Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer L. Anderson
Meeting Time: MW 3:00-4:15
Course Number: ANTH 025-2
Room: Clark 303
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Office hours: MW 8:00 to 8:45 and 10:30-11:45, T 8:30-10:30 and by arrangement
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Course Description

Introduction to Human Lifecourse In Context


Supplement: In this lower-division lecture course on the human life-cycle, you will study and compare the life stages that all human beings experience. You will also examine your particular life experience as an undergraduate student at San José State University. Since this is an anthropology course, particular emphasis will be placed on viewing the human experience in a holistic way from a cross-cultural perspective, particularly as it relates to your life as a student and your relationship to your peers. We will examine the physiological, psychological, and cultural changes that individuals from various societies experience in their life times. This will include infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, aging, and death. We will investigate these topics in lectures, discussions, readings, films, and through individual and group projects. Emphasis will be placed on proper academic writing and research paper development.

Learning Objectives and Activities for this Course

This course qualifies as an Area E (Social Sciences-Human Understanding and Development) course in your General Education requirements. It is designed to enable you to achieve the following learning outcomes:

**Learning Objective 1:** Students shall recognize the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological influences on their well-being.

**Learning Objective 2:** Students shall recognize the interrelation of the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological factors on their development across the lifespan.
Learning Objective 3: Students shall use appropriate social skills to enhance learning and develop positive interpersonal relationships with diverse groups and individuals.

Learning Objective 4: Students shall recognize themselves as individuals undergoing a particular stage of human development, how their well-being is affected by the university’s academic and social systems, and how they can facilitate their development within the university environment.

Learning Objectives of the Anthropology Department

- Understand culture, and the relationships of human life, biology
- Awareness of past/present cultures
- Knowledge of significant findings: archaeology, cultural anthropology, physical anthropology
- Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history
- Comprehension of multiculturalism as central phenomenon in modern society
- Familiarity with forms of data, literature, ability to access
- Awareness of anthropology’s importance to issues of contemporary society; ability to apply knowledge to social issues
- Knowledge of qualitative & quantitative research methods in one sub-discipline
- Ability to present & communicate anthropological knowledge, results to different audiences

Course Requirements

Required Text


Grading

A total of 200 points for written work are possible in the course. **No late work will be accepted. The assignments are on the class website. Be prepared.** Ten written points are awarded for completing the “Five Year Planner.” The instructor reserves the right to take class participation into consideration when determining the final grade. As many as 15 additional points may reflect participation in class discussion, extra effort taken to improve writing, etc.

1. **Autobiographical Worksheet (15 points, 7.5% of total grade) (800 Words minimum)** Due **Monday, January 31.** This assignment assesses your ability to meet Area E Learning Objective No. 1.

2. **Ethnographic Interview (15 points, 7.5% of total grade) (800 words minimum)** Due **Monday, February 7.** This assignment assesses your ability to meet Area E Learning Objective No. 3.

3. **“Five Year Plan for Incoming Freshmen” (10 points, 5% of total grade)**. Due **Wednesday, March 23.** You must do this even if you are a senior! This assignment
assesses your ability to meet Area E Learning Objective No. 4.

4. Portfolio (50 points total, 25% of total grade, 10 points per assignment) (800 words minimum for each assignment.) #1 due Wednesday, February 16, #2 due Wednesday, March 2 #3 due Monday, April 4, #4 due Monday, April 18, #5 due Monday, April 25. These assignments assess your ability to meet Area E Learning Objectives No. 2 and 4.

5. Life History (20 points, 10% of total grade) (1000 words minimum) Due Wednesday, May 4. This assignment assesses your ability to meet Area E Learning Objective No. 2 and No 3.

6. Open Note (Not open book) Midterm (40 points, 20% of total grade) Due Monday, March 21.

7. Comprehensive Open Note Open Book Take-Home Final Exam (50 points, 25% of total grade) Due in our classroom Monday, May 23, 12:15 to 2:30 PM.

You must bring hard copy to class, no email submissions! No late submissions!

Incompletes
Incompletes will be granted only if the instructor has been notified and has approved. Students with missing major assignments (over 50 points) will receive a WU (unauthorized withdrawal). NO WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE FINAL

Notification of grades
If you wish to know your final grade before grade reports are issued, give Dr. Anderson a stamped self-addressed postcard or email a grade request (please do not phone).

