

**San José State University,
Anthropology Department Anth 11
Cultural Anthropology
Online, Spring 2021**

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Prof. Quincy Dalton McCrary
Office Location:	Clark 461 (online on Zoom)
Telephone:	Office: (408) 924-5561 Cell (TEXT): (510)-334-9256
Email:	quincy.mccrary@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Wednesday 2.00-4.00 via Zoom http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/zoom/
Class Days/Time:	Online
Classroom:	Online
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	D1

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts a completely online format. You must have Internet connectivity, and access to a computer, to participate in the classroom activities and/or submit assignments. All assignments must be uploaded to Canvas in .doc or .docx format to be graded due to the limitations of the grading software in Canvas. Please save or export documents created in other formats (such as Google.docs) to Word before submitting the assignment. Please be aware that the Canvas App does not include the full functionality of Canvas as seen on a computer screen and you will not be able to fully participate in the class if using the app only. See University Policy F13-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf> for more details.

Online Course Material

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

Course Description

Cultural anthropology is the study of how humans adapt to, interpret and affect the world in which they live. This course is designed to provide you with an overview to the discipline, as well as an appreciation of what it has meant to be human in different places at different times. The course is divided into three major parts:

1. Human Nature and Culture
2. Sociocultural Systems in Cross-cultural Comparison

3. Anthropology and the Modern World

By the end of the class you should have a sense of the anthropological perspective and its merits. After learning some basic concepts and cross-cultural comparisons, we finish the class by showing the practical applications of this perspective in America and elsewhere. Furthermore, you will be gaining first-hand experience in observing the world as an anthropologist giving you an experiential and intellectual appreciation of a perspective which can be used to better understand a variety of academic, professional and community contexts. The course satisfies requirements for the Human Behavior/D(1) Area in the General Education Core, as well as departmental and program requirements in anthropology and behavioral science.

Course Goals: 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 for this Class

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 in the Santa Clara Valley.

- 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]

Required Texts/Readings

The following book is available to purchase or rent via Spartan Bookstore or other online venues.

Guest, Kenneth J. 2017 Cultural Anthropology A toolkit for a global age. WW New York and London: Norton and Company. 3rd edition

Other Readings

Brenneman, Robert L 2007 As Strong as the Mountains: A Kurdish cultural journey. Waveland Press, Long Grove IL

Articles as assigned on Canvas

Library Liaison

The Anthropology Library Liaison is Silke Higgins, Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Your final grade will be determined by your grades on a mid-term, a series of written research assignments, an open-note (but not open book) final,

Term Paper Writing Assignment (100 points)

SEE SEPARATE TERM PAPER FILE. The research assignment is designed to encourage the student to research a culture of personal interest. The final paper should be approximately 2100 words not including cover page and bibliography. The paper will be submitted in sections to be graded individually, corrected by the student, and integrated into one final submission. The final corrected paper is worth 20 points. Emphasis will be placed on clear and effective communication. Students are encouraged to use online resources for research; however, plagiarism will not be tolerated and all papers will be graded using Turn it in . com. References should be properly cited in APA Style. The bibliography should include both book and internet references. This assignment assesses your ability to meet Area D1 Learning Objectives No. 1-5.

Mid-term Exam and Weekly Quizzes

The class includes one midterm (Due ...) and one final exam (Due ...). The format of the exam is multiple choice and consists of 50 questions worth two points each. Quizzes will be given weekly via Canvas.

Short Written Assignments (50 points each for 200 total points)

Students will write four essays of 2.5 – 3.0 pages based on articles or films that are available on canvas. Summarize the main points of the article and then give your personal response to the information. The writing assignments are due at the beginning of each class period. Students are required to submit the writing assignments on canvas in pdf format. The writing assignment will be graded on a simple rubric. Please ensure your paper is stapled before coming to class. Each of the following categories are worth five points: 1) spelling/grammar/punctuation, 2) formatting, 3) accuracy of summary, 4) page length, and 5) response.

All essays must follow the standard college format: Times New Roman, 12-point font size, double-spaced, 1-inch margins. All essays must be typed.

Writing Assignment #1

Read Eating Christmas in the Kalahari by Richard Lee and summarize/respond. Article is provided on canvas.

Writing Assignment #2

Read The Case for Reparations by Ta-Nehisi Coates and summarize/respond. Link to article is provided on Canvas.

Writing Assignment #3

Watch Mardi Gras: Made in China and summarize/respond. Link to film is provided on canvas.

Writing Assignment #4

Watch The Split Horn: A Hmong Shaman in America and summarize/response. Link to film is provided on canvas.

Comprehensive Open Note Open Book Final Exam (50 points)

This assignment assesses your ability to meet Area D1 Learning Objectives No. 1-5. (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S06-4.pdf>) states that “There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless the course is on the official List of Courses in which a final is optional.”

Discussion Posts AND Responses (5 points per week)

Participation in online discussions will be assessed by giving full credit for active participation, partial credit for passive participation. Participation will be generated via discussion board questions posted after each lecture (each class week) with required responses. Posts must be at least 250 words. Each student must also include a thoughtful response to another student’s post. I will not put a word count on responses, but it must be a bit more than “i liked what u wrote!!!!”

Ground Rules for Online Discussions

Participate: This is a shared learning environment. No lurking in the cyberspace background. It is not enough to login and read the discussion thread of others. For the maximum benefit to all, everyone must contribute. Report Glitches: Discussion forums are electronic. They break. If for any reason you experience difficulty participating, please call, email, or otherwise inform me of the issue. Chances are others are having the same problem.

Help Others: You may have more experience with online discussion forums than the person next to you. Give them a hand. Show them it's not so hard. They're really going to appreciate it!

