



ANT 2410: Cultural Anthropology

(Section 09 – Fall 2015 – 3 credits)

Instructor: Md. Ashiqur Rahman Ph.D.

Class meets: Mon. & Wed. 12:30-1:45 pm in EDU 317

Office: SOC 032

Office Hours: Mon: 10 am-12 pm; Wed: 10 am-12 pm

Email: ashique@usf.edu

Note: This syllabus is not final. It is not a legal contract between students and me. I reserve the right to make changes to the course schedule and content. It is your responsibility to be in class for announcements and to check the course Canvas site and your USF email regularly.

Teaching Assistant: Gianpiero Caso

Email: gianpiero@mail.usf.edu

Office Hours: Friday 1-3 pm

Office: SOC 15F

Course Description

Congratulations!

You are enrolled in a cultural anthropology course. The course emphasizes on writing and understanding, and has no “timed” in class tests except for the optional final. If you wish to understand more about the world and can manage your time well this course may be right for you. You can get a stress free “A” if you are willing to work for it but you may not do well if you do not like to read and think critically or do not know how to write a coherent paragraph.

Required book for this class

Cultural Anthropology: Tribes, States, and the Global system, 5th edition, by John H. Bodley, Published by Altamira Press.

Course Objectives

Foundations of Knowledge and Learning (KFL) Core Curriculum Statement:

This course is part of the University of South Florida's Foundations of Knowledge and Learning (FKL) Core Curriculum. It is certified for Cultural Diversity and Global Context and for the following dimensions: Critical Thinking, Inquiry-Based Learning, Global Context, and Human and Cultural Diversity. Students are exposed to methods and concepts for cross cultural study of the world's peoples. Case studies demonstrate variations in human adaptation and encourage an understanding of and appreciation for diverse cultures and their values.

Course learning objectives

If you go through the required readings, pay adequate attention to lectures, and actively participate in-class activities at the end of the semester you will be able to-

- Identify the many ways of being human
- Describe the different aspects, features, and functions of cultures
- Discuss the ways anthropologists address human problems globally and locally

- Demonstrate the major problems confronting cultural groups, nations, and the human species as a whole

Course Grades and Expectations

GRADES (four components: I, II, III, and IV)

I. Weekly Homework (60%) — essays responded in Canvas by 10 am of the Monday on which they are due.

A set of four questions will be provided each of 15 weeks and each question will be worth 1%. Thus these essay questions will make up 60% of the course grade. Normally, each of your questions will receive a grade of either 1, 0.8, 0 points so the 60 questions will earn you a maximum of 60 points.

A brief, well written, accurate and originally phrased answer to each question will earn the student full marks on the assignment. Responses do not need to be lengthy and brief answers can get full marks but they must indicate you have read and understood the key points made in the appropriate readings or lectures. Generally, the questions require some thought. Direct citations and plagiarism will not earn points and hasty, poorly informed responses may earn no credit.

II. Participation 20%- This is a learner-centered class. Which means you will do most of the work-you will go through the assigned literatures, pay attention to the short lectures, come up with questions, and discuss with your peers. You will form small groups in most of the classes and do group work. Active participation is highly expected in this class.

III. Group presentation 10%- You with your 3 peers will form a group, pick a topic relevant to this class, and do a 10 minutes presentation to the class. (The breakdown: meeting with instructor/TA with one paragraph summary of the presentation 2 points+ sending the presentation to your instructor and TA the day before the class presentation 2 points, presentation 6 points). Your peers will assess your presentation based on a given rubric.

IV. Pop quiz 10%-We will administer two pop quizzes; each one worth 5 percent of the total points. If you are absent in the day when we administer pop quiz you lose point.

You will receive a final grade based on your grade on components I, II, III& IV. There are 100 percentage points in the course.

The course will have an optional final exam available for those who do not fulfill the normal requirements on time (see below).

Optional final exam: a short answer exam (in the final exam period using the same questions seen earlier in the weekly homework) can be substituted for up to 15 points. If you avail yourself of this option, we will substitute your final exam average grade (%) for up to 15 grades on homework questions (the 60 points component of the class) that are lower than your exam average. Grades above your exam average will NOT be replaced.

Grading scale

97-100=A+	87-89=B+	77-79=C+	67-69=D+	F <60
94-96=A	84-86=B	74-76=C	64-66=D	
90-93=A-	80-83=B-	70-73=C-	60-63=D-	

Grades of "Incomplete"

The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the "T" will automatically be recorded as an "F" on your transcript.

