

San José State University
Department of Anthropology
ANTH 131: Theories of Culture and Society (Section 1)
Fall 2016

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Professor Gonzalez (before Sept. 28)/Jan English-Lueck (from Sept. 28 to the end of the semester)
Office Location:	CL 469/CL 459
Telephone:	(408) 924-5715/(408) 924-5347
Email:	roberto.gonzalez@sjsu.edu/jan.english-lueck@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Professor Gonzalez (before Sept. 28 only): Mondays and Wednesdays 10:30 am-12:00 pm; Wednesdays 1:15-2:15 pm Jan English-Lueck: Mondays 1:30-3:30 and Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 pm
Class Days/Time:	Monday and Wednesday 12:00-1:15 pm
Classroom:	CL 204
Prerequisites:	Upper division standing; ANTH 011; ANTH 012 or ANTH 013; or declared Anthropology major; or instructor consent

Course Format

Canvas and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as the syllabus, handouts, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](http://my.sjsu.edu) at <http://my.sjsu.edu> (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

Course Description

This course provides a general introduction to the history of anthropological thought since the late 19th century. The first half of the course focuses on the emergence of cultural and social anthropological approaches in the US and Great Britain as a response to theories of biological determinism. The second half of the course emphasizes the changing meanings of culture, society, and biology in the context of colonialism, the Cold War, corporate globalization, and other contemporary phenomena. We will also examine the diffusion of the culture concept—from American anthropology, across academic disciplines, and out into the general public. By the end of the course you should have a thorough understanding of the development of cultural and social anthropological thought, the most influential theoretical approaches of the 20th century, and the political and economic circumstances under which anthropological ideas emerged.

Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. Articulate different theories of culture and society developed by British, French, US, and other anthropologists from the late 19th century to the present
2. Explain how historical, political and economic contexts shaped and impacted these theories
3. Trace relationships between anthropological theories and methods and relationships between anthropological theories and practices
4. Compare and contrast classic ethnographies from the past and the present
5. Analyze and discuss the relationship of anthropological knowledge and the general public
6. Conduct library research and prepare an academic term paper.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

Stephen Jay Gould, *The Mismeasure of Man*

Jerry D. Moore, *Visions of Culture (4th edition)*

Zora Neale Hurston, *Tell My Horse: Voodoo and Life in Haiti and Jamaica*

Richard Perry, *Western Apache Heritage*

Carrie M. Lane, *A Company of One*

Other Readings

In addition, there will be several required articles that will either be distributed in class by the instructor, or that will be distributed by the instructor via email or Canvas (see pp. 5-6 of this syllabus for more information).

Course Requirements and Assignments

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.

Assignments for this course include the following:

1. Five-weekly quizzes at the beginning of class, designed to test your familiarity with that week's course readings. These will be averaged into your grade. (Each quiz counts 3% of final grade for a total of 15%. CLO 1)
2. Two mid-term exams consisting of short definitions, essays, and maps. (Each mid-term counts for 20% of final grade. CLO 1,2,3)
4. One 10-page term paper (not including title page or bibliography), due at the last regular class meeting (before final exams). (Paper counts for 15% of final grade. CLO 1,2,3) Description of term paper assignment will be distributed in class during the third week of the semester. Students must submit a typed 250-word term paper proposal to the instructor (see course schedule). Proposal is worth 10% of the assignment.

Final Examination or Evaluation

You will take one final exam, consisting of identifications/definitions, essays, and maps. (Final exam counts for 30% of final grade. CLO 1,2,3) . Final exam will be administered in the usual class meeting room (see Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus for the date and time). More details can be found in [University Policy S06-4](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S06-4.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S06-4.pdf>) which states: “*There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless specifically exempted by the college dean who has curricular responsibility for the course.*”

Grading Policy

Your work will be assessed based on your effort and reasoning, as illustrated by your writing. Your assignments document your mastery of the skills critical to anthropological inquiry. More guidelines on grading information and class attendance can be found from the following two university policies:

- [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>)
- [University policy F15-12](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf>)

Determination of Grades

- Grades will include minus and plus grades as illustrated below and are determined by percentage of total points possible.
- Short summaries and evaluations of instructor-approved public lectures may provide extra credit options up to 5 points.
- 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. The term paper will **also** be uploaded via Canvas and vetted through turnitin.com.
- NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Grading distribution is as follows:

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

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details. If you have questions regarding your grades (including explanations for the determination of course grades, you should visit with the course instructor during his/her office hours. **Grades will be uploaded into Canvas beginning in October.**

Classroom Protocol

Mobile phones must be turned off during class and must be out of sight or else the instructor will collect the device from the student until the end of class. Text messaging is strictly prohibited during exams and quizzes. Violation of this policy will result in a zero on the exam or quiz and the filing of a report to the Office of

Student Conduct, the latter of which might result in expulsion 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.

