
ANTH 203 (LEC01)
Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology
GFC Hours 3-0
Spring 2024

Prerequisite(s): None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Sociocultural anthropology is the study of human culture and social experience. But what does that mean? What exactly do sociocultural anthropologists do? Whom or what do they study and why? Perhaps most important of all, how can sociocultural anthropology help us understand the world we live in? In answering these questions, this course offers an introduction to the field of sociocultural anthropology—its methods, language, key concepts, and characteristic ways of thinking about the spectrum of human diversity. We will learn about the field’s breadth and methodologies, sample some of its classical themes, and explore contemporary issues of research. With an eye toward appreciating differences and commonalities, this course examines how human beings live their lives through a range of sources including ethnography, social theory, and historical analyses.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- >> Identify the theories, methods, and central issues of sociocultural anthropology.
- >> Use broad anthropological concepts such as culture, society, structure, function, and process to analyze social phenomena, constructs, and categories.
- >> Apply anthropological concepts to understand and question their own social worlds and biases.
- >> Exercise skills in critical reading and analytical reasoning.
- >> Appreciate and critically analyze cultural difference as a fundamental aspect of human nature.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Readings are listed in the order in which they are assigned. Links to PDFs will be provided on D2L. The Taylor Family Digital Library may have limited hard copies. On D2L is a list of textbooks used by previous course instructors, as well as recommended readings to enrich student learning.

>> Absolon, K. (2011). *Kaandossiwin: How We Come to Know*. Halifax & Winnipeg: Fernwood Publishing. (Chapter 1, p. 12-22)

>> Steedly, M. (2013). "What is Culture? Does it Matter?" In M. Garber, et al. *Field work: sites in literary and cultural studies*. New York: Routledge. (Chapter 2, p. 18-25)

>> Malinowski, B. (1922, reprint date 2002). 'Introduction: The Subject, Method and Scope of This Enquiry' In: *Argonauts of the Western Pacific: An account of native enterprise and adventure in the archipelagoes of Melanesian New Guinea*. Routledge. (Introduction, p. 2-27)

<http://www.bohol.ph/books/Argonauts/Argonauts.html>

>> Deloria, V. Jr. (1969). *Custer died for your sins: An Indian manifesto*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press. (Chapter 4, p. 78-100)

>> Ese'Eja Nation, Martínez, R. & Cox, J. (2017). *Ancestral Lands Of The Ese'Eja: The True People*. Amazon Center for Environmental Education and Research (ACEER). (Three Worlds: p. 19-110, *read as much as you can. There are many photographs!)

>> Kohn, E. (2013). *How Forests Think: Toward an Anthropology Beyond the Human*. University of California Press. (Introduction, p. 1-25)

>> Chalfin, B. (2004). *Shea butter republic: State power, global markets, and the making of an indigenous commodity*. Routledge. (Introduction, p. 1-29)

<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=182829>

>> Borecký, P., & Guerrón-Montero, C. M. (2021). Conclusion. In D. Podjed, M. Gorup, P. Borecký, & C. Guerrón-Montero (Eds.), *Why the world needs anthropologists* (1st ed., pp. 165-177). Routledge.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

>> A computer with a supported operating system and broadband internet connection to access D2L.

>> A current and updated web browser and word processor (e.g. Word).

>> A camera/phone camera for an extra credit photo essay (optional).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

- >> 15% Field Notes
- >> 15% Participation
- >> 40% Examination
- >> 30% Final Reflection Paper
- >> Extra Credit: Film Critique or Photo Essay

Field Notes: (Multiple Dates) 15%

To assess the completion and reflection of required readings, you will scribe 3 “field notes” each worth 5% and ranging from 300-500 words. Submissions will be graded on a scale of 0, 2.5, or 5 points. Detailed instructions and a rubric are on D2L and will be discussed in class. Upload your entry to the D2L Dropbox every Friday by 11:59 PM. Note that the Dropbox will automatically close at midnight and late responses will not be accepted, regardless of the reason.

In-Class Participation: (Multiple Dates) 15%

To encourage attendance, student voice, creativity, and active learning, a total of three activities will be held throughout the semester, each worth 5%. If you are absent, you can earn up to half credit by completing the activity via email within 24 hours (by 9:00 AM the next day). These assignments will supplement nongraded class discussions, think-pair-shares, Kahoot quizzes, and other learning activities.

Examination (May 30) 40%

To assess the first two thirds of the course, you will be given an in-class, closed-book exam consisting of multiple-choice, true/false, and a choice of short answer questions. Questions will be tied to course readings, lectures, class discussions, films, and guest speakers from May 7-28. The exam will take place from 9:00 - 10:15 AM (75 minutes) on Thursday, May 30.

