

San José State University
ANTH 11(1) Cultural Anthropology, Spring 2010 (21505)

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Jay Ou
Office Location:	Clark Hall 404N
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Office Hours:	MW 1015-1115
Class Days/Time:	MW 0900-1015
Classroom:	CL202

GE/SJSU Studies Category: D1

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Some course materials will be distributed in class sessions and others will be sent to students via the email address which appears in the course roster. This course makes use of the Canvas learning management system and you are responsible for all assignments and changes to them. You should plan to attend class, talk with other students in the class, and regularly check your email for information about the class.

Course Description

In this course we will review and examine the field of cultural anthropology. Topics to be covered include: Fieldwork; Ethnography; Kinship; Political Organization; Worldview; Identity; Language; Ecology; Economy; Ethnicity and Race; Globalization.

Learning Objectives of the Anthropology Department

Knowledge

PLO1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution.

PLO2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity.

PLO3. Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline.

PLO4. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history

PLO5. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomenon shaping global society.

Skills

PLO6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.

PLO7. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.

PLO8. 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.

PLO9. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.

Professional Values

PLO10. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research

Class Learning Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will:

CLO1. Be able to understand and apply appropriately the concept of culture to human behavior.

CLO2. Gain a working knowledge of how cultural anthropologists conduct field research through completing a class project

CLO3. Be able to recognize and analyze the interaction of social institutions, culture and environment with individual and collective behavior.

CLO4. Develop a cross-cultural perspective on how humans relate to each other and the material world through symbols;

CLO5. Have knowledge about several societies in depth using ethnographies; and

CLO6. Understand the relevance of cultural anthropology for understanding the complexities of modern life both globally and locally.

CLO7. Be able to engage in cooperative learning activities, and identify culturally relevant information resources.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

As an Area D1 (Human Behavior) course, the content and activities are designed to enable you to achieve the following learning outcomes upon successfully completing the course.

GELO 1. Students will be able to place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts [as assessed through examinations, ethnographic project and gendered space assignment]

GELO 2. Students will 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.[as assessed through examinations, ethnographic project and social networking assignment]

GELO3. Students will evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues. [as assessed through examinations and ethnographic project]

Classroom Protocol

ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF AND PUT AWAY OUT OF SIGHT DURING CLASS TIMES.

The first infraction will prompt a formal warning by the instructor.

The second infraction 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 TURNED IN TO PASS THE COURSE.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP EXAMS.

Exceptions to this rule will only be made if official documents can be presented at least 24 hours in advance showing evidence of illness, death in family, or legal duties.

NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY EMAIL. ONLY PRINTED ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Required Readings

Conformity and Conflict, James Spradley and David McCurdy, Pearson. ISBN 9780205990795

Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States, Seth Holmes, UC Press. ISBN:9780520275140

Stories of Culture and Place: An Introduction to Anthropology. Michael G. Kenny and Kirsten Smillie, UT Press. ISBN: 9781487593704

ALL ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READINGS ARE ON CANVAS UNDER FILES

Assignments and Grading Policy

5% Class Participation

15% Three quizzes (5% each)

20% Midterm exam

20% 5-page double-spaced term paper based on an in-class migration interview

20% 7-page double-spaced ethnographic term paper

20% Final exam

Migration Interview

The U.S. differs from many countries because the vast majority of those living within its borders have arrived relatively recently (in anthropological terms)—less than ten generations ago. The movement of people from one part of the world to another is an important dimension of global systems.

How does your life history fit into a global framework? This quick exercise should help you think about how your own life is connected to world history, the global economy, and international politics.

Minimum 5 pages (not including references or cover page), typed and double-spaced with 1" margins. Use APA citation style.

Ethnographic Paper

Your paper should include the following: (a) a description of your research topic and site; (b) a summary of your observations (human interactions, spatial analysis, interpretation of symbols, linguistic analysis); and (c) your analysis and reflections.

Minimum 7 pages (not including references or cover page), typed and double-spaced with 1" margins. Use APA citation style.

