

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

ANTH 203-02
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL AND CULTURAL
ANTHROPOLOGY

FALL 2020
Th 6:00 - 8:45
Web-Based Section

Instructor	Charles Mather	TA	TBA
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Office hours	MWF 11 – 12PM		

Prerequisite(s): None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to social and cultural anthropology. Drawing from case studies in the course text and from other sources, we will explore the fundamental issues and approaches within social and cultural anthropology. Topics of interest include the structure and function of society, and essential institutions (e.g., marriage, religion, economy, politics, and gender) within societies. Emphasis will be placed on both the diversity of human culture and the commonalities that are found across human cultures. The course follows a lecture format, with films, short videos, and audio clips as supplementary materials.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students should be able to identify and compare the various sub-areas of interest that characterize the discipline. They should also be able to outline differences and similarities among the various schools of thought in social and cultural anthropology. After taking the course, students will be able to describe how social and cultural anthropologists collect and analyse data. Finally, students will be able to discuss and define the culture concept, and related concepts such as ethnocentrism and cultural relativism.

REQUIRED TEXT

Cultural Anthropology: An Applied Perspective, Canadian Edition.

By Gary Ferraro, Susan Andreatta, and Chris Holdsworth. 2018. Toronto: Nelson.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATIONS

Your final grade will be based upon your marks on two mid-term examinations and a final examination. I give the values for each of the above below. I will draw questions for the exams from the text for the course, the films you will see, and the lectures you will hear.

1 st Mid-term exam	33%	October 8 th
2 nd Mid-term exam	33%	November 5 th
Final exam	34%	December - to be scheduled by registrar

The grading system will use the following equivalencies:

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

The exams

The 1st mid-term will cover the material from the first 5 chapters of the text and their associated lectures and videos. The 2nd mid-term will cover the material from Chapters 6-10, from lectures 6 to 10, and from the videos associated with these lectures and chapters. The final will cover material from Chapters 11-14 in the text and lectures 11 to 15, and from videos associated with the lectures and chapters. Note that the registrar will schedule the final exam.

Exams will consist of multiple choice questions, mix and match questions, and true or false questions.

The exams will be open book. Open book means that you will be able to peruse your notes as you write the exam. Don't think that you don't have to prepare. You will not have enough time to look through the notes to find answers for questions on topics for which you do not have a solid grasp. It would be equally unwise to think you will be able to forego studying, watching the lectures, and reading the text and rely on Wikipedia or other online information sources to write the exams. I will be writing the exam questions. The exam questions might focus on general principles, but they will be directly tied to what we do in our class. I write them with our particular situation in mind.

Exams are a solitary endeavour. Individuals write the exams alone, and use their own study materials or notes. The University of Calgary expects that during the exam you will not collaborate with your fellow students. Likewise, it is a form of academic misconduct to share with your fellow students the content of the exams during the time period for which the exams are accessible and that students are writing.

Important Dates

Midterm one – October 8th

Midterm two – November 5th

Reading Break – November 8 to November 14

OFFICE HOURS

Over the course of the term, I will hold office hours over the zoom platform on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11:00AM to 12:00PM. You can also contact me via email if you have any questions or concerns about the course. I will attempt to reply in a timely fashion, but please don't expect immediate responses to your inquiries.

Statement on Academic Misconduct

The University expects Students to conduct Academic Activities with integrity and intellectual honesty and to recognize the importance of pursuing and transmitting knowledge ethically. “Academic Misconduct” includes such things as Cheating, Falsification; Plagiarism, Unauthorized Assistance and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Academic Misconduct is a serious form of intellectual dishonesty with significant consequences. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For more information see the Student Academic Misconduct Policy

(<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>)

Statement on Instructor Intellectual Property

The University expects Students to conduct Academic Activities with integrity and intellectual honesty and to recognize the importance of pursuing and transmitting knowledge ethically. “Academic Misconduct” includes such things as Cheating, Falsification; Plagiarism, Unauthorized Assistance and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Academic Misconduct is a serious form of intellectual dishonesty with significant consequences. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For more information see the Student Academic Misconduct Policy

