Anth 2351-001: World Cultures
Summer II 2015

Instructor: Dr. Linda Matthei
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials –Required Text

ISBN 9780078035005

Course Description:
This course provides an introduction to the major concepts, theoretical frameworks and research methods of cultural anthropology. We will examine a range of societies from small-scale foraging bands to complex industrial nations from global and ethnographic perspectives. A broad range of topics will be addressed from a cross-cultural perspective, including: social, political and economic development; marriage, gender, and language. In addition to examining the diversity of human cultures throughout the world, we will focus on how anthropological methods can be employed to help us understand why peoples’ behaviors and beliefs vary cross culturally and how anthropologists go about uncovering the meanings of both cultural diversity and similarity. Globalization and its implications for countries all over the world will be addressed from a World-System perspective.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends, and symptom.
2. Students will be able to apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics
3. Students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments
Instructional method is primarily lecture and online class discussion. Students will be assessed through, short written assignments, and weekly exams spaced throughout the semester. Exams will be non-comprehensive. Each will be worth 50 points.

You are responsible for reading, understanding, and complying with the course requirements. This course introduces concepts and methods with which most students are unfamiliar, therefore it is critical that you log on each day prepared to discuss and write critically about the assigned questions. Each of these discussion assignments will be worth ten points, however if you miss a substantial number or receive poor grades on them they will negatively impact your final grade. Because these assignments are
meant to motivate you to stay up to date with reading assignments in the text and online lectures you must commit a substantial amount of time to reading and analyzing. **Late assignments will not be accepted without documentation of absence**, and I do not make extra credit assignments. If you decide to drop the course it is up to you to do so. You have only a short time to do so.

**Exams:** There will be five exams during the semester, each worth 50 points. The exams will cover all assigned readings, and lectures. Each exam may consist of some combination of multiple choice, short answer, and fill-in-the-blank questions. **Students who miss an exam due to documented illness, emergency, or a university-sanctioned activity must have official documentation in order to make up the exam. All others will have to take a zero for that week’s exam. Only one exam can be made up. Students who miss more than one exam, should drop the course.**

**Grading Criteria**

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**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

Please feel free to drop by during my office hours. You can also email me or phone me through the contact information at the top of the first page. Because my hours will be somewhat erratic during the summer it is probably best to email me at Linda.Matthei@tamuc.edu

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

**Academic Honesty:** Students in this class and in all classes at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. Cheating in any form is a serious matter. Anyone found guilty of cheating will receive an “F” in the course and may be subject to further disciplinary action by the University. Cheating can also affect your permanent record. Plagiarism (using the words and/or ideas of another without acknowledgment) is also cheating and is subject to the same penalties. **All work submitted for this class is to be done individually unless otherwise specified.** Do your own work on assignments, and exams, and do not provide unauthorized assistance to others, and you will not only uphold the ethical standards demanded at A&M-Commerce, you’ll learn more.

**Student Conduct:**

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). Entering class late, walking in and out of class, talking during lecture, and the use of cell phones (including text messaging) are all disruptive behaviors. If you must engage in them, **do so outside the classroom.** If you feel you must leave the room for whatever reason please do so quietly, and do not return.

**Nondiscrimination Notice:** A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further an environment free on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will me maintained.
ADA Statement
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Reading Schedule:
Week One: July 13-16
  Kottak: Chapter 1: What is anthropology?
       Chapter 2: Culture
  Exam: July 16th Thursday. Exam will be open from 9 am to 11 pm

Week Two: July 20-23
  Kottak: Chapter 3: Method and Theory in Cultural Anthropology, pps. 50-61 only
       Chapter 5: Language and Communication
  Exam: July 23. Exam will be open from 9 am to 11 pm

Week Three: July 27-30
  Kottak: Chapter 7: Making a Living
       Chapter 8: Political Systems
  Exam: July 30. Exam will be open from 9 am to 11 pm.

Week Four: August 3-6
  Kottak: Chapter 9: Gender
       Chapter 11: Marriage
  Exam: August 6. Exam will be open from 9 am to 11 pm.

Week Five: August 10-14.
  Chapter 14: The World System and Colonialism
  Chapter 15: Anthropology’s Role in a Globalizing World
  Final Exam: Wednesday, August 12. Exam will be open from 9 am to 11 pm.