Anthropology 152 (4): Culture and Humanity

Through the study of human cultures in cultural anthropology, we can better understand ourselves. In this course, we shall explore some of the foundational issues, methods, concepts, and contributions of cultural anthropology. We shall survey anthropological perspectives on a wide range of topics, such as ethnicity, politics, economics, kinship, gender, religion, and health, among others. Particular attention shall be paid to Melanesia, the Congo, Southern Africa, and China.

Basic objectives of the course include:
1. Foster an awareness of the diversity of human cultures and perspectives on living, thus cultivating respect and tolerance for people of other cultures.
2. Convey the issues, concepts, and insights of cultural anthropology to aid in understanding cultures other than one’s own.
3. Introduce basic methods used in cultural anthropological research.
4. Convey an understanding of the intellectual skills of anthropology as applied toward a variety of fields and problems.
5. Foster an appreciation of one’s unique position within our culturally complex and interlinked world.

Course Readings
The assigned readings of articles and books must be completed before our class meets.

Books

Articles
Selected required articles are available for downloading through the Electronic Reserve Library [ ], the PowerWeb website [ ] that accompanies the textbook, and other online sources [ ]. All readings are required with the exception of the suggested readings [ ].

Electronic Reserve Library. To access these articles, go to Hawai’i Voyager at <http://uhmanoa.lib.hawaii.edu/>, choose “Reserves.” Then choose the instructor’s name [Chee, Bernadine] and course title [Anth 152].
PowerWeb. Go to <http://www.dushkin.com/powerweb/>. Login using “articles” as both the username and password. Click on “Select a title.” Choose the category listed to the right of the ⭐ symbol on the syllabus. Then click on “Contents” which appears under “Readings” in the upper left corner. Find the desired article according to the article number. For example, the first PowerWeb reading due on 8/24 is “⭐Anthropology, No. 26: Gmelch, George. ‘Pickup Basketball Meets Janken.’” To find it, login and select the category, “PowerWeb – Anthropology.” Scroll down until you locate the article numbered 26. Please note that we shall also be using articles listed in the Cultural Anthropology, Physical Anthropology, and World Religions categories that can be found under “Select a title.”

Other Online Sources. Use the address given or click on the appropriate link listed on the Course Homepage. To find the Course Homepage, go to your MYUH account and click on ANTH 152 under “Courses I’m Attending.”

Suggested Reading.

Class Participation (40 points, 20% of grade)

Through your active and positive engagement during section meetings, your experience in anthropological inquiry and understanding will be greatly enhanced.

Your participation is an important component of this class. During section discussions, it is essential that students encourage and support each other. If you pay attention, give others a chance to express their ideas in addition to your own, and acknowledge the contributions that others make as they vocalize relevant ideas and questions, you will be showing your consideration for others.

Participation is demonstrated by contributing to group and class discussions (i.e., making appropriate and pertinent comments), having a positive attitude, and being prepared for in-class exercises. Observing classroom etiquette, e.g., arriving on time, giving your full attention when the instructor or another classmate is addressing the class, etc., are also important aspects of participation.

Being present and punctual to class will allow you to participate fully during class lectures and discussions. Make-ups for in-class exercises will be given when documentation is provided to explain an absence. Missed discussions cannot be made up.

The Student Conduct Code must be read and followed, and cell phones must be turned off in the classroom.

Papers (total of 80 points, 40% of grade)

Two papers of 4-5 pages in length (worth 40 points each) will be due during the semester. These assignments are opportunities to develop your powers of analysis, synthesis, argument, and organization. Be sure, therefore, to proofread and make as many revisions as necessary in order to maximize the presentation of your ideas in terms of grammar, spelling, etc.

The text of these written assignments must be typed and double-spaced in 12-point font with 1” margins. Follow the MLA style for title, identification, page numbers, and documentation.

The papers must be submitted both on paper (stapled together) and in electronic format. The paper format of your written work is due at the very start of section on the day specified in the syllabus or will be subject to deductions in points worth approximately half a grade unless you are excused by me ahead of time (documentation must be provided). If your paper will be
more than a day late, you must make special arrangements with me, since late papers will not be accepted after graded papers have been returned.

The deadline for the electronic format of the identical paper is midnight of the due date. Send me the paper as an attachment to an e-mail (bwchee@hawaii.edu) with the subject heading labeled A152 Paper 1 or A152 Paper 2, as appropriate.

In accordance with the Student Conduct Code, plagiarizing, i.e., neglecting to cite the use of someone else’s words or ideas, warrants expulsion from the University. The importance of citing sources for even brief phrases cannot be overestimated, and carefully educating yourself on this subject (see a variety of writing manuals, online sources, etc.) is well worth your time. Plagiarizing will yield zero points for the assignment; severe or repeated plagiarism will result in a course failure.

Tests (total of 80 points, 40% of grade)

A mid-term (30 points) and final exam (50 points) will be given. The final exam includes material from the first part of the course and thus carries more weight. The format of the exams will be multiple choice and short answer/essay. Make-up exams will only be given with my approval obtained in advance (appropriate documentation required).

There are no incompletes given in this section.

Cheating (see Student Conduct Code) on either test shall result in zero points and course failure.

Course Grade

The final grade will be based upon the cumulative points from the class participation, written assignment, and test components of the course. I reserve the right to vary the proportion of a particular component toward the final grade depending on circumstances.

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>200 (100%)</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>140-149 (70-74%)</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>190-199 (95-99%)</td>
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<td>130-139 (65-69%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>180-189 (90-94%)</td>
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<td>120-129 (60-64%)</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>170-179 (85-89%)</td>
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<td>110-119 (55-59%)</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>160-169 (80-84%)</td>
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<td>100-109 (50-54%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>150-159 (75-79%)</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>90-99 (45-49%)</td>
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You must earn 90 points to pass the class.