Grading Policy

Course grades will be assigned as follows:

A plus = 1000 to 970 points
A = 969 to 940 points
A minus = 939 to 900 points
B plus = 899 to 870 points
B = 869 to 840 points
B minus = 839 to 800 points
C plus = 799 to 770 points
C = 769 to 740 points
C minus = 739 to 700 points
D plus = 699 to 670 points
D = 669 to 640 points
D minus = 639 to 600 points
F = 599 points or lower

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. The instructor will return materials submitted for grade within 10 days. I am happy to discuss student grades during office hours, but I will not do so by phone or email or in class.

Wk	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/28-30	Course Introduction: History of Anthropology Readings: Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 1)
2	2/4-6	Cultural Anthropology Readings: Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 2) Film: “Margaret Mead: Coming of Age”
3	2/11-13	Fieldwork and Ethnography Readings: J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Culture and Ethnography" (CC, pp. 1-6) James Spradley, "Ethnography and Culture" (CC, pp. 7-14) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 3) Film: “Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman” Quiz 1

4	2/18-20	<p>Kinship</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Kinship and Family" (CC, pp. 172-175) David McCurdy, "Family and Kinship in Village India" (CC, pp.187-194) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 5)</p> <p>Quiz 2</p>
5	2/25-27	<p>Political Organization</p> <p>J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Law and Politics" (CC, pp. 259-262) Marvin Harris, "Life without Chiefs" (CC, pp. 272-280) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 10)</p> <p>Film: "Little Injustices"</p>
6	3/4-6	<p>Worldview</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Religion, Magic, Worldview" (pp. 298-302) George Gmelch, "Baseball Magic" (CC, pp. 310-319) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 6)</p> <p>Film: "Languages Lost and Found: Speaking & Whistling the Mamma Tongue"</p> <p>Quiz 3</p>

7	3/11-13	<p>Health, Medicine and Culture</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Nancy Scheper-Hughes, "Mother's Love" (CC, pp. 176-186) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 7)</p> <p>Film: "The Spirit Hunters" Narrated by James Earl Jones. Featuring Dr. Glenn Shepard</p> <p>Guest Lecture: Dr. Glenn Shepard, Ethnology Director, Belem Museu. "Cultural Survival in Contemporary Amazonian Communities"</p>
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8	3/18-20	<p>Language and Power</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Language Communication" (CC, pp. 52-55) Deborah Tannen, "Conversation Style" (CC, pp. 61-67) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 8)</p> <p>MIDTERM EXAM—3/20</p>
9	3/25-27	<p>Ecology and Environment</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>J. Spradley and McCurdy, "Ecology and Subsistence" (CC, pp. 83-87)</p> <p>WORKSHOP: MIGRATION INTERVIEW</p> <p>4/1-3 Spring Break</p>

10	4/8-10	<p>Economy</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Economic Systems" (CC, pp. 135-138) Lee Cronk, "Reciprocity and the Power of Giving" (CC, pp. 139-145) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 4)</p> <p>MIGRATION INTERVIEW ROUGH DRAFT PEER REVIEW</p>
11	4/15-17	<p>Ethnicity and the concept of race</p> <p>Readings: Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 9)</p> <p>Guest Lecture: Dr.Moira Perez, Chief of Staff, UC Berkeley. "Gender, Ethnicity and the American Workplace"</p> <p>MIGRATION INTERVIEW DUE</p>
12	4/22-24	<p>Globalization and Cultural Change</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>J. Spradley and D. McCurdy, "Globalization" (CC, pp. 340-343) Kenny and Smillie, <i>Stories</i> (Chapter 11)</p> <p>WORKSHOP: ETHNOGRAPHIC TERM PAPER</p>
13	4/29-5/1	<p>Contemporary Ethnography</p> <p>Readings: Holmes, <i>Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies</i></p> <p>ETHNOGRAPHIC TERM PAPER ROUGH DRAFT PEER REVIEW</p>

14	5/6-8	<p>Contemporary Ethnography</p> <p>Readings: Holmes, <i>Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies</i>:</p> <p>ETHNOGRAPHIC TERM PAPER DUE</p>
15	5/13	<p>Course Review</p>

5/16 Th (715-93 0)	FINAL EXAM
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Departmental 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

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 Add/drop deadlines Late Drop Policy](#)

<http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/ <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.

[Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf
[Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec>

Resources

The university provides resources that can help you succeed academically.

<http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling> <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/>

<http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>