

**San José State University
Anthropology Department
ANTH 11: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Sec. 3
Spring 2014 Semester**

Instructor:	Professor Gonzalez
Office Location:	Clark 459
Telephone:	(408) 924-5715
Email:	roberto.gonzalez@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Monday 1:30-4:30 pm
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-4:15 pm
Classroom:	CL 310
Prerequisites:	None
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	D1 (Human Behavior)
Course Fees:	N/A

Course Description

Anthropology is the study of humans in the broadest sense; it analyzes the rich variety of ways that humans have creatively adapted to and given meaning to the world in different places and times. This course introduces major concepts in sociocultural anthropology. We will begin with an overview of ideas about culture, society, and anthropological methods (fieldwork and ethnographic writing). Then we will analyze various concepts by examining human societies in different regions including the Americas, Asia, Africa, Oceania, Europe, and the Middle East. Many course concepts will be covered during lectures, so it is critical that you attend class and take lecture notes. Apart from course readings, we will view several ethnographic films. Exams will be based upon readings, films, and lectures.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

GE/SJSU Studies Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.

2. Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.
3. 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.
4. Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.
5. Recognize the interactions of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals.

Anthropology Department Objectives

The goals of the anthropology department include helping students to:

- learn about the culture concept and significant findings in anthropology
- examine interconnections between human culture and biology
- develop awareness of past and present cultures
- understand the multicultural aspects of contemporary society
- make good use of social science data and scholarly literature
- increase knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods
- recognize anthropology's relevance in addressing social issues

ANTH 11 Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will:

- be introduced to the culture concept and cultural approaches to understanding human behavior
- explore how cultural anthropologists conduct research by participating in a class project
- develop cross-cultural perspectives on how humans relate to one other and material world
- learn about several societies in depth by reading ethnographies
- the relevance of anthropology for understanding the complexities of modern life

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

James Spradley and David McCurdy, *Conformity and Conflict* (13th edition)

Elizabeth Fernea, *Guests of the Sheik: Ethnography of an Iraqi Village*

Robert Tonkinson, *The Mardu Aborigines: Living the Dream in Australia's Desert*

Carol Stack, *All Our Kin*

Classroom Protocol

Laptop computers are not permitted in class unless you have a note from the Accessible Education Center justifying a need. You should write lecture notes by hand, or else make audio recordings of lectures and transcribe them after class meetings. Cell phones must be

turned off during class to avoid disruption and out of sight or else the instructor will collect the device from the student until the end of class. Text messaging is strictly prohibited. Any student who allows a cell phone to ring during class, or who texts messages will first be given a formal warning by the instructor. A second infraction of this rule will be promptly reported to the Office of Student Conduct with a recommendation that the student be immediately expelled from the course. Students should be aware that according to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, "Standards for Student Conduct," grounds for student discipline includes: "Participating in an activity that substantially and materially disrupts the normal operations of the University," {Section 41301(b)(4)} which could include use of unauthorized electronic devices in classroom settings.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Assignments for this course include the following:

1. *Weekly writing exercises.* These assignments are due at the beginning of class each Tuesday, and cover the week's readings. You should write a brief but detailed paragraph (5-6 sentences) in response to each of the reading questions. These assignments must be typed--no handwritten responses will be accepted (45% of semester grade)
(Meets GE Area D1 Learning Objectives 1, 2)
2. *Mid-term exam.* You will take one mid-term exam consisting of short definitions, multiple choice, essay, and maps. (15% of semester grade)
(Meets GE Area D1 Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4)
3. *Final exam.* You will take one final exam consisting of short definitions, multiple choice, essay, and maps. (15% of semester grade)
(Meets GE Area D1 Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4)
4. *Term paper.* You will write a 6-page ethnographic term paper, due the last regular class day. See description of assignment below. (15% of semester grade)
(Meets GE Area D1 Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4)
5. *Participation.* Over the course of the semester a great deal of class time will be dedicated to workshops and group activities. Your participation in these exercises will be evaluated by the course instructor. (10% of semester grade)

All assignments must be completed in order to pass. I will not accept late assignments nor will I administer makeup exams unless documents can be presented as evidence of illness, death in family, jury duty, etc. No assignments will be accepted via e-mail—I must receive hard copies of all assignments.

