ISBN 9780155053274

2) Kottak (2010) Mirror for Humanity, 7TH ED
ISBN 9780073531045

3) Evans-Pritchard () Witchcraft, Oracles, and Magic Among the Azande
ISBN 9780198740292

4) Venkatesh (2008) Gang Leader for a Day
ISBN 9780143114932

Additional readings: all additional reading is on the class webpage.

Classroom Protocol / Student Responsibilities

Please do not use your cell phones or MP3 players for any purpose during class. However, if you are expecting an important call you should notify me so we can make arrangements. Please do not use your computers to take notes during in-class films.

I have a zero-tolerance policy for cheating and plagiarism; if you cheat or plagiarize you will fail the course! Incidences of cheating or plagiarism will be turned into the academic integrity office. Students are responsible to understanding and adhering to the academic integrity policy.

I will not answer questions about what occurred in class due to an absence. Please ask your fellow students for copies of their notes.

Student Responsibilities

There are **two short ethnographic homework assignments and one ethnographic course project**; each is due at the ***beginning*** of the class. If you are late to class (even five minutes late, your homework is also late and will be penalized – see grading). Download and refer to HW 1, HW 2, and Ethnography Project for rules and regulations. Write clearly and correctly, seek help if you need it, and proofread your papers carefully.

- **No electronic submission of work:** I will not open, accept, or read any papers that are submitted via e-mail. **E-mailed work = 0 points for that whole assignment.**

- If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend an exam, it is your responsibility to contact me immediately via e-mail or phone by leaving a message for me in the Anthropology Department office.

- *Only* students with a documented excuse will be able to take a make-up exam or hand in a late assignment. Late assignments *will not* be accepted otherwise.

- Students are responsible for understanding policies about adding, dropping, and incompletes.
- Students are responsible for being aware of assignment due dates, midterm dates, and the final exam schedule.
- If you have any concerns about your class performance or comprehension, see me in my office hours or schedule an appointment. I am always willing to help students and I care about whether students are grasping the material and enjoying the class (Insert your expectations for participation, attendance, arrival times, behavior, safety, cell phone use, etc. here.)

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/) web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Assignments and Grading Policy

There is one midterm (20% of total grade), two short ethnographic written assignments (15% each; 30% of total grade), a main ethnographic project (30%) and a final exam (20 %) in this course.

Examinations: The exams will consist of multiple choice, True and False, Fill-in the blank and Short Answer questions based on the lectures and readings. Please bring a blank T & E 200 answer sheet and a blue book to class on test dates, as well, as a # 2 pencil and a pen.

Ethnographies: The short ethnographic written assignments are designed to introduce you to the ethnographic approach to understanding social phenomena. Each assignment will take a little time, some work, and analytical assessments. They might help you decide on your major ethnography.

Ethnographic Course Project: The project is an effort to “do” some anthropology in the real world. It is intended to develop your skills as an observer and interpreter of social life.

Grading Distribution

Participation is worth 5% of the total grade and is measured by participating in classroom exercises.

Late work: ALL written assignments are due at the beginning of class (at the *time* class starts, at the middle or the end). Any work submitted *after* the time class starts will be deducted a 1/4 of a point (not a whole point, but a 1/4) for every day it is late for a maximum of a full 1% being deducted. **Late work will not be accepted after the fourth consecutive day from due date and will result in a 0% for that assignment.**

Description (% of total grade) Each is graded on a scale of 100.
Participation (5%)
Midterm (15%) – 1x15%
Short ethnographic assignments (15% ea) – 2x15%
Course Ethnography Project (30%) – 1x30%
Final Exam (20%) – 1x20%
Total (100%)

A	B	C	D	F
97% - 100% = A+	87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	67-69% = D+	Below 60% = F
91-96% = A	81-86% = B	71-76% = C	61-66% = D	
90% = A-	80% = B-	70% = C-	60% = D-	

University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires 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 [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html) is available at 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 your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 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 [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

SCHEDULE:

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.

Table 1 Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	08/24/11	No class
2	08/30/11	Class introduction and administrative announcements <i>Cultural anthropology ethics and methods</i> Text: Chpt 2 Ethics and Methods, recommended chpt 1
3	09/6/11	<i>Anthropology and Encounter</i> Text: Chpt 3 Culture Online Readings: Bohannon, L: Shakespeare in the Bush Alexie, S: Dear John Wayne Miner, H: Body Ritual Among the Nacirema HW 1: observing the other (explained)
4	09/13/11	<i>Anthropology of Gender</i> Text: Ch 9 Gender
5	09/20/11	HW 1 due at the <u>beginning</u> of class <i>Anthropology of kinship, sexuality, gender</i> Online Readings: Lancaster, R: The place of anthropology is a public culture reshaped by bioreductivism Kuklick, D: The gender of Brazilian Transgendered prostitutes Weston, K: Made to order: family formation and the rhetoric of choice Hayden, C: Gender, Genetics, and Generation: Reformulating Biology in Lesbian Kinship

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
6	09/27/11	<i>Anthropology of Race, identity, and representation</i> Text: Chpt 4 Race and Ethnicity Online Readings: AAPA Statement on biological aspects of race Chin, E: Ethnically Correct Dolls: Toying with the Race Industry Chin, E: Confessions of a negrophile
7	10/4/11	Midterm (in class)
8	10/11/11	<i>Anthropology of Language</i> Text: Chpt 5 Language and Communication Online Readings: Pollock, M: Race Bending: "Mixed" Youth Practicing Strategic Racialization in California Hill, J: Language, Race, and White Public Space HW 2: Diglossia, a sociolinguistic situation (explained)
9	10/18/11	<i>Anthropology of place-making</i> Text: Chpt 4 and epilogue Online Readings: Delaney, C: Spatial Locations Basso, K: Wisdom sits in places Ethnography project (explained)
10	11/1/11	HW 2 due at the beginning of class <i>Anthropology of power: religion, worldviews, and warfare</i> Texts: <u>Witchcraft</u> , <u>Yanomamo</u> Film: Smoke Signals
11	10/25/11	<i>Anthropology of power: old vs new?</i> Text: Chpt 12 Colonialism and Development
12	11/8/11	<i>Anthropology of power: modifying identities, consuming cultures</i> Online Readings: Davis, K: Surgical passing: or why Michael Jackson's Nose Makes 'us' uneasy Sweetman, P: Anchoring the (Postmodern) Self? Body modification, fashion, and identity
13	11/15/11	<i>Anthropology of Globalization</i>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Text: Chpt 11 The Modern World System Online Readings: Rosaldo, R: Cultural Citizenship, Inequality, and Multiculturalism
14	11/22/11	Anthropology of Globalization Online Readings: Kleinman and Kleinman: The appeal of experience, the dismay of images Malkki, L: Speechless emissaries: refugees, humanitarianism, and dehistoricization
15	11/29/11	<i>Applied Anthropology</i> Scheper-Hughes, N: Organ Trafficking
16	12/6/11	Ethnography due at the <i>beginning</i> of class <i>Review and Discussion</i>
Final Exam		Venue and Time TBA