

Course ID:	Course Title:	Fall 2018
ICS 202-1	Cultural Anthropology	Prerequisite: n/a
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Wednesday	Instructor:	Wesley A Thiessen, PhD	First day of classes:	Wed., Sept 5
Time:	6:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Email:	wthiessen@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Sept 16
Room:	A2210	Phone:	n/a	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Oct 22
Lab/ Tutorial:	# of hrs/wk	Office:	n/a	Last day to withdraw from course:	Mon, Nov 12
	times	Office Hours:	n/a	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Nov 19
Final Exam:	Wednesday 12 Dec 2018, 6:30 pm			Last day of classes:	Tue, Dec 11

Course Description

Introduction to cultural anthropology including the concepts of culture, language, status and role, marriage and the family, kinship, legal systems, social groups. Students learn about participant-observation methods using cultural locations in and around Calgary.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Acquire, communicate and apply a basic understanding of cultural anthropology. Its relationship to Christian mission will be explored throughout the course.
2. Express an accurate understanding of cultural anthropology and applying ethnographic methods to a specific people group.
3. Increased awareness, understanding and ability to express one's own personal context in anthropological terms.
4. An appreciation and awareness of the cultural anthropological issues impacting various cultures within the Calgary region.

Textbook

Miller, Barbara, Penny Van Esterik and John Van Esterik. *Cultural Anthropology, Fourth Canadian Edition*. Toronto: Pearson Canada, 2010.

Course Schedule

The course will generally follow the outline in the textbook with weekly topics coordinated with textbook chapters:

Anthropology and the Study of Culture
Methods in Cultural Anthropology
Economies and their Modes of Production
Consumption and Exchange
Birth and Death
Personality and Identity over the Life Cycle
Disease, Illness, and Healing
Kinship and Domestic Life
Social Groups and Social Stratification
Politics, Conflict, and Social Order
Religion
Communication
Expressing Culture
Contemporary Cultural Change
People Defining Development

Requirements:

This course will allow you, the student, to choose and customize what your course requirements will be based on a list of options.

Two requirements will be **mandatory**, they are:

Class Participation - 10%

Reading - 10%

Requirement Options:

The following, are options you can choose from to make up the balance of your course requirements (100%). If something doesn't quite add up to 100%, we can consult together and adjust one of the requirements to make up the additional (assumed) 5%. Each option is described to give you good idea of what will be expected should you choose that option. Once agreed upon (within the first week) you will **NOT** be able to change your personal requirements. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE SUBMITTED BY MOODLE AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN PDF FORMAT. They must include your name on the document. Preference for Chicago Manual of Style. Spelling, grammar and university-level writing skills are essential aspects of your work.**

Project - 45% (proposal = 5%; Project = 40%)

An ethnography project will be carried out and reported on by the student. Initial project proposals will be submitted at the beginning of class on Wednesday 26 September 2018. It is expected that the target cultural group for the ethnography project will neither be the student's home culture, nor that of European descent western Canada. The project must seek to either answer a specific question with a specific culture or involve participant observation or ethnographic interviewing on a specific facet of culture within an ethnic group. It is expected that students will do their research within the Calgary region, although it is not restricted to this region. Final projects must be completed and submitted no later than 12 noon (Mountain time) on **Wednesday 5 December 2018**.

Book Review - 15%

Students may write a book report from additional reading, *The Unspoken Gospel*. If an additional book report is desired (see below), it can be chosen from the list of texts in the appendix at the end of the syllabus. Each book report should be **no longer than 2 double-spaced pages** (max 600 words). The book reviews will include the following:

1. A brief review, one paragraph, of the content of the book
2. Two paragraphs focusing on the strengths and weaknesses of the book
3. Insights and reflections based on the content presented, specifically demonstrating how you, as a practitioner, would behave in the culture presented, were you to be living in that culture.

Reading reports must be completed by **Wednesday 28 November 2018**, beginning of class.

An Additional Book Read and Reviewed - 15%

(For list, see above.) Due **Wednesday 28 November 2018**.

Reflection Journal - 20%

Students will keep a reading journal, to be submitted following the completion of course requirements. This journal is to keep notes of significant insights encountered with one entry following each day of class and one entry for each chapter of reading. It is expected that each entry will be between 100 and 200 words. Grades will vary significantly based on the quality of the entries.

Reading and class journals must be completed, along with the required reading, by 12 noon (MDT) on **Thursday 6 December 2018**.

