

Cultural Anthropology

ANT 308 - 3 credits



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University of Nebraska-Lincoln, BS in Secondary Education; University of Nebraska-Omaha, MA in History; further study of sixty hours beyond the Masters. Retired May 30, 2004 from teaching 36 years at Omaha Westside High School and 2 years at Nebraska City High School in the subjects of World History, AP European History, Global Geography, Civics, Nebraska History, American History, Economics, and Anthropology. Teaching ninth year at Doane College-Lincoln.

Doane College - Summer Term, 2014
May 26, 2014 to July 26, 2014

Description:

An anthropological investigation of the meaning, content, and acquisition of the ways of thinking, doing and behaving as individuals in society.

This course fulfills the Cultural Perspectives requirement of the Doane Plan. (Cross referenced with Sociology 308.)

Location and Times: Doane College, Lincoln Campus, Room TBA,
Sect. # 1— Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. May 26 to July 15, 2014.

NOTE: CLASS MAY NOT MEET ON ONE TUESDAY DURING THE COURSE AND MIGHT BE EXTENDED BY ONE WEEK. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED AT THE FIRST CLASS MEETING.

Textbook Materials:

Required: **Serena Nanda and Richard L. Warms. Cultural Anthropology. (Ninth Edition) 2007. ISBN 0-534-61706-9.**

Course Objectives:

After completing the course instruction, the student should have an understanding of the globally interconnected world in which they live, the human past and present, and the unity and diversity that characterize the human species. In addition, students should be able to “make sense of the cultures of people unlike themselves, and to gain insight into their own behavior and society.” More specifically, the content will be structured around the following ideas:

1. Know the nature of anthropology and the divisions within the discipline including: cultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, archaeology, physical or biological anthropology, and applied anthropology and to see the relationship between the study of anthropology and human evolution.
2. Identify the process of the ethnographic method and the interpretations of culture, cultural systems, and cultural change found in ethnography or the study of specific cultures.
3. Understand the characteristics of human language and the roles that language and other factors play in the transmission of knowledge.
4. Compare the survival strategies of various cultures and examine the different kinds of economic systems that have evolved in history.
5. View the importance of marriage, family, and domestic groups in a culture and to realize the variety of kinship systems and gender roles that have existed.
6. Comprehend the nature of gender roles in a culture and their relationship to the development of political systems.
7. Identify the forces leading to the development of political systems, the nature of social stratification in cultures, and role that is played by ethnicity.
8. Understand the role of religion and art in a culture.
9. Examine the impact of various anthropologists during the last two centuries.
10. Analyze a specific culture that was found in Nebraska since 1800.

Assessment of Student Performance and Grading:

Students will be able to obtain a total of 805 points from assignments, discussions and examinations conducted during the course. A sample breakdown for the number of points available is as follows:

Participation in Class 80 points

Weekly reading quizzes: Assigned chapters should be read on the day it is to be discussed in class (including the first day); quizzes are due the following week. 120 points.

Weekly participation grades 80 points

Situation Observation Project and other weekly assignments 175 points

Anthropological Theory Project 100 points

Culture Analysis Project 100 points

Midterm Take Home Exam 30 points

Midterm Examination 55 points

Final Take Home Exam 30 points

Final Examination 62 points

Summary of Examinations and Assignments:

Situation Observation Project Assignment: Due (Tuesday, June 3) Week 2.

Students are to observe a social scene for half an hour, making sure that at least three people are part of the situation. The student will observe the situation for a minimum of half an hour. The student will then write up the scene observed and share the experience with the class. A more extensive assignment sheet will be handed out during the first class.

Anthropological Theory Project Assignment: Due (Tuesday, June 17) Week 4.

Students will be assigned a section of the appendix: "A Brief Historical Guide to Anthropological Theory." The task is to gather information on each of the names listed in **bold** in the assigned section by finding at least three pages of data on each person, either in a text or on the Internet, and then synthesize the material to a three-page report. In essence, students will be answering this question: "**How did _____ impact the study of anthropology?**" Be sure to include an annotated bibliography.

Culture Project Assignment: Due (Tuesday, July 18) Week 7.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the essential cultural traits of **(A)** one of the basic Native American Cultures normally identified with Nebraska (i.e. Pawnee, Otoe, Omaha, Lakota, Ponca, Winnebago, Cheyenne, Arapahoe, or Sac & Fox), **or (B)** one of the cultures described in Culture Sketches, by preparing and presenting a report.

The report (paper) should be no greater than 7 pages plus an annotated bibliography. Students should consult the text plus two other sources--one that should be a book and one that may come from the Internet. The report on the assigned culture should contain the following:

I. Cover page: Title, Course, Instructor's Name, Student's Name, Date.

II. Introduction.

III. Body

A. Map of traditional tribal hunting grounds.

B. Foods and other uses of plants and animals.

C. Adaptations to the environment including living quarters, etc.

D. Artistic endeavors.

E. Ways of telling time.

F. Tribal institutions.

G. Gender roles, marriage, family, and clan arrangements.

H. Religion and mythology.

I. Rituals.

J. Contact with Europeans/Americans.

K. Present conditions.

IV. Conclusion.

V. Annotated Bibliography.

Example of an annotated bibliography:

Nanda, Serena and Richard L. Warms. Cultural Anthropology. (Ninth Edition). 2007.

This source introduces the nature of cultural anthropology but goes into significant detail regarding the development of anthropological theory. P. 394-400.

Students may opt to do a powerpoint or comic book that covers the above material. This will be discussed in class in advance of the assignment.

Midterm Examination: (February 11, 2014) Week 5: The exam will consist of an objective test over the first four weeks of vocabulary and concepts. A short take home exam will be handed out week four (June 17) and the inclass midterm will be week five (June 24).

Final Examination: (March 4, 2014) Week 8: The take home exam will consist of essays and T/F answer questions that will cover the entire content of the course. This portion of the exam will be a take home test handed out Week 7 (July 8). The In-class final will be week eight (July 15) This will be an objective test.

Course Policies:

Attendance: Student attendance at all class meetings is expected. If a student will be unable to attend a class meeting, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor and perform any necessary makeup or additional assignments given to the student by the instructor. Students should obtain class notes from a fellow classmate, and the absent student is responsible for all material covered on the day of the absence.

Two or more unexcused absences may result in a failing grade.

Grading Scale:

A+=100 - 98 A = 97 - 95 A- = 95 - 92 B+ = 91 - 89

B = 88 - 86 B- = 85 - 83 C+ = 82 - 80 C = 79 - 77

C- = 76 - 74 D+ = 73 - 71 D = 70 - 68 D- = 67 - 65

F = 64 - below

Late Assignments: Assignments that are turned in late during the duration of the course prior to **Tuesday, July 25, 2014** are downgraded by one letter grade. For each additional week the assignment is late, an additional letter grade is reduced off the original score given. All assignments must be completed and handed in by **Friday, March 15, 2014** to receive any credit.

Academic Integrity: The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects and tests will represent your own work. Any use of others' ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies.

Format of Writings: All assignments should be typed, double spaced, with one inch margins, and using a font no larger than 12 pt. in Helvetica, Times New Roman, Arial or Courier. If you have any questions regarding this requirement please contact your instructor.

Partial List of Choices for Impact on Anthropology (Anthropological Theory) Assignment:

Jean Baptiste Lamarck-

Charles Darwin-

Edward Burnett Tylor-

Lewis Henry Morgan-

Emile Durkheim-

Max Weber-

Franz Boas-

Bronislaw Malinowski-

Ruth Benedict-

Margaret Mead-

Leslie White-

Marvin Harris-

Claude Levi-Strauss-

Jane Goodall-

Choices for the Culture Project Assignment:

Choose from one of the basic Native American Cultures normally identified with Nebraska (i.e. Pawnee, Otoe, Omaha, Lakota, Ponca, Winnebago, Cheyenne, Arapahoe, or Sac & Fox),

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Course Schedule and Readings:

(Tuesday, May 27) Week 1: Chapter 1: Anthropology and Human Diversity; and Chapter 2: Human Evolution.

(Tuesday, June 3) Week 2: Situation Observation Project Assignment Due. Chapter 3: Doing Cultural Anthropology; and Chapter 4: The Idea of Culture.

(Tuesday, June 10) Week 3: Chapter 5, Language; and Chapter 6: Making a Living.

(Tuesday, June 17) Week 4: Anthropological Theory Project Assignment Due. Chapter 7: Economics; and Chapter 8: Marriage, Family, and Domestic Groups.

(Tuesday, June 24) Week 5: Midterm Exam. Chapter 9: Kinship; Chapter 10: Gender.

(Tuesday, July 1) Week 6: Chapter 11, Political Organization; Chapter 12: Social Stratification in Contemporary Societies; Class, Caste, and Race; and Chapter 13: Ethnicity.

(Tuesday, July 8) Week 7: Culture Project Assignment Due. Chapter 14: Religion; and Chapter 15: The Arts: Expressing Cultural Identities.
Final Examination Take Home Questions Handed Out.

(Tuesday, July 15) Week 8: Chapter 16: Culture Change in the Modern World.
Final Examination in-class objective test will be taken and the Final Examination Take Home Questions are Due.

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Title_____

A Paper Presented to:
Adjunct Professor, Bill Hayes
Doane College--Lincoln Campus

By
Susie Student

In partial fulfillment of the requirements for:
Cultural Anthropology -- ANT 308

Summer, 2014

Tuesday, Date