

**Anthropology 11 (Section 2)**  
**Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**  
**Spring 2009**

Professor Guadalupe Salazar Office: Clark Hall 402 H Phone: 924-5730 Email: <a href="mailto:guadalupe.salazar@sjsu.edu">guadalupe.salazar@sjsu.edu</a>	Class: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 – 10:15 Room: Clark Hall 204 Office Hours: Tuesday 8-9 am Tuesday / Thursday 10:30 am-12:30 pm
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**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. The course is divided into three major parts:

1. Human Nature and Culture
2. Sociocultural Systems in Cross-cultural Comparison
3. Anthropology and the Modern World

By the end of the class, you should have a sense of the anthropological perspective and its merits. After learning some basic concepts and cross-cultural comparisons, we finish the class by showing the practical applications of this perspective in America and elsewhere. Furthermore, you will be gaining first-hand experience in observing the world as an anthropologist, giving you an experiential and intellectual appreciation of a perspective which can be used to better understand a variety of academic, professional, and community contexts. The course satisfies requirements for the Human Behavior / D (1) Area in the General Education Core, as well as, departmental and program requirements in anthropology and behavioral science. There are no pre-requisites to this course.

**Student Learning Objectives**

Students who satisfactorily complete this course will:

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

**Area D1 Human Behavior Student Learning Objective**

Students will be able to recognize the interaction of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals.

## **Learning Objectives 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 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.

### **SKILLS**

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.

### **PROFESSIONAL VALUES**

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

### **Required Texts**

- 1) Spradley, James and David McCurdy (2009) Conformity and Culture: Readings in Cultural Anthropology (13th Edition)
- 2) Fernea, Elizabeth (1989) Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village
- 3) Peters-Golden, Holly (2009) Culture Sketches: Case Studies in Anthropology
- 4) Stack, Carol (1997) All of Our Kin

The books are available through the Spartan Bookstore and Amazon.com. All material will be on reserve in the MLK Library.

### **Course Assignments and Grading**

There are two midterm examinations (20% each), two ethnographic exercises (10% each), a course project (20%) 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.

**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.

**Ethnographic Exercises:** The two out of class exercises are intended to help you understand an ethnographic approach to understanding social phenomena. They will require some work, however, the activities ought to be thought provoking and fun. They might help you decide on your course project.

## **Grading Distribution**

100-97 A+	89-87 B+	79-77 C+	69-67 D+
96 - 93 A	86-83 B	76-73 C	66-63 D
92 - 90 A-	82-80 B-	72-70 C-	>63 F

I assign plus and minus grades at my discretion and use participation to adjust marginal grades.

## **General Policies**

- **No electronic submission of work – do not email me your papers!**
- **You must turn in a hard copy of your paper.**
- **Format of papers:** Papers should be typed, double-spaced, and pages numbered. Please staple together pages, and it is helpful to use a cover sheet (put your name and section number in the top right hand corner of the first page). Please write clearly and correctly and seek help if you need it. Please proofread your papers carefully. Reading your work aloud often reveals mistakes in syntax and spelling.
- **Late papers:** Will be accepted with permission. 2 points subtracted for each day the paper is late.
- **Classroom Etiquette:** Please arrive on time. If you come late to class or leave early, please enter and exit quietly. Cell phones must be turned off and put away – no text messaging in class. Computers may be used only for class purposes.

## **Academic Integrity Policy**

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's language, images, data, or ideas without proper attribution. It is a very serious offense in both academic and professional environments. In essence, plagiarism is both theft and lying: you have stolen someone else's ideas, and then lied by implying that they are your own.

Plagiarism will lead to grade penalties. It might also result in you failing the course and/or having the incident permanently noted in your SJSU student records.  
If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, it is your responsibility to educate yourself, or ask for clarification, before you hand in written work.

Learning when to cite a source, and when not to, is an art, not a science. However, here are some examples of plagiarism that you should be careful to avoid:

- If you use a sentence (or even a part of a sentence) that someone else wrote and do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism.
- If you paraphrase somebody else's theory or idea and do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism.
- If you use a picture or table from a web page or book and do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism.
- If your paper incorporates data that someone else has collected and you do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism.

The SJSU library has a tutorial that explains how to identify and avoid plagiarism, available at: <http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagiarism/index.htm>.

In addition, the University of Indiana has developed a very helpful website with concrete examples about proper paraphrasing and quotation. See, in particular, the following three pages:

- <http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/overview.html>
- <http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html>
- <http://education.indiana.edu/~frick/plagiarism/item1.html>

If you have questions about the official SJSU policy on plagiarism, please read the “Academic Integrity Policy” at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-369.html>.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment to speak with me as soon as possible. SJSU Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with the Disability Resource Center to establish a record of their disability (924-6000).

### **Course Schedule**

Students will be informed about changes to the schedule ahead of time. Students are responsible for noting those changes.

## **Part 1: Human Nature and Culture**

### **Week 1: Introduction and The Concept of Culture**

*January 22, Thursday*

Introduction to class goals and format, review syllabus, add/drop process and deadlines...