Marking Criteria for Written Work (Instructor reserves the right to take class participation into consideration in calculating the final grade)

A+ 98> A 94-97 A- 90-93
An “A” demonstrates originality, addresses the tasks effectively, shows effective organization and logical argumentation, uses clear, appropriate and accurate examples and a high level of writing competence and knowledge. Completes the task and consistently does extra work.

B+ 88-89 B 84-87 B- 80-83
A “B” may show a good level of competence, but uneven development of tasks. It may be generally well organized, uses appropriate examples, displays facility, with a few gaps, in argumentation, and demonstrates a good level of writing and knowledge. Completes the task and does some extra work.

C+ 78-79 C 74-77 C- 70-73
A “C” may show a fair level of competence, but may be uneven. It will address the task adequately, but only with parts of the task. It is adequately organized and may occasionally use examples. Argumentation may be inconsistent and writing and knowledge competence may be unclear.
D+ 68-69 D 64-67 D- 60-63 F<60
A “D” will demonstrate poor competence with inadequate organization, task and argumentation development and inappropriate examples. It will display difficulty in using adequate academic language and errors in knowledge will be in evidence. A failure will only occur if no effort is made to address the question or topic.

Participation and Miscellaneous Activities
Attendance and participation in class discussions is required.

To Be Excused if you cannot make it to class to participate in an exercise, please leave an E-mail message THAT day or earlier, giving your name, class and reason for missing the activity. You will receive full credit (E) as long as the reason is significant and the privilege is not abused. Failure to participate might result in a significant loss of overall points.

Other Class Policies

Academic Integrity
Academic integrity statement (from the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development):
“Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José 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 Student Conduct and Ethical Development.” The policy on academic integrity including definitions of plagiarism and cheating and sanctions for violations can be found at: http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm

“If you would like to include in your paper any material you have submitted, or plan to submit, for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Integrity policy F06-1 requires approval by instructors.”

Late Papers
No late papers will be accepted unless a genuine emergency arrives and the student notifies the professor in advance.

Adds/Drops/Incompletes, etc.
You are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, withdrawal, etc. The SJSU procedure for adding classes on the first day of class can be found at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-2115.html
The procedure for dropping a class can be found at: http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-2117.html
and http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-2118.html
The policy regarding incompletes can be found at: http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-1858.html

Disabilities
If you require accommodation, please advise me. I will be happy to help. “Campus policy in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: “If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need 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 register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.” For more information on accommodations contact the Disability Resource Center at http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/.

Cell phones
Please turn off all cell phones at the beginning of the class and keep them off. If you have a family emergency that may require you to keep the cell phone on, inform me at the beginning of class. Text messaging in class will not be tolerated.

Laptops – Students are permitted to use laptops in class for note-taking only. Students who abuse this policy by surfing the web or playing games during class will be asked not to use laptops in class. If you want to use a laptop, you must sit in the front row of class and sign a contract saying that you will not abuse the privilege of using a laptop.

Internet Resources
Anthropology 25 readings and assignments are posted to the class website: http://www.sjsu.edu/people/jennifer.anderson/courses/c5/
Any changes to the schedule will be printed to the website syllabus. Please check it regularly.

Schedule
(The schedule may be changed on fair notice. Readings are to be done before the class with which they are associated.)

Wednesday, January 26
- Lecture: “Course Overview” and “Introduction to Anthropology”
- Download Autobiographical Worksheet from class website. (Ask a peer mentor for help if you have trouble downloading or accessing the class website. They can be found in the peer mentor center on the first floor of Clark Hall. The worksheet must be typed and answered in full sentences.)

Monday, January 31
- Autobiographical Worksheet due in class (15 points)
- Download “Ethnographic Worksheet” from class website, bring it to class.
- Lecture: “Ethnographic Interviewing”
- Practice: Ethnographic interview of classmate
- Read: Nathan, 1-18
Wednesday, February 2

- Lecture: PP1 “The Game of Life”
- Read: Nathan, 19-40

Monday, February 7

- Typed version of Ethnographic interview form due (15 points). Use full sentences and include detail.
- Lecture: PP2 “Like a Virgin” (Virginity)
- Download and Read: Naylor, “Desperate to Hide Taboo Sex,”
- Handouts: “Authoritative Knowledge” and “Eight Kinds of Logic”
- Read: Nathan, 41-66

Recommended reading:

Wednesday, February 9

- Lecture: PP3 “Birds, Bees, and Petri Dishes” (Fertility)
- Download and Read: “The New Reproductive Landscape” by Liza Mundy
- Download and begin filling out “Five Year Plan for Incoming Freshmen” due Wednesday, March 23. (10 points). This may take some time and you will need an appointment with either an SJSU counselor or an advisor in your major department. Their signature is required on your form. Start now! You must do this even if you are a senior! If you need help finding an advisor or information about a major, ask someone at the peer mentor center to help you. It would be best to find a peer mentor who has declared the major you are interested in.