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.

I will not answer any questions regarding grades via email. Federal law (the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) prohibits faculty from doing so. You are welcome to discuss grades during my office hours.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>"

ANTH 131: Theories of Culture and Society

Fall 2016 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change with fair notice.

Readings followed by an asterisk will be distributed to students by the course instructor or will be available on Canvas Learning Management System.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	08/24/16 (Gonzalez)	Introduction Eric Wolf, "American Anthropologists and American Society"*
2	08/29 - 08/31 (Gonzalez)	Human Science in the Victorian Era J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Introduction) S.J. Gould, <i>Mismeasure of Man</i> (Chapters 1-2)
3	09/07/16 (Gonzalez)	Social Evolutionism and the Birth of Modern Anthropology J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapters 1-2) S.J. Gould, <i>Mismeasure of Man</i> (Chapters 3-4) LABOR DAY HOLIDAY SEPTEMBER 5--NO CLASS MEETING
4	09/12 - 09/14 (Gonzalez)	Franz Boas and the Culture Concept J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapter 3) S.J. Gould, <i>Mismeasure of Man</i> (Chapters 5 and 7--skip Chapter 6) FILM: "The Shackles of Tradition: Franz Boas"
5	09/19 - 09/21 (Gonzalez)	Culture and Personality J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapters 6 and 8--skip Chapter 7) S.J. Gould, <i>Mismeasure of Man</i> (Epilogue)
6	09/26 - 09/28 (Gonzalez)	Structural Functionalism J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapters 10-12) B. Malinowski, <i>Magic, Science, and Religion</i> (excerpts)* MIDTERM EXAM 1--SEPTEMBER 26
7	10/03 - 10/05 (J.A. English- Lueck)	Cultural Ecology and Cultural Materialism J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapters 14-15) TERM PAPER PROPOSAL DUE OCTOBER 3
8	10/10 - 10/12 (JAEL)	Colonial Critiques Vine Deloria, "Anthropologists and Other Friends"* Zora Neale Hurston, <i>Tell My Horse</i> (Ch. 1-6)
9	10/17 - 10/19 (JAEL)	Feminist Influences and the Anthropology of Gender J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapter 16) Zora Neale Hurston, <i>Tell My Horse</i> (Ch. 7-12)
10	10/24 - 10/26 (JAEL)	Interpretive and Symbolic Anthropologies J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapters 19-20) Zora Neale Hurston, <i>Tell My Horse</i> (Ch. 13-18)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
11	10/31 - 11/2 (JAEL)	Post-Structuralist Approaches J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapter 21) MIDTERM EXAM 2--NOVEMBER 2
12	11/7 - 11/9 (JAEL)	Practice Anthropology J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapters 22-23) R. Perry, <i>Western Apache Heritage</i> (Preface and Chapters 1-2)
13	11/14-11/16 (JAEL)	Political Economy J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapter 24) R. Perry, <i>Western Apache Heritage</i> (Chapters 3-5) Video "Losing Knowledge" November 16
14	11/21/16 (JAEL)	Towards an Anthropology of Globalization R. Perry, <i>Western Apache Heritage</i> (Chapters 6-9) C. Lane, <i>A Company of One</i> (Introduction) THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY NOVEMBER 23--NO CLASS MEETING
15	11/28 - 11/30 (JAEL)	Anthropology and the Contemporary World J. Moore, <i>Visions of Culture</i> (Chapter 25) C. Lane, <i>A Company of One</i> (Chapters 1-2)
16	12/05 - 12/07 (JAEL)	The Future of Anthropology C. Lane, <i>A Company of One</i> (Chapters 3-4) Graeme Wood, "Anthropology, Inc."*
17	12/12/16 (JAEL)	Discussion, Summary, and Course Review C. Lane, <i>A Company of One</i> (Chapter 5 and Epilogue) TERM PAPERS DUE ON DECEMBER 12
		FINAL EXAM--FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16 (9:45 AM - 12:00 PM) IN REGULAR CLASS MEETING ROOM