

San José State University
Anthropology Department
ANTH 115/ASIA 115: Emerging Global Cultures, Sec. 1
Fall 2015 Semester

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Tanzeen R. Doha
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Office Hours:	Monday/Wednesday, 5-6 pm
Class Days/Time:	Wednesday, 6 – 845 pm
Classroom:	Clark 204
Prerequisites:	The prerequisites for this course are passage of the writing skills test (WST), completion of core General Education, and concurrent or previous enrollment in 100W.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	V (Culture, Civilization, and Global Understanding)

Course Description

In this course we will examine the emergence of global cultures. We will critically analyze the ways in which global capitalism (and other systems of international trade), migration, and technological change have interacted, while keeping in focus the impacts of such changes upon individual lives and human cultures. Connections between culture and power will be a fundamental part of our analysis. Lectures, films, readings, and in-class team projects form the basis of the course. To pass the course it is essential that you attend class meetings, take good notes during lectures and films, and read all assigned materials.

ANTH 115/ASIA 115 Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

This course has a number of goals, including: to encourage students to make connections between everyday life and broader issues affecting the entire planet, to appreciate different perspectives on complex problems, to work with other students on common issues, and to become conscious, active participants in the transformation of global society. Specific objectives include:

1. Learning how to understand events within a broad worldwide framework
2. Comparing and contrasting today's global issues with those of other historical periods
3. Critiquing different assumptions and reviewing a range of perspectives on global issues
4. Discussing competing definitions of "globalization"
5. Analyzing the impacts of trade, technology, migration, and conflict on cultural change
6. Developing the skills needed to anticipate and shape future scenarios

7. Working with other students cooperatively on a class project

SJSU Studies Area V Student Learning Objectives

1. To compare systematically the ideas, values, images, cultural artifacts, economic structures, technological developments, and/or attitudes of people from more than one culture outside the US
2. To identify the historical context of ideas and cultural traditions outside the US and how they have influenced American culture
3. To explain how a culture outside the US has changed in response to internal and external pressures

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Globalization: A Very Short Introduction, by Manfred Steger

The Ethical Soundscape: Cassette Sermons and Islamic Counterpublics, by Charles Hirschkind

Anthropology as Cultural Critique, by Marcus & Fischer

Available at campus bookstore.

Other Readings

Classroom Protocol

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 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 electronic devices in classroom settings.

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.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Ethnographic Project (45%): This small research project is designed to give you a sense of how to work, read, think, and write as an anthropologist. Choose an "object" (a thing) that you find intriguing to study. You are, of course, not studying the object itself, but how the ways it is used, produced, and circulated tell us about American culture. It can be anything—images, food, drinks, tools, software, clothes, films, scientific objects, statistics, popular youtube clips, official documents, etc—as long as you are interested in teaching others how people engage

with them tells us about “culture.” What does this specific object mean to a certain group of people? What does that thing mean and do to the people who engage with them?

-Choose your topic (5%): choose your topic (object). Write 2-3 sentences and explain why you think this is interesting. Submit a hardcopy in class.

-“Thin” description (10%): Write a 300-400 word description of the behaviors/practices of people who engage with the object, as if you were an alien creature who is not interested in understanding what they really mean. This is an exercise to learn how problematic it could be if you do not “interpret” the practices within the cultural contexts, while pretending to be an objective observer.

-Interview notes (15%): Interview one person who engages with the object that you choose. You ask what s/he does with it, how it is meaningful to the person, and in what cultural context, the person could find it meaningful to her/him. We will discuss more on this interview exercise in class. You will do two short interviews (about a half to an hour per each with the same interviewee). Take notes during the interview (record if possible). After the interviews, identify some keywords and interesting phrases that give you certain insights to you about understanding your research subject. Write down at least three passages that you find interesting, and provide 3-4 sentences for each passage that explain what you learned from it.

-Analysis paper (15%): You will write a 3-4 page paper (double spaced) that analyzes your interview. In this paper, you address: why you chose this object (why it interested you, i.e. looked worthy of attention), how your informant makes meaning when s/he does something with the thing, and how it teaches us something about contemporary American culture. You can use your interview notes (but do not simply copy and paste! The essay should be coherent in both form and contents).

Midterm Exam (20%) – in-class exam

Final Exam (25%) – in-class final exam

Participation (10%)

Grading distribution is as follows:

100 - 97 A+

96 - 93 A

92 - 90 A-

89 - 87 B+

86 – 83 B

83 - 80 B-

79 - 77 C+

76 - 73 C

72 - 70 C-

69 - 67 D+

66 - 63 D

Below 63 F

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.

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Find the procedures and deadlines for adding and dropping classes.

[Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>.

[Add/drop deadlines](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/

[Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/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) <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) <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>

[Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) <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.

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>

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

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

Course Number / Title, Semester, Course Schedule

List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/26	Introduction to course
2	9/2	Globalization: A Very Short Introduction (1 st half of the book)
3	9/9	holiday
		TOPIC DUE 9/16
4	9/16	Globalization: A Very Short Introduction (2 nd half of the book)
5	9/23	Hirschkind: 1. Introduction, 2. Islam, Nationalism and Audition
6	9/30	Hirschkind: 3. The Ethics of Listening,
		THIN DESCRIPTION DUE 9/30
7	10/7	Hirschkind: 4. Cassettes and Counterpublics 5. Rhetorics of the Dai'ya,
8	10/14	Hirschkind: 6. The Acoustics of Death, 7. Epilogue
9	10/21	Midterm Exam
10	10/28	Edward Said – Orientalism (film + discussion)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
11	11/4	Marcus/Fischer: Introduction, 1. A Crisis of Representation in the Human Sciences
		INTERVIEW NOTES DUE 11/11
12	11/11	Marcus/Fischer: 2. Ethnography and Interpretive Anthropology
13	11/18	Marcus/Fischer: 3. Conveying Other Cultural Experience
14	11/25	Marcus/Fischer: 4. Taking Account of World Historical Political Economy
		ANALYSIS PAPER DUE 12/2
15	12/2	Marcus/Fischer: 5. The Repatriation of Anthropology as Cultural Critique, 6. Two Contemporary Techniques Cultural Critique
Final Exam	12/16	Time: 1715-1930