Quizzes - 20%

There will be a maximum of five quizzes administered during the term. Those not taking the quizzes for credit will take the quizzes regardless, with their grades not being included in their course outcomes. These will mainly include terms and ideas from the text and with some concepts from lectures. Quizzes may or may not be scheduled in advance.

Final Exam - 30%

A final exam will be held on **12 December** during the usual class time in the usual classroom.

Article Review - 10%

Students may choose, from the brief list at the end of the syllabus, to write a review of an article. Please follow the guidelines for an article review <https://www.wikihow.com/Write-an-Article-Review>. Each review is expected to be two double-spaced typed pages (approx. 600 words). Due **Wednesday 28 November 2018** beginning of class.

A Descriptive or Informative Annotated Bibliography - 40%

At least 20 sources must be cited with no more than five being articles. Please consult the instructor if you choose this option. Use this as a resource:

https://sites.umuc.edu/library/libhow/bibliography_tutorial.cfm

Attendance:

Attendance is not mandatory, but from previous experience, it has been shown that absence has a negative impact on a student's understanding of the course and hence course outcomes.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Appendix – ICS 202 Ethnographic Books for Book Report

- Abu-Lughod, L. (2000). *Veiled sentiments*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [Bedouins of Egypt]
- Belmonte, T. (1989). *The broken fountain*. Columbia University Press. [slum community of Naples, Italy]
- Bourgois, P. (1995). *In search of respect: Selling crack in El Barrio*. Cambridge University Press. [Urban America]
- Bowen, E. S. (1954). *Return to laughter*. Anchor Books. [Tiv of Nigeria]
- Briggs, J. (2005). *Never in anger: Portrait of an Eskimo family*. Harvard University Press. [Inuit Eskimo]
- Chinas, B. (1993). *La Zanduga: Of fieldwork and friendship in southern Mexico*. Waveland Press. [rural Zapotech society of Mexico]
- Cohen, L. (1998). *No aging in India: Alzheimer's, the bad family, and other modern things*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [India]
- Fadiman, A. (1998). *The Spirit catches you and you fall down*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. [Hmong in America].
- Farmer, P. (1993). *Aids and accusation: Haiti and a geography of blame*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [Haiti]
- Fernea, E. W. (1965). *Guest of the Sheik: An ethnography of an Iraqi village*. New York, NY: Doubleday. [Iraq]
- Good, K. (1997). *Into the heart: One man's pursuit of love and knowledge among the Yanomani*. Prentice-Hall. [Yanomana Indians of Amazon]
- Gottlieb, A., & Graham, P. (1994). *Parallel worlds: An anthropologist and a writer encounter Africa*. New York, NY: Crown. [West Africa]
- Low, S. (2000). *On the plaza: The politics of public space and culture*. University of Texas Press. [Costa Rica]
- Malinowski, B. (1967). *A diary in the strict sense of the term* (2nd Ed.). London, UK: Athlone. [Trobriand Islanders]
- McLeod, J. (1995). *Ain't no makin' it: Aspirations and attainments in a low income neighborhood*. Boulder, CO: Westview. [Urban America]
- Pham, A. (1999). *Catfish and mandala: A two-wheeled voyage through the landscape and memory of Vietnam*. Picador. [Vietnam]
- Rabinow, P. (1977). *Reflections on fieldwork in Morocco*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [Morocco]
- Raffles, H. (2002). *In Amazonia: A natural history*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. [Amazonia]
- Scheper-Hughes, N. (1993). *Death without weeping: The violence of everyday life in Brazil*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [Brazil]
- Scott, J. (1985). *Weapons of the weak: Everyday forms of peasant resistance*. Yale University Press. [Malaysia]
- Shostak, M. (1981). *Nisa: The life and works of a !Kung woman*. Harvard University Press. [!Kung tribals from southern Africa's Kalahari Desert]
- Stack, C. (1997). *All our kin*. Harper & Row. [African Americans].
- Trawick, M. (1990). *Notes on love in a Tamil family*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [Tamil Nadu, India]

Article titles for review

Gmelch, George. "Baseball Magic."

Lee, Richard Borsay. "Eating Christmas in the Kalahari."

Lerner, D. "The Passing of Traditional Society."

Mendoza-Denton, Norma. "'Muy Macha': Gender and Ideology in Gang-Girls' Discourse about Makeup."

Miner, Horace. "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema."

The above articles can all be found available in the class section on Moodle at the request of the student.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.