Final Reflection Paper: (June 13) 30%

In lieu of a final exam, you will write a 3-page paper reflecting on your learnings from at least 8 of the 12 total classes. You will be graded based on content, quality of presentation, reflexivity, and accurate APA referencing. Detailed instructions and a rubric are on D2L and will be discussed in class. Upload your paper to a D2L Dropbox by 11:59 PM, Thursday, June 13.

Extra Credit- Film Critique & Food Photo Essay: (June 13)

To earn extra credit, you will have the option to complete a film critique and/or a food photo essay.

- a) Film Critique: Choose an ethnographic film from the UCalgary Database ‘Ethnographic Video Online, Vols. I & II: Foundational Films’ and write a 300-500 word critique.
- b) Food Photo Essay: Choose a culinary dish specific to a region or ethnic group and bring it to life in your kitchen using low-cost, staple ingredients. Compile a photo essay that captures the journey taken to recreate the dish, along with a 300-500 word analysis of the historical, cultural, and economic significance of the dish.

Papers will be graded on a scale of 0, 0.5, or 1 point; up to 2 points total can be earned and added to your examination. Rubrics and exemplar submissions are on D2L under Content. As this is not a formative assessment, feedback will not be provided. Classmates may watch a film or cook together, but each person must write their own distinct reflection. Extra credit can be submitted to the D2L Dropbox at any point during the term, but all submissions must be uploaded by 11:59 PM, Thursday, June 13.

MISSED EXAMS OR ASSESSMENTS

If you know ahead of time that you have conflict with the date of the exam (e.g. you require a medical procedure that day, religious observance, etc.), please email the instructor as soon as possible and arrangements may be made to write a deferred exam. If you miss an exam, email the instructor as soon as possible, and no later than 48 hours after the exam, to ask for a makeup exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a deferred exam. Makeup exams may differ significantly in content from the regularly scheduled exam. Once approved by the instructor a deferred exam must be written within two weeks of the missed exam on a day and time scheduled by the instructor.

Students may provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide supporting documentation. Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

- >> There is no final examination for this course.
- >> You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class.
- >> Beyond the extra credit assignment provided, there will be no further extra credit available.
- >> **Without prior approval, late assignments will be penalized by 5% per day, including weekends.**

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/university-regulations/reappraisal-term-work>

Reappraisal of Final Grade:

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/030b5a67a21048c7b4e6a5d167c628d8>

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:

Each item of coursework will be weighted as above and a final mark out of 100 calculated. This will then be converted to a letter grade as follows:

A+	95 – 100%	B	75 – 79.9%	C-	59 – 62.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B-	71 – 74.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
B+	80 – 84.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	F	< 50%

Land Acknowledgement

The University of Calgary, located in the heart of Southern Alberta, both acknowledges and pays tribute to the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the

Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

COURSE POLICIES & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Course Format:

The course follows an interactive-discussion style format accompanied by the occasional film or video, as well as required readings. Lectures will not cover all the material in the readings but will elaborate on selected topics to provide a deeper understanding of the material. Students will also have the opportunity to learn from guest speakers in the field of anthropology.

Statement of Class Conduct & Inclusivity:

Students should be aware of the diverse nature of society, and be respectful of different ways that others may have in their participation. This course emphasizes cross-cultural learning and listening. All interventions during lectures should be respectful, polite, and humble, while open and frank. The University of Calgary Human Rights Policies and Procedures affirm that all members of the University community share a responsibility to: promote equity and fairness, respect and value diversity, prevent discrimination and harassment, and preserve the freedom of its members to carry out responsibly their scholarly work without threat of interference. I ask that you keep your cell phone on a mute or vibrate setting during class. Laptops and tablets should be used only for taking notes.

Accessibility & The Desire to Learn (D2L):

All course materials and information, as well as unofficial grades, will be posted on D2L in a timely manner. This will include PowerPoint lecture slides (without voice recordings), rubrics for all assignments, required and recommended reading lists, and a films list. I may use the News and Discussion Thread channels to communicate opportunities for participation, and will send essential information via Class Email.

Email Policy:

Please use your UofC email address in all communications. Most of the time, you can expect a reply to an email within 48 hours. Email communications should always be in a professional manner using your first and last name. Do not hesitate to send an email or talk with me before or after class; your communication is important to me.

Expectations for Writing:

All written assignments will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. In written work presented in this class, the accepted method for referencing the work of others will be APA. For guidelines refer to: <https://ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/9/apa-6th-ed-documenting-sources-lib-update-aug-2019.pdf> If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum:

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/2c2d1ce47b8c4d008aec9cc3da49876e>

Students as Parents:

If you are a student who is pregnant, nursing, or parenting a child, there are various resources on campus to support you. They include the Student Wellness Centre, Women's Resource Centre, and University Child Care Centre. You are welcome to bring your child to class as needed.

Course Evaluations:

Formal student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) evaluation form, now accessed online. Informal evaluations will be included throughout the term to provide students an opportunity to provide feedback, for the instructor to adjust their approaches to teaching and learning, and to continuously improve the course. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

Student Leaders for Peer Support:

Do you enjoy taking thorough notes? Do you want to support your peers who missed class due to illness or other circumstances? In this course, you will have the opportunity to grow your resume and leadership skills as a Student Leader for Peer Support. Voluntarily taking on this role will not impact your grade. As a SLPS, you would upload the notes you took during class to a monitored D2L Discussion Thread. This can be after each class or on a weekly basis throughout the entirety of the term.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at:

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/eb50d7931bba4da5942de21f51d1f514>

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at:

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/5cf94d4967644957aa0dcfad8a130432>. Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Anthropology recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

(<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) 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.

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- >> Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- >> Student Success Centre
- >> Student Ombuds Office
- >> Student Union (SU) Information
- >> Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- >> Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- >> Safewalk

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Please note that the schedule below is tentative. Some topics will require more attention than others, and we will take more time with them. Any changes will be announced in class.

DATE	TOPICS	READINGS DUE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
WEEK ONE: What is Anthropology?			
T May 7	Course Overview; Community-building; The Concept of Culture; Positionality	<i>Course Outline & Be familiarized with D2L</i>	
R May 9	Blackfoot & Mapuche Guests; Voice & Representation; Power Dynamics & Politics of the System	<i>Absolon (Chapter 1) & Steedly (Chapter 2)</i>	
WEEK TWO: History of Anthropology			
T May 14	Colonial Roots; Major Schools of Thought; Key Scholars	<i>Malinowski (Intro)</i>	
R May 16	Processes of Othering: The Concepts of Race, Ethnicity, Sex & Gender	<i>Deloria (Chapter 4)</i>	
F May 17		Field Notes #1 (D2L, 11:59 PM)	
WEEK THREE: Re-searching What it Means to be Human			
T May 21	Methods, Fieldwork & Ethnography; Ethics; Community Spotlight: Ese'Eja Nation of Peru	<i>Ese'Eja (Three Worlds)</i>	Critical Media Analysis <i>(In class, Participation 1)</i>

R May 23	Human Ecology, Subsistence; Ways of Knowing & Cultural Expression; Language & Communication	Kohn (<i>Intro</i>)	
F May 24	Field Notes #2 (D2L, 11:59 PM)		
WEEK FOUR: Community Engaged Research			
T May 28	Kinship, Family & Marriage; Rites of Passage; Community Spotlight: Ngäbe of Panama	<i>Review readings up to this point</i>	
R May 30	Exam (75 mins); Film & Discussion: <i>Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change</i>		Examination (In class) & Film Reflection (In class, Participation 2)
WEEK FIVE: Anthropology in a Globalized World			
T June 4	Migration & Trade; Extractivism & Political Control; Social Organization; Technology & Media	Chalfin (<i>Intro</i>)	
R June 6	Climate Action & Environmental Sustainability; Tourism & Fair Trade; Guest Speaker (Ėdia Styles)	Borecký (<i>Conclusion</i>)	
F June 7	Field Notes #3 (D2L, 11:59 PM)		
WEEK SIX: Being a Critical Anthropologist			
T June 11	Graduate Student Panel; Anthropology beyond Academia; Catch up on lectures	<i>Catch up on all course readings for your final paper</i>	
R June 13 Last Day of Class!	Decolonizing Anthropology; USRIs; Closing Reflection Circle		Cultural Tapestry (In class, Participation 3) Final Paper & Extra Credit (D2L, 11:59 PM)

IMPORTANT DATES (Spring 2024)

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/acadsched>

- >> May 1: Start of Term
- >> May 6: First day of Spring Term lectures
- >> May 7: **First Day of ANTH203**

- >> May 9: **Last day to drop a class without financial penalty.** There will be no academic record of a course that's dropped by this date and tuition will be refunded.
- >> May 9: Last day to add or swap a course
- >> May 14: Fee payment deadline for Spring Term full and half courses
- >> May 20: Victoria Day. University Closed. No classes (does not affect DEST 201 course schedule)
- >> May 29 - June 7: Spring Convocation
- >> June 13: **Last Day of ANTH203**
- >> June 17: Spring Term Lectures End. **Last day to withdraw with permission from Spring Term courses.** There will be a "W" recorded for the course and tuition will not be refunded.
- >> June 19-22: Spring Final Exam Period
- >> June 23: End of Term. All assignments that have been extended (with instructor approval) need to be submitted by this date by 11:59 PM.

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/acadsched>