Students with Special Needs

If you have a documented need, please contact the KOKUA Program at 956-7511 or 956-7612 in QLCAA Room 103, and we will be happy to accommodate you.
Course Schedule

Week 1: August 20 – 24
Introduction
Culture
Applied Cultural Anthropology
Four Main Subfields of Anthropology

Readings:
8/22 Kottak: pp. 41-50 of Ch. 3
8/24 Kottak: pp. 1-19 of Ch. 1
Anthropology, No. 26: Gmelch, George. “Pickup Basketball Meets Janken”

Week 2: August 27 – 31 (Labor Day Holiday – September 3)
Ethnographic Methods
Introduction to Theories in Cultural Anthropology

Readings:
8/27 Kottak: pp. 22-39 of Ch. 2 and pp. 50-56 of Ch. 3
Weiner: Foreword, Acknowledgements, Introduction, pp. vii-15
8/31 Kottak: pp. 158-67 of Ch. 8
Weiner: Ch. 1, pp. 17-31

Week 3: September 5 – 7
Introduction to Theories in Cultural Anthropology (cont.)
Kinship and Marriage

Readings:
9/5 Weiner: Chs. 2-3, pp. 33-64
9/7 Kottak: pp. 168-82 of Ch. 8
Weiner: Chs. 4-5, pp. 65-96

Week 4: September 10 – 14
Kinship and Marriage (cont.)
Language
Ethnicity and Race

Readings:
9/10 Weiner: Ch. 6, pp. 97-110
9/12 Kottak: pp. 85-105 of Ch. 5
Cultural Anthropology, No. 24: Sampat, Payal. “Last Words”
9/14  Kottak: pp. 59-63, 72-82 of Ch. 4

Week 5: September 17 – 21
Ethnicity and Race (cont.)

Readings:
      Fairbank, John King. “Geography: The Contrast between North and South,” pp. 4-14
9/21  Kottak: pp. 63-71 of Ch. 8
      Anthropology, No. 5: Enid Schildkrout, “Body Art as Visual Language”

Week 6: September 24 – 28
Reciprocity and Exchange
Video: “Kula: Ring of Power”

Readings:
9/24  Kottak: pp. 123-130 of Ch. 6
      Weiner: Chs. 7-8, pp. 111-38
9/26  Weiner: Ch. 9, 139-58
9/28  Weiner: Conclusion, pp. 159-67

Week 7: October 1 – 5
Reciprocity and Exchange (cont.)
Mid-term on Wednesday, October 3
Economic Systems

Readings:
      [Listed as Anth 152 – Yan (sic) – Flow of Gifts]
      Cultural Anthropology, No. 7: Counts, David. “Too Many Bananas, Not Enough Pineapples, and No Watermelon at All: Three Object Lessons in Living with Reciprocity”
10/3  No readings – Mid-term Exam
10/5  Kottak: pp. 107-23 of Ch. 6

Week 8: October 8 – 12
Economic Systems (cont.)
Video: “Bitter Melons”

Readings:
10/8  Weissner, Polly. “Risk, Reciprocity, and Social Influences on !Kung San Economics”
      [Listed as Anth 152 – Leacock & Lee – Politics & History in Band Societies – pp. 61-84]
10/12 Kottak: pp. 184-200 of Ch. 9

**Week 9: October 15 – 19**

**Gender**

*First Paper due on Friday, October 19*


**Readings:**

10/15 Kottak: pp. 201-06 of Ch. 9


10/17 Wolf, Margery. *Women and the Family in Rural Taiwan*, pp. 14-31, 32-41

10/19 Kottak: pp. 133-46 of Ch. 7

**Week 10: October 22 – 26**

**Political Systems**

**Readings:**

10/22 © Evans-Pritchard, E. E. *The Nuer: A Description of the Modes of Livelihood and Political Institutions of a Nilotic People*, pp. 139-62

Kottak: pp. 146-55 of Ch. 7

10/24 Turnbull: Chs. 1-5, pp. 4-108

10/26 Turnbull: Chs. 6-8, pp. 109-65

**Week 11: October 29 – November 2**

**Political Systems (cont.)**

**Religion, Magic, and Ritual**

**Readings:**


Turnbull: Chs. 9-11, pp. 166-216

10/31 Kottak: pp. 208-16 of Ch. 10

Turnbull: Ch. 12, pp. 217-30


11/2 Review
Week 12: November 5 – 9 (Veteran’s Day Holiday: November 12)
Religion, Magic, and Ritual (cont.)

Readings:
11/5 Turnbull: Chs. 13-15, pp. 231-79
11/7 Kottak: pp. 217-28 of Ch. 10
11/9 ★ Spiro, Howard. The Power of Hope: A Doctor’s Perspective, pp. 198-246

Week 13: November 14 – 16
Medical Anthropology

Readings:
11/16 Review

Week 14: November 19 – 21 (Instructional Holiday: November 23)
Globalization and Localization
Anthropology of Food
Second Paper due on Wednesday, November 21

Readings:
11/19 Kottak: pp. 230-45 of Ch. 11
11/21 Review

Week 15: November 26 – 30
Cultural Survival and Resistance

Readings:
11/26 Kottak: pp. 247-66 of Ch. 12
11/28 Kottak: pp. 269-84 of Ch. 13
11/30 Review

Week 16: December 3 – 5
Postmodernism
FINAL EXAM on Wednesday, December 5

Readings:
12/3 Review
12/5 Review