Be Patient: Read everything in the discussion thread before replying. This will help you avoid repeating something someone else has already contributed. Acknowledge the points made with which you agree and suggest alternatives for those with which you don't.

Be Brief: You want to be clear—and to articulate your point—without being preachy or pompous. Be direct. Stay on point. Don't lose yourself, or your readers, in overly wordy sentences or paragraphs.

Use Proper Writing Style: This is a must. Write as if you were writing a term paper. Correct spelling, grammatical construction and sentence structure are expected in every other writing activity associated with scholarship and academic engagement. Online discussions are no different.

Cite Your Sources: Another big must! If your contribution to the conversation includes the intellectual property (authored material) of others, e.g., books, newspaper, magazine, or journal articles—online or in print—they must be given proper attribution.

Emoticons and Texting: Social networking and text messaging has spawned a body of linguistic shortcuts that are not part of the academic dialogue. Please refrain from :) faces and c u l8r's.

Respect Diversity: It's an ethnically rich and diverse, multi-cultural world in which we live. Use no language that is—or that could be construed to be—offensive toward others. Racists, sexist, and heterosexist comments and jokes are unacceptable, as are derogatory and/or sarcastic comments and jokes directed at religious beliefs, disabilities, and age.

No YELLING!: Step carefully. Beware the electronic footprint you leave behind. Using bold upper-case letters are bad form, like stomping around and yelling at somebody (NOT TO MENTION BEING HARD ON THE EYE).

No Flaming!: Criticism must be constructive, well-meaning, and well-articulated. Please, no tantrums. Rants directed at any other contributor are simply unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The same goes for profanity. The academic environment expects higher-order language.

Lastly, Remember: You Can't Un-Ring the Bell. Language is your only tool in an online environment. Be mindful. How others perceive you will be largely—as always—up to you. Once you've hit the send button, you've rung the bell.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 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. In our case, additional reading and ethnographic fieldwork, analysis and writing, will comprise the bulk of the outside time needed in this course.

Grading Information

Use <https://www.grammarly.com> or another electronic service to check your writing. All papers will be submitted through Canvas and will be vetted by Turnitin.com.

Incompletes

Incompletes will be granted only if the instructor has been notified in a timely manner 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

Determination of Grades

An "A" demonstrates originality, not merely efficient memory, 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 that is self-initiated.

A "B" may show a good level of competence and may even reflect exactly what was discussed in class and texts, but does not contribute original knowledge. It shows uneven development of tasks. Work may be generally well organized, use appropriate examples, display facility in argumentation, with a few gaps, and demonstrates a good level of writing and knowledge. Completes the task and does some extra work guided by the instructor.

A "C" may show a fair level of competence, but may be uneven. Work 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. Language may be inappropriately informal in parts of assignment.

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.

Example Grading Scale

Grade	Points	Percentage
A plus	960 to 1000	96 to 100%
A	930 to 959	93 to 95%
A minus	900 to 929	90 to 92%
B plus	860 to 899	86 to 89 %
B	830 to 829	83 to 85%
B minus	800 to 829	80 to 82%
C plus	760 to 799	76 to 79%
C	730 to 759	73 to 75%
C minus	700 to 729	70 to 72%
D plus	660 to 699	66 to 69%
D	630 to 659	63 to 65%
D minus	600 to 629	60 to 62%

Late work will only be accepted if the professor has approved the reason. The work will drop one grade as a late penalty in such cases unless otherwise arranged. Extra credit is not given.

Late Papers

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

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course:

"Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

University Policies (Required)

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/>

Cultural Anthropology Course Schedule

The schedule may be changed on fair notice. Readings are to be done before the class with which they are associated. **You are responsible for turning in assignments on the due date. I will not remind you!** If changes are made, they will be made available through the Canvas modules.

Course Schedule

Date	Readings & Films	Module Topic	Notes
	Guest, Ch. 1 Guest, Ch. 2 Brenneman, Ch. 1	Anthropology in a Global Age Culture Discovering the Kurds	Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 3 Brenneman, Ch.2 Article: Richard Lee (1969) Eating Christmas in the Kalahari Film: Off the Veranda	Ethnography History and Ethnic Identity	Writing Assignment 1 Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 4 Brenneman, Ch 3	Language Language and Ethnic Identity	Writing Assignment Section One Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 5 Human Origins & Race	Human Origins	Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 6 Ta-Nehisi Coates (2014) The Case for Reparations	Race and Racism	Required Discussion & Quiz Written Assignment 2
	Guest, Ch. 7 Brenneman Ch 4 Film: Black Gold	Ethnicity & Nationalism The Decline of Oral Tradition	Writing Assignment Section Two Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 8 Brenneman Ch. 5	Gender Relationships, Roles and Traditions	Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 9 & 10 Film: Hip Hop Beyond Beats and Rhymes	Sexuality & Kinship, Family & Marriage	Writing Assignment Section Three Required Discussion & Quiz
	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam
	Guest, Ch. 11 Guest, Ch. 12 Film: Mardi Gras Made in China	Class & Inequality Global Economy	Written Assignment 3 Required Discussion & Quiz Written Assignment 3
	Guest, Ch. 13 Brenneman Ch. 7	Migration	Required Discussion & Quiz

		Rapid Urbanization and Culture Change	
	Guest, Ch. 14	Politics and Power	Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 15 Brenneman – Finish Text Film: Split Horn A Hmong Shaman in America	Religion Core Values and Religious Rituals	Required Discussion & Quiz Writing Assignment #4
	Guest, Ch.16	Health, Illness, and the Body	Required Discussion & Quiz
	Guest, Ch. 17	Art & Media	Required Discussion & Quiz
	Final Exam May 26 th all day	Final Exam May 26 th all day	Final Exam May 26 th all day