Recommended reading:

Monday, February 14

- Lecture: PP4 “All You Need is Love” (Love and Sex)
- Download and Read: “The Susceptibility to Love” by Hatfield and Rapson

Recommended reading:

Wednesday, February 16

- Portfolio Assignment 1 Due (10 points)
- Lecture: PP5 “In The Family Way” (Pregnancy)
Monday, February 21

- Movie: *Adhiambo: Born in the Evening*

Wednesday, February 23

- Lecture: PP6 “Always Something New” (Birth)

Monday, February 28

- Movie: *Giving Birth: Challenges and Choices*

Recommended Reading:

Wednesday, March 2

- **Portfolio Assignment 2 Due (10 points)**
- Lecture: PP7 “Babies: Gotta Love’em!” (Infant Development)
- Download and Read: Small, “Our Babies, Our Selves,” pp. 1-7,

Recommended Reading:

Monday, March 7

- Lecture:PP8 “Child’s Play” (Child Development)
- Download and Read: Lancy, “Accounting for Variability in Mother-Child Play”

Recommended Reading:
Wednesday, March 9
- Lecture: PP9 “No Way Back” (Child labor, Child soldiers, Sex trafficking)

Recommended Reading:

Monday, March 14
- Lecture: PP10 “Negotiating Difference” (Bullying, disabilities, gender variant children)

Recommended Reading:

Wednesday, March 16
- **Review for Mid-term**

Monday, March 21
- **Mid-term (40 points)**

Wednesday, March 23
- **Five Year Plan for Incoming Freshmen Due**
- Lecture: PP11 “Betwixt and Between” (Adolescence)
- Reading: Nathan, 67-89

Spring Vacation March 28-April 1

Monday, April 4
- **Portfolio Assignment 3 due (10 points)**
- Movie: The Devil’s Playground
- Reading: Nathan, 89-106
- Download and Read: Shachtman, Excerpt from Rumspringa

Wednesday, April 6
- Lecture: PP12 “At the Ready ... “ (Military Life)
- Download and Read: Volkin, How to Survive Military Boot Camp
Monday, April 11
- Lecture: PP13 “All Work and No Play . . . “ (Student Life)
- Reading: Nathan, 107-131

Wednesday, April 13
- Lecture: PP14 “Just Perfect” (Body Image in a Cross Cultural Context)
- Read: Nathan, 132-156

Monday, April 18
- **Portfolio Assignment 4 due (10 points)**
- Movie: *The Beauty Academy of Kabul*

Wednesday, April 20
- Lecture: PP15 “Catching the Brass Ring” (Relationship Choices)
- Download and Read: Hatfield and Rapson: “Sex Here and Now”

Monday, April 25
- **Portfolio Assignment 5 due.**
- Lecture: PP16 “The Happiest Day of Your Life” (The Complexities of Marriage)

Wednesday, April 27
- Lecture: PP17 “Breaking Up is Hard to Do” (Divorce Cross-Culturally)
- Download and Read: Hatfield and Rapson: “Divorce”

Monday, May 2
- Lecture: PP18 “Caught in the Middle” (Middle Age)
- Download and Read: Gullette, “Socialization into Midlife Aging: Exposure”

Wednesday, May 4
- **Life History Assignment is due.**
- Lecture: PP19 “Silver Hairs Amongst the Gold . . .” (Old Age)
- Download and Read: Egelko, “Old Guy Gets Another Chance in Google Age Discrimination Suit”
Monday, May 9
• Lecture: PP20 “The Keys to the Kingdom” (Death and Freedom of Choice)
• Download and Read: Berk, “Death, Dying, and Bereavement,” pp. 635-659

Wednesday, May 11
• Film: Departures (131 minutes)

Monday, May 16
• Finish Film: Departures (131 minutes)
• Review for Final Exam
• Final to be Handed Out

Monday, May 23, 12:15 to 2:30 PM.
OPEN BOOK, OPEN NOTE FINAL DUE IN CLASS – 50 Points
NO EMAIL SUBMISSIONS, NO LATE SUBMISSIONS!