# **COURSE OUTLINE**



# **INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY - ANTH 203.3**

**ES 162** 

TH

18:00 - 20:50 PM

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Saulesh Yessenova. Office: ES 602C. Email: sbyessen@ucalgary.ca

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:** Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer. Email: lmamunds@ucalgary.ca

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will introduce students to social and cultural anthropology. We will explore key areas, issues, and approaches that have shaped the discipline. Special attention will be paid to the diversity of human culture and academic debates that have addressed it, a phenomenon central to anthropological inquiry. Topics of interest will include a broad range of social and cultural forms: from traditional areas of anthropological research, such as religion, symbolism, social and political organization, to more recent concerns with gender and globalization.

**COURSE AIMS:** This course is designed to help students to (a) enhance awareness and appreciation of cultural and social diversity in the world and the way people give meaning to their experiences; (b) develop a basic understanding of key anthropological concepts, theories, and methodology; (c) help students to develop a firm understanding that all human experiences are embedded within particular historical and cultural contexts and corresponding political realms; and (d) provide an informed critical commentary on how society and culture work.

**COURSE FORMAT:** The course will include lectures, class discussions, films, assigned readings, and other activities on which students will be tested. Lectures will not simply repeat the material in the assigned readings, but will contain additional material that may be included in formal assessment. Therefore, students are encouraged to attend all classes, take notes, and complete assigned readings prior to the class.

### **REQUIRED TEXT:**

- Ferraro, Gary and Susan Andreatta *Cultural Anthropology: An Applied Perspective* (ninth edition), Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2012 (available at the university bookstore).
- 4 Additional required readings will be posted on Blackboard.

INTERNET RESOURCES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TEXT AVAILABLE AT: www.cengagebrain.com

#### **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

Evaluation of the course will be based on the following items of course work:

4	In-class test on Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup>	20%
4	In-class test on Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	20%
4	In-class quiz on <b>Dec. 6</b> <sup>th</sup>	10%
4	University-scheduled final examination	50%

*In-class tests* will include multiple-choice questions and questions requiring short answers designed to assess knowledge of material covered in assigned readings, lectures, films shown in class, and associated internet resources.

Quiz will consist of multiple choice questions. Make-up quiz will <u>not</u> be offered. The weight of the missed quiz will be shifted to the final exam.

*University-scheduled final exam* will be similar to the tests in format. Yet, contrary to the tests, students should expect questions from any part of the course.

Please note: requests for differed final examination should be obtained from the Associate Dean (Student Affairs) of the Faculty of Social Sciences. The Final Exam Schedule will be posted by the Registrar later in the semester and you should assume you could have a final examination at any point during the final examination period.

Please note: <u>no</u> alternate final examinations arrangements will be approved by the instructor to accommodate travel plans.

Further details on tests and the final exam will be provided in class and at the time assignments are given. Students registered with the Disability Resource Center requiring special examination conditions should present their DRC documentation to the instructor early in the course so that alternate arrangements can be made.

All course work will be graded on a 100-point system. At the end of the course the total number of marks will be converted to the official university letter grade system according to the following equivalences:

A+	100 - 94.9%	B+	84.8 - 79.9%	C+	70.8- 66.9%	D+	58.8 - 54.9%
Α	94.8 - 89.9%	В	79.8 - 74.9%	С	66.8 - 62.9%	D	54.8 - 49.9%
A-	89.8 - 84.9%	B-	74.8 - 70.9%	C-	62.8 - 58.9%	F	49.8% and below

For a schedule of lecture topics, films & required readings please refer to a designated document.

### **COMMUNICATION:**

**INDSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 13:00 – 14:00 ES 602C** (between Sept. 18 and Dec. 7, excluding holidays) or by appointment.

**EMAILING TO INSTRUCTOR:** Students are welcome to forward their questions and comments to the instructor or TA's email indicated at the top of this document.

#### **COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE VIA EMAIL:**

- Please use your university account when possible. Otherwise, use an account with an appropriate name (example of an <u>unacceptable</u> email: sexymama@gmail.com).
- Use a clear subject line that includes the course name and the topic of the email such as: "ANTH 203. Question about my schedule."
- Please be respectful (i.e., not too casual) when addressing either myself or your TA in an email. Use an appropriate greeting (acceptable: "Dear Dr. Yessenova;" unacceptable: "Hey there").
- **★** Keep in mind that answers to the questions concerning the matters clearly stated on the course outline will not be provided.
- Keep question(s) short and to the point. Show that you have made an effort to find the answer first in the text and lecture material (or even an outside source). State what you know in relation to what you are having a difficult time understanding.
- 4 Include your full name and student ID in the signature of your email.
- Allow 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.

Please note: we may choose not to respond to emails that do not follow the format outlined above.

#### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION:**

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency situation please note that the primary assembly point shall be at the Education Block Food Court and the Scurfield Hall Atrium shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

#### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office @ 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

# **PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology Departments policy on intellectual honesty available at: https://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines

Week	Date	Content	Readings
1.	Sept. 13th	Introduction to the course Anthropological Perspective on Human Condition	Chapter 1
2.	Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Human Culture and Its Properties Ethnocentrism. Screening Cannibal Tours (70 min.)	Chapter 2 Miner Body Rituation among the Nacarima (BB)
3.	Sept. 27 <sup>st</sup>	Topics in Archeology. Screening The Lost Vikings (60 min.)	
4.	Oct. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Cultural Relativism Anthropology Put to Work. Screening Anthropologists at Work, 1993 (36 min.)	Chapter 1 and 3
5.	Oct. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Anthropology in Historical Perspective	Chapter 4
6.	Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup>	In-class test and review	
7.	Oct. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Method and Theory in Social and Cultural Anthropology Fieldwork, Ethnography, and Ethics of Research Screening Strangers Abroad: Everything is Relative (52 min.)	Chapter 5
8.	Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Kinship, Descent, and political organization Marriage and Family	Chapters 9, 10, and 13
9.	Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Economics: From Human Adaptation to Environment to Globalization	Chapters 7, 8, and 16
10.	Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Screening Darwin's Nightmare (106 min.). Film discussion	
11.	Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	In-class test and review	
12.	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Ritual, Religion, and Science Screening <i>Kataragama: An Ancient Hindu God Revived</i> (52 min.) Giving Meaning to Cultural Difference: Class, Race, and Ethnicity	Chapter 14 and 12
13. Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>		Language and Communication Screening Language and Communication (30min.) Sex and Gender Quiz and review	Chapters 6 and 11