COURSE SYLLABUS
ANTH 161
INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Fall 2021
Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:00 – 3:20PM
180 PLC

Professor Maria Fernanda Escallón
mfe@uoregon.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30-4:30 via ZOOM; sign up via Canvas

GE Alanna Davey
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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30-4:30pm via Zoom sign up here

GE Damion Sailors
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Office Hours: Mondays 10 am - Noon via Zoom sign up here

Course Description
This course introduces students to basic concepts in Cultural Anthropology. The class educates students on emerging and developing notions of culture as well as the ways in which societies are rapidly changing within a globalizing world and exposes students to a wide variety of cultural practices through ethnographic writing and film. The course is a ten-week experience with a wide range of readings, discussions, and multi-media. A special emphasis in this class will be put on the idea of “cultural construction,” that is, how do people create an understanding of the world they live in? Furthermore, we will be paying close attention to how the actions of people in one part of the world directly impact the lives of people elsewhere through migration, globalization, policy, and the media.

Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
I support all students regardless of immigration status or country of origin. I support Dreamer students and promote their sense of belonging and safety as they pursue their higher education goals. For more information and resources, please visit our Dreamers page (https://www.uoregon.edu/dreamers)
and the FAQs page (http://oregongoestocollege.org/undocumented). I commit to not sharing Dreamer students’ status with anyone if revealed to me, but also remind you that when interacting with faculty, staff, and office around campus, students are never required to reveal their immigration status. It is the policy of the University of Oregon to support and value diversity. To do so requires that we:

- Respect the dignity and essential worth of all individuals, regardless of national origin or citizenship status.
- Promote a culture of respect throughout our University community.
- Respect the privacy, property and freedom of others.
- Reject bigotry, discrimination, violence or intimidation of any kind.
- Practice personal and academic integrity and expect it from others.
- Promote the diversity of opinions, ideas and backgrounds which is the lifeblood of the university.

Textbook

- Essentials of Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age (3E) by Kenneth Guest

You can order the book through the Duck Store:

For our class this term I’ve worked with the Duck Store and Norton to get you the lowest price available anywhere ($27.50) for the eBook/study resources, so you’ll want to follow these steps to make a purchase and access the book:

1. Click on this link and make a purchase. Once you complete your purchase, you’ll receive an access code. Write this down.
2. Go to this page.
3. Click “sign in, register a code, or purchase.”
4. Click “No, I need to register, purchase, or sign up for trial access.”
5. Use your name and UO email address to create an account.
6. Select “Yes I have a registration code” and enter the access code.
7. Follow the steps to access the eBook/resources.

NOTE: You can also follow these steps to sign up for the 21-day free trial access if you need to wait for financial aid, etc. The trial access will give you access to chapters 1, 2, 3, and 5 as well as all the InQuizitive assignments for 21 days.

If you have questions or run into problems, you can contact the following people for help:

- Norton Rep: Jess Wright (jwright@wwnorton.com)
- Norton Help Desk: https://support.wwnorton.com/request
- UO Duck Store: https://help.uoduckstore.com/contact
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) Course Policy Review: You are required to complete the course policy review by the end of Week 2 on October 10 at 11:59pm. The review will take you through the course policies. At the end, you will be asked to agree to the terms, and to submit online via Canvas. [5 points]

2) Short Quizzes: There will be 4 quizzes during the quarter. Quizzes will take place every other week on FRIDAYS and cover the information delivered in lectures, discussion sections, and the readings from the previous two weeks. Quizzes will be online available through Canvas and will be open from 9 am and close at 11:59 pm every other Friday. Quizzes are open book and timed. You will have an opportunity to review for the quizzes during your discussion section with your GE. [20 points]

3) Film Response: Write a critical essay reflecting on how one of the films from this course illuminates course themes. You may reflect on "Stori Tumbuana," "The Mask," or "The Rape of Europa." Due on November 28th at 11:59pm. Between 2-4 double spaced pages. [10 points]

4) Mid-Term Exam: The Mid-Term exam will cover all material from Week 1 through Week 5. The test includes multiple choice, fill in the blank, short open answer, and matching questions. The exam is open-book and will be administered via Canvas on October 28 between 8am-11:59pm. [15 points]

5) Field Assignment The field assignment is divided into three separate assignments: notes (5 points), interview transcription (5 points), written analysis (10 points). It is an opportunity to apply some of what you have learned in this class. The field assignment is meant to be fun and educational at the same time, and it will provide you with personal insight into what anthropologists do, some of the challenges and dilemmas, as well as insights that anthropological work generates. Due dates: Notes/October 29, Interview/November 12, & Analysis/December 3. [20 points]

6) Final Exam The final exam will cover the major topics of the course, as well as the readings and discussions. The exam includes multiple choice, matching, and fill in the blank questions. The exam will be administered online during Finals Week. It will be open from Monday, December 6, 8:00 am to Wednesday, December 8 at 11:59pm. [30 points]

GRADING

1) 5 points Course Policy Review

2) 20 points Short Quizzes (5 Points/Quiz. 4 Quizzes Total)

3) 10 points Film Response

4) 15 points Mid-Term Exam

5) 20 points Field Assignment
6) 30 points Final Exam

Grades will be assigned based on the following criteria:

- **(A)** Outstanding performance relative to course requirements; demonstrates a mastery of course content at the highest level.
- **(B)** Performance that is significantly above course requirements; demonstrates a mastery of course content at a high level.
- **(C)** Performance that meets course requirements in every respect; demonstrates adequate understanding of course content.
- **(D)** Performance that is at a minimum level to pass, but does not fully meet requirements in all aspects; demonstrates a marginal understanding of course content.
- **(F)** Performance that does not meet requirements, for whatever reason; demonstrates an inadequate understanding of course content.

