

Cultural Anthropology

ANTH 2351 CRN #56055

Fall 2008 Course Syllabus

Instructor W. David Driver
Class MW 5:30-7:00 pm; ESID 3005
Office Hours MW 5:00-5:30 pm, ESID 3005; or by appt.
Email william.driver@hccs.edu (will usually respond within 24 hrs.)

Course Description

ANTH 2351 Cultural Anthropology; Credit 3 (3 Lecture); Social Science and Cross Cultural Core

This course focuses on culture – the ways people live and give meaning, form and organization to their lives as they adapt to various environments and conditions both in and beyond the borders of the United States. Study of the descriptions and analysis of cultural diversity provides the basis for evaluating cultural components of everyday life including recognition of ethnocentrism, intercultural communication and understanding local and “global” culture in a multicultural and transforming world. Core curriculum course. (HCCS online catalog, 2005)

This course has two primary goals:

- 1) to expose students to the basic concepts and methods of anthropological research, so that they may achieve a holistic understanding of the human condition;
- 2) to provide students with conceptual tools that they can use throughout their lives to understand human similarities and differences.

Course Materials

- 1) Required textbook: *Cultural Anthropology* by Nancy Bonvillian (1st edition, 2006)
- 2) A number of supplementary readings will be assigned. These will be distributed in class, on the web, or made available at the library reserve desk

Educational Outcomes

Through a study of Cultural Anthropology, the student will be able to:

- 1) develop a working vocabulary of anthropological terms and concepts,
- 2) apply anthropological concepts and theories to real life experiences in diverse settings,
- 3) understand how societies are interrelated within a constantly evolving world system,
- 4) enhance their understanding of human behavior and the solution of contemporary problems
- 5) view anthropology as a social science.

Instructional Format

In compliance with the HCC system requirements, this course is designed to fulfill six **S.C.A.N.S. competencies** (Computer literacy, Critical thinking, Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing). Since ANTH 2351 is described in the College catalog as a lecture course, the dominant mode of instruction will be lectures (**Listening**). However, activities involving group student participation and audio-visual presentations will also form a part of your learning process (**Speaking, Critical Thinking**). Successful completion of the course work relies very much on the cooperation of both the instructor and the student. Students should complete all reading and written assignments by the stated deadlines. Reading assignments will be given at the end of lectures (**Reading**). Topic outlines will be presented on the board at the start of each lecture. While the basic format of each class will initially focus on the lecture topic, active class participation and small group discussion sessions will be encouraged throughout the class period. Finally, the nature of anthropological subjects is such that sensitive and controversial topics will occasionally surface during classroom discussions. It is the responsibility of each class member to ensure that the classroom is a “safe” environment where everyone feels comfortable expressing their thoughts, and in which everyone can feel that their opinions are respected, even when not shared by all members of the class.

Evaluation

All students are required to attempt the following in order to be considered for full credit:

- 1) three in-class examinations, daily quizzes (**Reading, Writing, and Critical thinking**),
- 2) semester project (**Reading, Writing, Computer literacy, Critical thinking**),
- 3) semester project presentation (**Speaking, Critical thinking**)

Grading		Grading Scale	
Exam 1	22.5%	A	90-100%
Exam 2	22.5%	B	80-89%
Final Exam	25%	C	70-79%
Daily Quizzes	10%	D	60-69%
Semester Project	15%	F	<60%
Oral Presentation	5%		
Total	100%		

Exams

The course has three major exams, with a combined total of 70% of your final grade. They will consist of the three following types of questions: 1) Multiple Choice, 2) True/False, and 3) Short Answer. Make-up exams will be in long essay format. **Exam 1** will be held on **Monday, September 22**, and **Exam 2** will be held on **Wednesday, October 29**. **The Final Exam will be held on Monday, Dec 8, from 5:30-7:20 pm, in ESID 3005**. The Final Exam will be comprehensive.

Lectures and Readings

The majority of the course content will be covered in the two weekly lecture meetings. You will be expected to have read the assigned sections from the Bonvillain text before each of the appropriate lectures.