ANTH 11 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Spring 2014 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change with fair notice.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/23	<u>Introduction to Course</u> (No required readings)
2	1/28 - 1/30	<u>Ethnography and the Fieldwork Experience</u> *Horace Miner, "Body Ritual among the Nacirema" (CC, pp. 334-339) *J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Culture and Ethnography" (CC, pp. 1-6) *James Spradley, "Ethnography and Culture" (CC, pp. 7-14)
3	2/4 - 2/6	<u>Kinship and Social Organization</u> *J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Kinship and Family" (CC, pp. 172-175) *Nancy Scheper-Hughes, "Mother's Love" (CC, pp. 176-186) *David McCurdy, "Family and Kinship in Village India" (CC, pp.187-194) FILM: "Small Happiness"
4	2/11 - 2/13	<u>The Culture Concept</u> Elizabeth Fernea, <i>Guests of the Sheik</i> (Chapters 1-5)
5	2/18 - 2/20	<u>Law and Political Systems</u> *J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Law and Politics" (CC, pp. 259-262) *Marvin Harris, "Life without Chiefs" (CC, pp. 272-280) Elizabeth Fernea, <i>Guests of the Sheik</i> (Chapters 6-12) FILM: "Little Injustices: Laura Nader Looks at the Law"
6	2/25 - 2/27	<u>Ritual, Religion, and Worldview</u> *J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Religion, Magic, Worldview" (pp. 298-302) *George Gmelch, "Baseball Magic" (CC, pp. 310-319) *Jill Dubisch, "Run for the Wall" (CC, pp. 320-333) Elizabeth Fernea, <i>Guests of the Sheik</i> (Chapters 13-18)
7	3/4 - 3/6	<u>Sex and Gender</u> *J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Identity, Roles, Groups" (CC, pp. 210-214) *Dianna Shandy and Karine Moe, "Heading Home" (CC, pp. 215-226) Elizabeth Fernea, <i>Guests of the Sheik</i> (Chapters 19-26) FILM: "Covered"
8	3/11 - 3/13	<u>Language</u> *J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Language Communication" (CC, pp. 52-55) *Jennifer Boehlke, "Kinds of Talk: Tattoo World" (CC, pp. 69-78) *Sarah Boxer, "Manipulating Meaning" (CC, pp. 56-68)
9	3/18 - 3/20	<u>Ecology, Environment, and Human Food Systems</u> *J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Ecology and Subsistence" (CC, pp. 83-87) *Richard Lee, "The Hunters" (CC, pp. 88-103) *Richard Reed, "Forest Development the Indian Way" (CC, pp. 124-134) Carol Stack, <i>All Our Kin</i> (Introduction and Chapter 1) MIDTERM EXAM: MARCH 20

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		SPRING BREAK: MARCH 24 - MARCH 28
10	4/1 - 4/3	<u>Economic Systems</u> *J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Economic Systems" (CC, pp. 135-138) *Lee Cronk, "Reciprocity and the Power of Giving" (CC, pp. 139-145) *P. Bourgois, "Office Work and Crack Alternative" (CC, pp. 227-239) Carol Stack, <i>All Our Kin</i> (Chapters 2-4) FILM: "A Poor Man Shames Us All"
11	4/8 - 4/10	<u>"Race," Ethnicity, and Identity in the Modern World</u> *Jeffrey Fish, "Mixed Blood" (CC, pp. 248-258) Carol Stack, <i>All Our Kin</i> (Chapters 5-8)
12	4/15 - 4/17	<u>Anthropological Perspectives on Globalization</u> *J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Globalization" (CC, pp. 340-343) *Ian Condry, "Japanese Hip-Hop" (CC, pp. 365-379) Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Foreword, Preface, and Introduction) FILM: "Global Assembly Line"
13	4/22 - 4/24	<u>Colonialism and Resistance</u> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapters 1-2)
14	4/29 - 5/1	<u>Neoliberalism, Economic Development and Its Dilemmas</u> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapters 3-4)
15	5/6 - 5/8	<u>Applied Anthropology in the 21st Century</u> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapters 5-6)
16	05/13/14	<u>Review and Discussion</u> Robert Tonkinson, <i>The Mardu Aborigines</i> (Chapter 7) TERM PAPERS DUE MAY 13
Final Exam		FINAL EXAM TO BE ADMINISTERED WEDNESDAY, MAY 21 (2:45 - 5:00 PM) IN REGULAR CLASS MEETING ROOM

Departmental Goals

Learn about the goals of the anthropology department and how it can benefit your education.

Goals <http://www.sjsu.edu/anthropology/departmentinfo/goals/index.html>

Credit Hours

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

University Policies

Here are some of the basic university policies that students must follow.

Dropping and Adding

Find the procedures and deadlines for adding and dropping classes.

Catalog Policies <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>.

Add/drop deadlines http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/

Late Drop Policy <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

All students must obtain the instructor's permission if they wish to record lectures or distribute materials from the class.

University Policy S12-7 <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>

Academic integrity

Learn about the importance of academic honesty and the consequences if it is violated.

University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>

Student Conduct and Ethical Development website <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

Here are guidelines to request any course adaptations or accommodations you might need.

Presidential Directive 97-03

http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf

Accessible Education Center <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec>

Resources

The university provides resources that can help you succeed academically. Just look here.

Academic Success Center <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/>

[Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu

[Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter

[Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling