Anthropology 161  
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology  
Tues/Thurs 8:30-9:50  
182 Lillis  

Instructor:  
Angela Montague, PhD  
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Available Tuesdays 10:30-12 or by appt.  

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Condon 265  

Course Description:  
This course is an introduction to Cultural Anthropology, and is particularly aimed at giving students the tools necessary for understanding world cultures from an anthropological perspective. Anthropology is the study of human beings from biological, archaeological, cultural and linguistic perspectives. We will be focusing on the anthropological study of human cultures, and the field of cultural anthropology broadly. We will investigate ways of comparing and contrasting the structures of social relationships and belief systems that operate in different cultural settings, aiming to, in the words of Melford Spiro, “…make the strange familiar, and the familiar strange…” (1995). We will seek to put in context the worldviews and belief systems of a diversity of the world’s people, while simultaneously investigating our own, aiming to overturn previously held notions and prejudices that perpetuate misunderstandings and conflict.  

Course Objectives:  
After completing this course, you should:  
1. Be able to explain and apply key concepts in cultural anthropology  
2. Understand the process and issues of anthropological fieldwork  
3. Be able to put in context certain cultural practices  
4. Understand some of the commonalities shared by all cultures as well as the diversity of human experience.  
5. See the modern applicability of anthropology and an anthropological way of thinking  

Required Readings: (approximately 100 pages/week)  
1. Cultural Anthropology: A toolkit for the 21st century by Ken Guest  
2. Fieldwork Journal by Ken Guest (complimentary when bundled with the textbook)  
3. Parallel Worlds: An anthropologist and a writer encounter Africa by Alma Gottlieb and Philip Graham  
4. Supplemental readings will be posted on Blackboard under ‘Readings’


Requirements and Grade Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exams and Assignments</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Section Attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldwork Journal (Participation)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture participation/attendance</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Ongoing (Top Hat)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (weeks 1-3)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>On Bb week 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (weeks 4-6)</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>On Bb week 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay#1</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>In Lecture week 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay #2</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>In Lecture week 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (weeks 7-10, some 1-6)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>On Bb finals week</td>
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Discussion: You are required to attend your discussion section regularly and show up prepared. Your GTF may have quizzes and activities in class that cannot be made up.

Attendance/Participation: It is important that you attend class regularly and participate in discussions. We will take attendance regularly in discussion, and in lecture using the Top Hat system (see below). Please read the material before hand so that you can actively engage in class discussions. Your weekly journal will help immensely with participation so take it seriously. We reserve the right to raise a student’s final grade based on overall participation.

Top Hat: Top Hat is a tool that allows students to interact with their professors by using their personal mobile devices in the classroom. Beginning week 2, we will take attendance and have participation quizzes and activities administered via Top Hat. You will be invited to join (and buy a subscription) via an email sent by the instructor. This system uses a cell phone, smart phone/tablet, or laptop, if you do not have one of these please let us know so we can arrange an alternative for you. If you have any questions you can email support@tophat.com or hit the ‘Support’ button in your account.

Fieldwork Journal: To enhance your understanding of the topics covered in the textbook, you will be required to do several of the activities in the Guest Fieldwork Journal. These will be used to guide discussions on the weeks they are assigned. Your GTF will assess these randomly during the term and will not accept late journals. You will know a week in advance which activities your GTF requires.

Exams: Administered via Blackboard, exams will be open notes/open book, but must be done INDIVIDUALLY. You will have from Monday morning (10 a.m.) until Thursday end of day (11:59 p.m.) to complete the tests. They will be a combination of multiple choice, True/False, and short answer. There will be three over the course of the term, weeks 4, 7, and finals.

Essays: Two written essays will be assigned for the ethnography during week 5 and 9. The first one will be on the process of fieldwork and will need to be around 3-5 pages in length. The second will be on the Parallel Worlds encountered in the book. A hard copy will be due in lecture, and you must also upload the electronic version onto Blackboard under ‘Essays.’ More instructions will be handed out a week prior.
**Expectations:**

- **Preparation:** I expect you to come to class prepared, having read the material before hand, and thought critically about it. If there is anything that you do not understand, please make a note of it so that we can address it as a class. Also, if you find anything pertinent to the class (news articles/books/videos) please bring them up in class or email your GTF or me.

- **Absences:** If you need to miss a class, please make a plan to make-up what you missed (get notes from a classmate, watch a film outside of class, etc.). I will not give you your own personal lecture; you are responsible for your absence. The only way to make up a discussion section absence is to go to another section on the same day (please get prior approval). In the event of an excused absence, and only if it will affect your grade, we can work out a plan to make up the point(s).

- **Respect:** Please be respectful of other students and the instructor. This is a large lecture hall and sound carries; please do not chat with your neighbors! Please do not use computers for anything other than taking notes and Top Hat participation. Do not text, watch videos, use social networking sites during class—these things are disruptive and rude and will not be tolerated! Failure to follow these guidelines will result in losing participation points.

- **Diversity and Discrimination:** The University of Oregon is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity institution. Discrimination on the basis of any of the categories covered in the University’s anti-discrimination policy will not be tolerated in this class. If you have a concern in this regard, please contact the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity at 346-3123 or visit them at 677 East 12th Ave., Suite 452.