Quizzes

There will be a number of pop-quizzes given during the lecture sections. These will be short, simple tests designed to monitor the progress of your readings, as well as encourage class attendance. There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes, but the lowest grade will be dropped. The quizzes will account for 10% of your grade.

Semester Project and Presentation

Students are required to complete a **research paper** on an anthropological topic, and to present their findings in an in-class oral presentation. Details concerning the selection of topics, paper formatting, and bibliographic style will be provided in class. Students must submit their chosen topic to the instructor for approval by **Wednesday, September 10**. The papers should be 5-8 pages in length, and must have a minimum number of eight (8) references; a minimum of four must be internet sources, and a minimum of four from scholarly print sources. **Papers must be typed (12 point, Times New Roman font), double-spaced (side margins of 1-1.25"), and spell-checked.**

Papers will be submitted for a grade on **Monday, October 13**. **I will not accept late papers**. The paper must be submitted in **both a hardcopy and an electronic version on that day** (we use an on-line service to check for plagiarism). The papers will be returned to students in timely fashion (approximately 2 weeks) with instructor comments so that they may be used to prepare the students' oral presentations. A final version of the paper, including responses to instructor comments, will then be submitted the next to last day of class, **Monday, Dec 1**. Your final grade for the paper will be an average of the initial paper grade and the final paper grade.

Oral presentations will be made during the last two weeks of the semester, and should be 15 minutes in duration. They may not simply be read aloud from the submitted paper. The most effective presentations will include visual aids (posters, Powerpoint, etc.).

Attendance Policy

Attendance is essential for passing this course, and will be taken at the beginning of each lecture period. Students are responsible for information covered during their absences and it is the student's responsibility to consult with the instructor for any make-up assignments. A student may be dropped from a course for excessive absences after the student has accumulated absences in excess of 12.5% of the hours of instruction. For example, for a three credit course, a student may be dropped after six hours of absence.

Warnings Regarding Withdrawal and Repetition of Classes

NOTE: IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO WITHDRAW OFFICIALLY FROM A COURSE. Failure to withdraw will result in the student receiving an "F" for the course. Administrative drops (i.e., excessive absences) are at the discretion of the instructor.

NOTICE: Students who take a course more than twice face significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. Please ask your instructor / counselor about opportunities for tutoring/other assistance prior to considering course withdrawal or if you are not receiving passing grades.

The Texas State Legislature has begun to impose penalties on students who drop courses excessively. In 2007, the Legislature passed a law limiting students to no more than 6 total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your instructor will "alert" you and HCC student services of the chance you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performances. You should visit with your instructor, a counselor, or HCC online Student Services to learn about your options.

Students MUST visit with a faculty advisor, a counselor, or online student services prior to withdrawal from class. If a withdrawal is to be given, this must be done prior to **Thursday, November 6, 2008 at 4:30pm**. After that date and time, students will no longer be allowed to drop and will receive the grade that they earned. Any remaining assignments not submitted will receive a zero; thus, students will be subject to receiving an F for the class. Faculty will NO longer be allowed to give Ws on the final grade sheet; any faculty who wishes to withdraw a student will be required to process the drop **BEFORE November 6 at 4:30pm**.

STUDENT COURSE REINSTATEMENT POLICY: Students have a responsibility to arrange payment for their classes when they register, either through cash, credit card, financial aid, or the installment plan. Faculty members have a responsibility to check their class rolls regularly, especially during the early weeks of a term, and reconcile the official class roll to ensure that no one is attending class whose name does not appear on the rolls. Students who are dropped from their courses for non-payment of tuition and fees, who request reinstatement after the official date of record (OE date), can be reinstated by making payment in full and paying an additional \$75 per course reinstatement fee. A student requesting reinstatement should present the registrar with a completed Enrollment Authorization Form with the signature of the instructor, the department chair, or the dean, who should verify that the student has been regularly attending class. Students who are reinstated are responsible for all course policies and procedures, including attendance requirements. A dean may waive the reinstatement fee upon determination that the student was dropped because of a college error. The dean should note the nature of the error in a memo to the registrar with the appropriate documentation.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Receiving a W in a course may affect the status of your student Visa. Once a W is given for the course, it will not be changed to an F because of the visa consideration. Since January 1, 2003, International Students are restricted in the number of distance education courses that they may take during each semester. ONLY ONE online/distance education class may be counted towards the enrollment requirement for International Students per semester. Please contact the International Student Office at 713-718-8520 if you have any questions about your visa status and other transfer issues.