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If you take this course pass/fail, you must have at least 70 points to pass.

**CONTINGENCY PLAN (ONLY IF WE SWITCH TO REMOTE INSTRUCTION DUE TO PANDEMIC)**

In the event that we need to switch the class to online/remote mode, all lectures will be made available online by the scheduled date for each class. The course policy review, film response, mid-term exam, field assignment, and final exam are all due online, so no adjustments are necessary. For the quizzes, instead of taking them during section time, they will be taken online via CANVAS. To replace the work done during discussion sections, you will be asked to participate in online discussions by posting two comments on your section discussion page weekly (approximately 150-200 words). The first comment should be a thoughtful reflection to the discussion prompt posted by your GE. The second comment should be an engaging response to a classmate that furthers discussion. Complete both posts every week by Sunday at 11:59. Students who complete all online discussion sections posts will receive a 5 point bonus on their final exam.
Office hours will remain on zoom. Online quizzes and discussion boards will ONLY happen if the course is moved to remote instruction because of emerging pandemic restrictions during the quarter.

COURSE SCHEDULE

 NOTE: Complete all readings before class.

WEEK 1

September 28: Review of the Syllabus, Introduction to the Course
September 30: Anthropology in a Global Age
  - Guest, Chapter 1
  - **Article: “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema”

WEEK 2

October 5: What is culture and why is it relevant for anthropologists?
  - Guest, Chapter 2
October 7: Cultural relativism
  - **Article: A Very Short Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Chapter 2
  - **Article: “Cultural Relativism and Universal Human Rights”

[October 8: Quiz 1]
[October 10: Course Policy Review Due at 11:59 pm]

WEEK 3

October 12: Anthropology is what anthropologists do
  - Guest, Chapter 3
  - **Article: “Doing Collaborative Ethnography”
October 14: A closer look at ethnography
  - **Article: “Bohannan, Shakespeare and the Bush”
  - **Article: “Eating Christmas in the Kalahari”

Required Film "Stori Tumbuna"

WEEK 4

October 19: What does Anthropology teach us about Race and Racism?
  - Guest, Chapter 5
  - **Article: Scientific and Folk Ideas about Heredity
October 21: What does Anthropology teach us about Ethnicity and Nationalism?
WEEK 5

October 26: What can anthropology tell us about health, illness, and the body?

- Guest, Ch. 14
- Digital content on Canvas selected by guest speaker

Invited guest speaker Dr. Anna West, Assistant Professor and Director of Health Studies Haverford College

[October 29: Fieldwork Assignment Part 1/Notes DUE at 11:59 PM in CANVAS ]

October 28: MID-TERM EXAM (no class)

WEEK 6

November 2: What does Anthropology teach us about Environment and Sustainability?

- Guest, Ch. 11
- Digital content on Canvas selected by guest speaker

Invited guest speaker Dr. Maron E. Greenleaf Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Dartmouth College

November 4: What does Anthropology teach us about Globalization, Class and Inequality?

- Guest, Chapter 10
- **Article: The Globalization of a Brazilian Fishing Community

[November 5: Quiz 3]

WEEK 7

November 9: What does Anthropology teach us about cultural heritage?


November 11: Holiday no class

[November 12: Fieldwork Assignment Part 2/Interview Due 11:59 PM via Canvas]
WEEK 8

November 16: What does Anthropology teach us about Gender and Sexuality? Part 1
- Guest, Chapter 7
- **Article: The Sworn Virgins of Albania

Required Film, "The Mask"

November 18: What does Anthropology teach us about Gender and Sexuality? Part 2
Invited Guest speaker Kaito Campos de Novais. PhD Student, University of Oregon
- Digital content on Canvas selected by guest speaker
- Guest, Chapter 8

[November 19. Quiz 4]

WEEK 9

November 23: What does Anthropology teach us about museums, art, and media
- Guest, Chapter 15
- Review museum websites: Smithsonian Museum of Natural History; That National Museum of the American Indian; UO Museum of Natural and Cultural History; The National Museum of African American History and Culture

Required Film, "The Rape of Europa"

November 25: Thanksgiving break (no class)
[November 28: Critical Film Response Due at 11:59pm]

Week 10

November 30: Review Session

December 2: Applied & Activist Anthropology
Invited Guest Speaker Dr. Kristin Yarris Associate Professor Global Studies, University of Oregon
- Reading selected by guest speaker
- **Article: "Practicing and Applying Anthropology"

Dec 3: Fieldwork Assignment Part 3/Analysis Due at 11:59 pm

FINAL EXAM

Monday, December 6, 8:00 am to Wednesday, December 8 at 11:59pm via CANVAS