

Course ID:	Course Title:	Spring 2020
MI 511	Cultural Anthropology for Intercultural Ministry	Prerequisite:
		Credits: 3

Spring one-week MODULE

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	M-F	Instructor:	Wes Thiessen, PhD	First day of classes:	April 27, 2020
Time:	9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Email:	wthiessen@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	End of the first day
Room:	VIRTUAL – ZOOM Meeting ID: 967 8408 1096	Phone: n/a		Last day to request revised exam:	n/a
Lab/ Tutorial:	n/a	Office:	n/a	Last day to withdraw from course:	1 PM on the 4 th day
	n/a	Office Hours:	n/a	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	One month before final due date
Final Exam:	See below for details.			Last day of classes:	May 1, 2020

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the insights of cultural anthropology for intercultural ministry. It includes theories of culture and societies, religion and worldview, kinship and family structure, communication theory and the dynamics of change. Participants are encouraged to explore models useful in ministering to specific societies and cultures.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Acquire, communicate and apply a basic understanding of cultural anthropology and its relationship to Christian mission.
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.

Textbooks

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

Janzen, Ellen. *The Unspoken Gospel: Building Faith Beyond Borders*. Calgary: MOF, 2018.

Course Schedule

The course will generally follow the outline in the textbook with daily topics coordinated with textbook chapters. Activities, media, discussion and other modes will be used in presenting this information.

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:

Required Reading – 10%

Students will be assigned reading in class, to be completed at various times throughout the course, with a bulk of reading due after the completion of the course. A statement will be submitted by students to indicate the percentage of assigned reading they have completed in order to receive credit for this portion of the course. This will include reading of required texts for the course.

Required reading must be completed (except for the Book Report reading) by 12 noon (MDT) on 31 May 2018.

Class participation – 15%

Students will be expected to participate in class activities and discussion. It is expected that students will attend each day of classes in this one week.

Additional assigned Reading and Class Journal – 15%

Students will keep a reading journal, to be **by noon on Friday 15 May 2020**. This journal is to keep notes of significant insights encountered with each reading and following each day of class. It is expected that students will have one entry for each reading assignment or chapter between 100 and 200 words. (Approx. one paragraph). Students may also use this for reflective thoughts as an outcome of the readings. This will not include reading from the reading reports just below.

Additional Book Reports – 15%

Students will write two reports from additional reading, one from the extra text as required reading, *The Unspoken Gospel*, and one a choice 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. 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 **12 noon (MDT) on 22 May 2020**.

Ethnography project – 45%

Initial project proposal – 5%

Final Project – 40%

An ethnography project will be carried out and reported on by each student. Initial project proposals will be submitted at the beginning of class on Thursday. The assignment will be further discussed in class with specific criteria for the outcomes of the project. It is expected that the target cultural group for each 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 involved participant observation or ethnographic interview 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 26 June 2020**.

NO EXAMS

Attendance:

As this is a modular course, with concentrated learning in class, attendance will be mandatory for all sessions. Valid medical or emergency reasons will be needed in the case of any absence.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>% Equivalent</u>
A+		97-100
A	Excellent	94-96
A-		90-93
B+		87-89
B	Good	84-86
B-		80-83
C+		77-79
C	Satisfactory	74-76
C-		70-73
D+		67-69
D	Minimal Pass	60-66
F	Failure	0-59

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.

Other:

Appendix - WM 511 Ethnographic Books for Book Report (Choose one)

Abu-Lughod, L. (2000). *Veiled sentiments*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [Bedouins of Egypt]

- Barley, Nigel. *The Innocent Anthropologist: Notes from a Mud Hut*. London: Penguin, 1980.
- 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]
- Geertz, Clifford. *The Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Perseus, 1973.
- 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]
- Rainbow, 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]
- Turnbull, Colin. *The Forest People*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1968.

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.