



AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE | FACULTY OF
THEOLOGY

**ICS 202 *Cultural Anthropology* (3)
Winter 2010
Instructor: Dr. Emma Engård**

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Class Times: Wednesday\ & Fridays 8:15-9:30 **Class Location:** A2131

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Moodle access: 5293

Course Description

In today's world it is almost impossible to have a relationship with anyone without crossing some cultural barrier. Therefore, cultural awareness is essential for everyone interested in ministry, regardless of location.

This course is an introductory study of cultural anthropology including the concept of culture, language, status and role, marriage and the family, kinship, legal systems, social groups, etc. Students will also learn how to do participant-observation, which is the research method particular to anthropology.

The format of the course will be lectures, group projects and individual research in different areas of Calgary, and we will see a few of movies.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, the student should be able to define, understand, and apply key cultural concepts and models to his or her own context in order to exegete culture critically.

Required Texts

Miller, Barbara D., Penny Van Esterik, and John Van Esterik. *Cultural Anthropology*, 3rd Canadian ed. Toronto: Pearson, 2007. You can use an earlier edition.

Additional weekly readings available in the library or given out in class.

Tentative Course Schedule

(Please note that you are strongly encouraged to read the chapter/s the week we cover them in class)

We will have some guest speakers and the schedule will be revised accordingly.

| Date | Topic | Readings |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| January 6 | Intro, What is Anthropology? | Ch. 1 |
| January 8 | Cultural Factors | |
| January 13 | Social Organization: Economics I | Ch. 3 |
| January 15 | Social Organization: Economics II | |
| January 20 | Social Organization: Economics III | Ch. 4 |
| January 21 | Social Organization: Kinship I | Ch. 8-9 |
| January 27 | Guest speaker Marie Ens | |
| January 29 | Social Organization: Kinship II | |
| February 3 | Social Organization: Social Groups and Stratifications I | |
| February 5 | Social Organization: Social Groups and Stratifications II | Ch. 10 |
| February 10 | TBA | |
| February 12 | MIDTERM | |
| <i>February 15-19</i> | <i>Mid semester break</i> | |
| February 24 | Ethnography I | Ch. 2 |
| February 26 | Ethnography II | |
| March 3 | Social Organization: Political Organization I | Ch. 11 |
| March 5 | Social Organization: Political Organization II | |
| March 10 | Ideological Organization I | Ch. 12, 7 |
| <i>March 12</i> | <i>Global Impact Day</i> | |
| March 17 | Life Cycle I | Ch. 5-6 |
| March 19 | Life Cycle II | |
| March 24 | Shame and Guilt | |
| March 26 | Communication | Ch. 13 |
| March 31 | Expressive Culture | Ch. 14 |
| April 2 | Good Friday | Ch. 15 |
| April 7 | Change | Ch. 16 |
| April 9 | Review | |

Course Requirements

All written submissions will be done through Moodle and they are due at 5:00 pm. Thus be aware that a paper submitted 5:10 is one day late and receives a 10% penalty. Please note that in order to get a passing grade for the course the student must complete all the assignments.

1 Active Participation

- You are required to be in class every lecture, with a total of maximum two missed classes. Additional missed classes will result in 1 point deduction of course grade for each missed class.
- Active participation means more than just being present and arriving on time. You need to take active part in class discussions. Being on time and have some active participation will give you five points. Additional points require informed and frequent, yet appropriate interaction.

2 Exams

- **Midterm** The midterm will cover everything we have dealt with in class, including the weekly assignments, and text books up to the point of the exam.
- **Final Exam** The final exam will cover all the main parts of the course, not just what we have dealt with in class since the mid term. The final exam will cover the full semester.

3 Ethnography

- A written report from you participant observation. We will spend time in class discussing how to do both the participant observation and the write-up.
- You will read two ethnographies from the library reserve shelf. There are 5 or 6 examples.
- You will include an appendix in the ethnography detailing how you spent your time..
- **Grading**
 - ◆ You will be graded on the quality of your observations, analysis and flow of the paper. I will grade the ethnography on the basis of what I estimate an average student will be able to produce after twenty effective hours of work.
 - ◆ Please use MLA format, but include a title page as seen at the end of this syllabus.
- **Early Submission**
 - ◆ If you submit your ethnography on March 31 you will receive 3 bonus points. However, because of this, there is no extension given for the April 7 deadline and you will receive regular late penalty if you choose to submit your paper late.

4 Weekly Assignments

- Every week you will be asked to spend thirty minutes either to read a chapter/article (provided in library folder) or do a research project. You will write down your discovery/ insights in a paragraph (about 150 words) submit through moodle. See examples.
- Grading: you will receive 5 points for completing 10 weekly assignments.

This article struck a chord with me. Maybe it's because I have been around so many people coming to Canada and think that it will be exactly as it was "back home". They don't learn English, learn how to drive, or learn about the culture or even follow the laws. This frustrates me. To live in a culture and a country not your own one must learn the culture and obey the social structures of the country. When one refuses to do this it's rude and ethnocentric, and I don't like it. Therefore I am agreeing with the incarceration of this man because living in Canada he must follow the laws in Canada. I have no sympathy for him because it is the individuals job to learn what is and isn't acceptable when in another place/setting. He has no one to blame but himself (and I'm not trying to be harsh or judgmental). The law is the law no matter where you come from.

After reading this article, my heart just went out to the Roma people. I can't believe that such prejudice still exists today, even after the atrocities of the holocaust, these people are still being stereotyped and persecuted! It is true that we can't change the constitution just because they may go against a certain group's culture, however I think each matter is circumstantial. I think it was completely unfair for SN to be sent to jail, when there was no concrete evidence that he was planning on using the social security # with intent to commit fraud. No wonder the gypsies lie or flee in order to avoid the legal system. I am not condoning such activities, however I believe it is important for those in the legal system to understand the culture which it is dealing with.

Course Grade & Due Dates

Papers are due in the Moodle at 5:00 pm. (Thus a 5:10 pm submission is one day late)

| Activity | Percentage of grade | Due Date |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| Active Participation | 15 | Na |
| Midterm Exam | 15 | February 12 |
| Final Exam | 30 | TBA |
| Ethnography | 5 | January 11 |
| | 25 | April 7 |
| Weekly Assignments | 10 | Every Tuesday <u>except</u> March 2 and April 6 |
| Total | 100 | |

| <u>Letter Grade</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Percentage</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| A+ | | 93-100 |
| A | Excellent | 85-92 |
| A- | | 80-84 |
| B+ | | 77-79 |
| B | Good | 73-76 |
| B- | | 70-72 |
| C+ | | 67-69 |
| C | Satisfactory | 63-66 |
| C- | | 60-62 |
| D+ | | 55-59 |
| D | Minimal Pass | 50-54 |
| F | Failure | below 50 |

Important Notes

- ◆ It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to Ambrose Academic Policies, such as the policy on Academic Dishonesty, which are stated in the current Catalogue.
- ◆ Late policy:
Any assignment that is not emailed on time will receive a penalty, 10% for the first day and then 3% for each of the following 3 days (including holidays). After that the paper will receive 0 points, unless otherwise stated in the syllabi.

Note that the last day to withdraw without financial penalty January 15. Last day to withdraw without academic penalty March 12.

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies of as are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.

Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement 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@auc-nuc.ca.

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.” Alternative times for final examinations cannot be scheduled without prior approval. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office by the appropriate deadline. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise “due to circumstances beyond the student’s control.”

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook 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.

Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

**CATCHY BUT INFORMATIVE
TITLE OF THE PAPER**

By
Duktig Elev

Email
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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Cultural Anthropology ICS 202
Dr. Emma Emgård
March 31, 2010