- **Academic Integrity:** All assignments in this class are designed to assess your individual knowledge and understanding of the material covered/presented in the course. Thus, cheating or plagiarism -- in any form -- will not be tolerated. The work you present must be entirely your own. Please take the time to review the definitions of academic misconduct, available at: http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct/tabid/248/Default.aspx.

- **Blackboard/Email:** We will be using Blackboard for a number of things in this class (journals, discussions, tests). If you are unfamiliar with it, please meet with me ASAP. Also, please check your email frequently as I will use it for many class-related announcements. Please let me know if you find challenges in meeting this requirement for whatever reason so that we can make an alternative available to you.

- **Accommodations:** if you are having significant challenges in meeting the requirements of the course please let me or your GTF know immediately. Do not wait until you are falling behind. If you have a documented disability or variations on ability, please inform us if it interferes with any aspect of the course. Refer to the Accessible Education website for more information: http://aec.uoregon.edu

- **Contact:** Email is the best way to get a hold of me; I will do my best to get back to you within 24 hours on weekdays, and by Monday if you email me after 4 pm on Thursday. Please put ‘ANTH 161’ in the subject line for any email correspondence so that it doesn’t get lost in the millions of messages I receive. Please use collegial salutations in your emails. Example: use “Dear ___________,” not “Hey!” Do not ask questions that can be found on the syllabus. We reserve the right to not answer emails that have answers elsewhere.
### Course Schedule (subject to minor changes)

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Reading Assignments:</th>
<th>What's Due?</th>
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| 1    | **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**  
   - Tues 1/6: Review of Syllabus and Course Intro  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 1  
   - Thurs. 1/8: The Concept of Culture  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 2, PW pgs. Xvii-23  
   - Friday: Discussion: Fieldwork Journal pg. 5-8 "Creating Culture" | Register for Top Hat by 1/13 |
| 2    | **Fieldwork and Ethnography**  
   - Tues. 1/13: Introduction to Fieldwork (Film excerpt from “Off the Verandah”)  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 3, PW pgs. 24-82  
   - Thurs. 1/15: Ethical Dilemmas and Writing Ethnography  
   Film excerpt from "Babakieuria"  
   Read: Review AAA code of ethics available on Blackboard and at: [http://www.aaanet.org/committees/ethics/ethcode.htm](http://www.aaanet.org/committees/ethics/ethcode.htm)  
   - Friday: Discussion | |
| 3    | **Power: Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism**  
   - Tues. 1/20: Race and Racism  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 6, PW pgs. 83-110  
   - Thurs. 1/22: Nationalism and Ethnicity  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 7  
   - Friday: Discussion | |
| 4    | **Power: Gender and Sexuality**  
   - Tues. 1/27: Gender (film excerpts from Middle Sexes)  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 8, PW pgs. 111-131  
   - Thurs.1/29: Sexuality  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 9  
   - Friday: Discussion | Exam 1 due: Thurs. 11:59 p.m. (available Mon. 10 a.m.) |
| 5    | **Power: Kinship, Family, Marriage**  
   - Tues. 2/3: Kinship  
   Read: Guest Chpt. 10, PW pgs. 132-173  
   - Thurs. 2/5: Marriage  
   Read: “The Visit” by Geertz, and “Arranging a Marriage in India” by Nanda (on Bb)  
   - Friday: Discussion | Essay #1 Assigned |
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Notes</th>
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| 6    | Power: Class and Inequality | **Tues 2/10:** Class and Inequality (Film)  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 11, PW pgs. 174-208  
**Thurs. 2/12:** Inequality  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 11 (continued)  
- **Friday:** Discussion  
**Essay due:** Tuesday Feb. 10th in lecture and on Bb |
| 7    | Change: The Global Economy | **Tues 2/17:** The Origins of the Global Economy  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 12, PW pgs. 209-248  
- **Thurs. 2/19:** Migration: Guest Lecture, Prof. Diane Baxter  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 13  
- **Friday:** Discussion  
**Exam 2 due:** Thurs. 11:59 p.m. (available Mon. 10 a.m.) |
| 8    | Politics and Power | **Tues 2/24:** Politics and Power  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 14, PW pgs. 249-312  
- **Thurs. 2/26:** Introduction to Belief Systems and Witchcraft  
**Read:** Finish Parallel Worlds by Tues. 3/3  
- **Friday:** Discussion  
**Essay #2 assigned Tuesday** |
| 9    | Religion and Belief Systems | **Tues 3/3:** Religion  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 15  
**Thurs. 3/5:** Health and Illness: Guest Lecture, Dr. Sara Lewis  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 16  
- **Friday:** Discussion  
**Essay due:** Thurs. 11:59 p.m. (available Mon. 10 a.m.) |
| 10   | Art and Media | **Tues 3/10:** Representation and Media  
**Read:** Guest Chpt. 17  
- **Thurs. 3/12:** Tourism  
**Read:** Bb “Maasai and The Lion King”  
- **Friday:** Discussion  
**Exam 3 due:** Friday 3/20 @ 10 a.m. (available Mon. 10 a.m.) |
| Finals | Final Exam | Exam 3 will be semi-cumulative. It will mostly cover weeks 7-10, but include questions from previous exams and the ethnography.  
**Essay due:** Tues. 3/10 in lecture and on Bb  
**Finals:** Final Exam will be semi-cumulative. It will mostly cover weeks 7-10, but include questions from previous exams and the ethnography.  
**Exam 3 due:** Friday 3/20 @ 10 a.m. (available Mon. 10 a.m.) |