Make-up Policy

Make-ups of Exams and Projects will only be allowed in cases where a valid excuse can be presented to the instructor, and is supported by appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's note). If a make-up Exam is necessary, it may be in essay form, and invariably will be more difficult than taking the regularly scheduled exam. There will be no make-ups of Quizzes. Late Projects/Presentations will not be accepted.

Students with Disability

Any student with a documented disability, (i.e. physical, learning, psychiatric, visual, hearing, etc) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the disability services office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the disability services office. The counselor for Southeast College can be reached at 713 718-7218.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will lead to a partial or full failure on respective assignments, and possibly the entire course. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

“Cheating” on a test includes:

- 1) copying from another student's test paper,
- 2) use of materials during a test that were not authorized by the instructor,
- 3) collaborating with another student during a test without permission,
- 4) knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part, the contents of a test,
- 5) substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for one's self to take a test,
- 6) bribing another person to obtain a test that is to be administered.

“Plagiarism” means the appropriation of another person's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work into one's own written work.

“Collusion” means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit (adopted by the HCCS Discipline Committee).

This syllabus is meant as a general guideline for assignments and course expectations. Your instructor reserves the right to make reasonable modifications, in which case the class will be informed of such changes in a timely manner. Your final exam date is not subject to change.

ANTH 2351, FALL 2008

<u>Week</u>	<u>Lecture Readings (Bonvillain)*</u>
<u>Week 1- Aug 25, 27</u> What is Anthropology?	Chaps. 1, 2
<u>Week 2- Sept 1, 3</u> <i>No class for Labor Day, Monday, Sept 1</i> History of Anthropology	
<u>Week 3-Sept 8, 10</u> Culture <i>Project topic due Sept 10</i>	Chaps. 2, 4
<u>Week 4- Sept 15, 17</u> Transmission of Culture	Chap. 5
<u>Week 5- Sept 22, 24</u> <i>Exam 1 Sept 22</i> Evolution	
<u>Week 6- Sept 29, Oct 1</u> Evolution	
<u>Week 7- Oct 6, 8</u> Human Variation Race and Ethnicity	Chap. 11
<u>Week 8- Oct 13, 15</u> Technology and Subsistence- Foragers <i>Paper 1 due Oct 13</i>	Chap. 6
<u>Week 9- Oct 20, 22</u> Technology and Subsistence- Foragers	Chap. 6
<u>Week 10- Oct 27, 29</u> Technology and Subsistence- Agriculture <i>Exam 2 Oct 29</i>	Chap. 7
<u>Week 11- Nov 3, 5</u> Social Organization: Kinship, Marriage Social Organization: Gender, Stratification	Chaps. 8, 9 Chaps. 10, 11
<u>Week 12- Nov 10, 12</u> Religion: Ritual and Myth	Chap. 14
<u>Week 13- Nov 17, 19</u> Political Organization	Chap. 12
<u>Week 14- Nov 24, 26</u> <i>Oral Presentations start, Nov 24</i> <i>No class for Thanksgiving, Nov 26</i>	
<u>Week 15- Dec 1, 3</u> <i>Oral Presentations this week</i> <i>Finalized Paper due Monday, Dec 1</i>	
<u>Week 16- Dec 8</u> <i>Final Exam, Monday, Dec 8, 5:30-7:20 pm</i>	

* Please read these sections before the class for which they are assigned.