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Statement on Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology keeps exams and any term work not picked up for a minimum of one year after which it is destroyed. Please refer to the following link for detailed information:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

Statement on Academic Accommodations

It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies (ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy) Students requesting an Accommodation on the basis of Disability are required to register with Student Accommodation Services (SAS) by submitting a Request for Accommodation in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). SAS will issue a Letter of Accommodation which must be presented to either designated contact person within the Department or the appropriate Instructors within 10 days of the beginning of term. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a

Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

Statement on Copyright Legislation

All **students** are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Support and Resources

A link to required information that is not course-specific related information found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

ANTH 203 – INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY, FALL 2020

Lecture Schedule

The schedule includes the months as a rough estimate for the timeline you should be following for your studies and exam preparation.

SEPTEMBER

Lecture 1, Chapter 1 – Anthropology in a Global World

The sub-fields of anthropology and the anthropological perspective

Video: Cannibal Tours

Lecture 2, Chapter 2 – The Concept of Culture

Culture as shared and learned patterns of behaviour and thought

Culture as meaning

Lecture 3, Chapter 3 – Applied Anthropology

Using anthropology to solve “real world” issues

Lecture 4, Chapter 4 – The Growth of Anthropological Theory

A brief sketch of characteristic approaches within the discipline

Video : Off the Verandah

Lecture 5, Chapter 5 – Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology

How anthropologists gather and interpret information

OCTOBER

First mid-term exam – October 8. Lectures 1 to 5, Chapters 1 to 5

It will help keep you on track if you read Chapter 6, and view Lecture 6 the week before the mid-term. But, that is up to you to decide!!!

Lecture 6, Chapter 6 – Communication and Culture

Language and the structuring of reality

Video: Darmok

Extra Reading for those interested in TNG (and who isn't?):

https://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2014/06/star-trek-tng-and-the-limits-of-language-shaka-when-the-walls-fell/372107/?single_page=true

Lecture 7, Chapter 7 – Economics, Adaptation, and Subsistence Patterns
Human adaptation to the environment
Forms of subsistence and economy

Video: At the Caribou Crossing Place

Lecture 8, Chapter 8 - Marriage, Family, and Kinship
Marriage rules, inheritance, types of family structures, descent

Video: NAT GEO – World's Apart Ghana

Lecture 9, Chapter 9 – Gender in Comparative Perspective
Relationship between biology (sex) and cultural construct (gender), gender roles, gender stratification

Video: Sworn Virgins

Lecture 10, Chapter 10 - Social Inequality and Stratification
Systems of inequality

Video: 35th Portier Lecture: "White Trash: The 400-Year History of Class in America"

Lecture 11, no reading – Enculturation
How we become members of our culture

Video: Taboo: Initiation

Lecture 12, Chapter 11 - The Organization of Political Life
Bands, tribes, chiefdoms, caste, states
Law and social control

Video: Kawelka: Ongka's Big Moka

Note, material from Lecture 11 and 12 will not be on the second midterm exam. It will help keep you on track if you read Chapter 11, and view Lectures 11 and 12 before the second mid-term. But, that is up to you to decide!!

NOVEMBER

Second mid-term exam – November 5. Lectures 6 to 10, Chapters 6 to 10

READING BREAK, November 8 to 14 –
Seriously, catch up on all of your readings for
all of your courses, and try to get away from
your computer for a while!!!

Lecture 13, Chapter 12 - Religion and World View

Defining religion, theories of religion, cults, sorcery and witchcraft

Video: Witchcraft Among the Azande

Lecture 14, Chapter 13 – Art

Artistic expression, material culture, art and culture

Video: “Appalachian Journey”, Alan Lomax

DECEMBER

Lecture 15, Chapter 14 – The Modern World Order

Colonialism, globalization, decolonization, contemporary globalization,
applied anthropology in the global world, multiculturalism

Video: Trobriand Cricket

**FINAL EXAM – TBD by the registrar. Lectures 11 to 15, Chapters 11
to 14**