**Video:** *Anthropologists at Work*

### **Week 2: The Concept of Culture**

*January 27, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Culture and Ethnography, pp. 2-6

Chapter 1, Ethnography and Culture

Chapter 2, Eating Christmas in the Kalahari

**ETHNOGRAPHY EXERCISE #1 AND ETHNOGRAPHIC PROJECT GUIDELINES  
DISTRIBUTED**

*January 29, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 6, The Ju/'Hoansi: Reciprocity and Sharing

### **Week 3: The Concept of Culture**

*February 3, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Chapter 3, Shakespeare in the Bush

*February 5, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 13, The Tiwi: Tradition in Australia

**Week 4: Fieldwork**

*February 10, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Chapters 4, Fieldwork on Prostitution in the Era of AIDS

Chapter 5, Nice Girls Don't Talk to Rastas

To learn more: Take Anth 149 Ethnographic Methods

*February 12, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 5, The Hmong: Struggle and Perseverance

**Week 5: Culture and the Individual**

*February 17, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Identity, Roles and Groups, pp. 210-214

Chapters 24, Symbolizing Roles: Behind the Veil

Chapter 23, Poverty at Work: Office Employment and the Crack Alternative

Chapter 25, Mixed Blood

To learn more: Take Anth 25 Human Development, Anth 141 Culture and Gender, and Anth 142 Culture and Personality

Video: *My Journey, My Islam*

*February 19, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 3, The Basseri: Pastoral Nomads on the il-Rah.

**ETHNOGRAPHY EXERCISE # 1 DUE**

**Week 6: Communication**

*February 24, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Language and Communication," pp. 52-55

Chapter 6, Manipulating Meaning: The Military Name Game

Chapter 9, Anthropologists Investigate Communication Technology

Video: *Cross-Cultural Communication – How culture affects communication*

**ETHNOGRAPHY EXERCISE # 2 DISTRIBUTED**

*February 26, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 11, The Roma: Romanipe, Rights and the Road Ahead

**Week 7: Communication**

*March 3, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Chapter 7, Conversation Style: Talking on the Job

Chapter 8, Kinds of Talk: Juicing Clients in the Tattoo World

Video: *Nonverbal Communication and Culture*

March 5, Thursday

**Midterm 1**

## **Part 2: Sociocultural Systems in Cross-Cultural Perspective**

### **Week 8: Kinship**

Stack (1997). *All Our Kin*. Begin reading book. This material will be covered on Midterm 2

*March 10, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009).**

Kinship and Family pp 172-175

Chapters 18, Mother's Love: Death without Weeping

Chapter 19, Family and Kinship in Village India.

To learn more take: Anth 171 Culture Through Film

Video: TBA

**ETHNOGRAPHIC PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE**

*March 12, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 7, The Kaluli: Story, Song and Ceremony

### **Week 9: Kinship**

*March 17, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Chapter 20, Polyandry: When Brothers Take a Wife

Chapter 21, Uterine Families and the Women's Community

*March 19, Thursday*

Video: *The Black Family*

**ETHNOGRAPHY EXERCISE # 2 DUE**

### **Week 10: SPRING BREAK (March 23 – 27)**

### **Week 11: Marriage and Family**

*March 31, Tuesday*

**Cesar Chavez Day – No Class**

*April 2, Thursday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Law and Politics," pp. 260-262

Chapters 26, Cross-Cultural Law: The Case of the Gypsy Offender

Chapters 27, Life without Chiefs

To learn more: take Anth 146 Culture and Conflict

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 12, The Samoans: Matai and Migration

Video: *Love Chronicles: Arranged Marriages*

### **Week 12: Making a Living**

*April 7, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Economic Systems, pp 135-138

Chapters 14, Reciprocity and Power of Giving

Chapter 15, Global Women in the new Economy

**Chapter 16, Cocaine and the Economic Deterioration of Bolivia**  
To learn more: take Anth 147 Wealth and Power  
Video: *Illicit: The Dark Trade* (54 min)

*April 9, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

**Chapter 14, The Trobriand Islanders: The Power of Exchange**

**Week 13: Religion and Ideology**

*April 14, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Religion, Magic and World View, pp. 299-302

**Chapter 30, Taraka's Ghost**

**Chapter 31, Baseball Magic**

To learn more: take Anth 148 Religion and Anthropology

**ETHNOGRAPHIC PROJECT DUE**

*April 16, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

**Chapter 1, The Azande: Witchcraft and Oracles in Africa**

**Week 14: Midterm 2 and Culture Change**

*April 21, Tuesday*

**Midterm 2**

**Part 3: Anthropology and the Modern World**

*April 23, Thursday*

**Fernea (1989). *Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village*. Begin reading this book.**  
This material will be covered in the final

**Week 15: Culture Change and Colonialism**

*April 28, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Globalization pp. 340-343

**Chapters 34, The Road to Refugee Resettlement**

**Chapter 35, Why Tourism Matters**

**Chapter 36, Japanese Hip-Hop and the Globalization of Popular Culture**

**VIDEO: *Paradise with side effects***

*April 30, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

**Chapter 15, The Yanonamo: Challenges in the Rainforest**

**Week 16: Colonialism**

*May 5, Tuesday*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Culture Change and Applied Anthropology pp. 380-384

**Chapters 34, The Kayapo Resistance**

**Chapter 35, Medical Anthropology: Improving Nutrition in Malawi**

**Video: *The other side of outsourcing***

*May 7, Thursday*

**Peters-Golden (2009)**

Chapter 4, Haiti: A Nation in Turmoil

**Week 17: Applying Anthropology**

*May 12, Tuesday (last day of instruction)*

**Spradley and McCurdy (2009)**

Chapters 39, Using Anthropology

Chapter 40, Career Advice for Anthropology Undergraduates

To learn more: take Anth 105 Applied Anthropology, Anth 108 Medical Anthropology, Anth 132 Creating Built Worlds, and Anth 133 Organizational Cultures

**FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 from 7:15 am – 9:30 am**