Plagiarism

Throughout the course, **plagiarism** of any type will not be tolerated. Any assignment turned in with plagiarized materials will be given a zero and reported to the appropriate University authorities. IMPORTANT: USF has an account with an automated plagiarism detection service, which allows instructors to submit student assignments to be checked for plagiarism. I, the instructor, reserve the right to submit assignments to this detection system. Assignments are compared automatically with a huge database of journal articles, web articles, and previously submitted papers. The instructor receives a report showing exactly how a student's paper/projects was plagiarized. **Plagiarism will earn you "F" no matter what!!**

Cheating

Cheating is absolutely not tolerated. It is your responsibility to read and understand the university's policy on academic integrity:

<http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/1112/pdf/AcademicIntegrityOfStudents.pdf>

By enrolling in this course, you agree to follow university policy on this matter. To prevent any misunderstandings in this regard, during the exams: i) do not talk, ii) do not wear a hat of any kind, iii) keep your cell phone off and in your bag or out of view, and iv) don't let your eyes wander. Different versions of the exams might be given, but to be on the safe side, follow the above rules.

Accommodations

Students in need of academic accommodations for a disability may consult with the office of Students with Disabilities Services to arrange appropriate accommodations. Students are required to give reasonable notice prior to requesting an accommodation. Students with Disabilities Service is located in SVC 1133. Their phone is (813) 974-4309 -- TTY: (813) 974-5651. The office's website address is <www.sds.usf.edu>. I, the instructor, will provide whatever accommodations requested by Students with Disabilities Services on your behalf – no questions asked.

Religious Observance

As per university policy, missing class due to a religious holiday or observance is permitted as long as you provide the instructor with notice ahead of time.

The University Writing Center

The University Writing Center is a free resource for USF undergraduates and graduates. At the UWC, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you on anything you're writing (in or out of class), at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, visit the UWC website at <http://www.lib.usf.edu/writing>, stop by their office in the library, or call 813.974.8293.

Professionalism policy

Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, *etc.* **must be silenced** during all classroom activities and lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, *etc.*, and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade. In addition to this, I expect the following common courtesies from you.

Common courtesies

You can use your laptops or iPads or whatever to take notes in class, and I suggest you do so; **please refrain from checking your Facebook latest updates, playing games, doing email etc.** It is not only distracting for YOU, but also for those around you. Unless you are an Emergency Room doctor or specialist who is 'on call,' turn off your cell phone and stop checking for messages every minute. Trust me: the world can manage without you during the 75 minutes you are in class.

Canvas and USF Email

This course will be offered via USF's learning management system (LMS), Canvas. If you need help learning how to perform various tasks related to this course or other courses being offered in Canvas, please view the following [videos](#) or consult the Canvas [help guides](#). You may also contact USF's IT department at (813) 974-1222 or help@usf.edu. You will also be required to regularly check your USF email for important course announcements. You will not be excused for missing an assignment or announcement because you did not check your USF email.

Schedule of lectures and readings

Note that homework assignments are due on **Monday before 10 am each week**. Most core readings are from the required text but additional readings from the web and videos will be used and needed for occasional question responses.

You are expected to have read the required material **before** you come to each class. Lectures and discussions will provide additional illustrations and information of the chapters you read in your textbook. We will not repeat for you what are in those chapters!

Week 1

Monday, August 24th: Introduction to the course

Wednesday, August 26th: Introduction to Culture and Cultural Anthropology

Week 2

Monday, August 31st: Chapter 1: A Scale and Power Perspective (3-21)

Wednesday, Sept. 2nd: Chapter 2: Native Amazonians: Villagers of the Rain Forest (25-43 stop at “Asháninka Bigmen: Leaders, not Rulers”)

Week 3

Monday, Sept. 7th: Labor Day, USF closed

Wednesday, Sept. 9th: Chapter 2: Native Amazonians: Villagers of the Rain Forest (43-60)

Week 4

Monday, Sept. 14th: Chapter 3: Australian Aborigines: Mobile Foragers of 50,000years (67- 82; stop at “Aboriginal Tools

Wednesday, Sept. 16th: Chapter 3: Australian Aborigines: Mobile Foragers of 50,000 years (82-94)

Week 5

Monday, Sept. 21st: Brief lecture on Ch.4 in class (so you don’t need to read it); Ch. 5: Cross Cultural Perspectives on the Tribal World, (129-154; stop at “The Trobriand Islanders.”)

Wednesday, Sept. 23rd: Ch. 5: Cross Cultural Perspectives on the Tribal World (154-173).

Week 6

Monday, Sept. 28th: **(Part II: The Imperial World -the End of Equality)**

Chapter 6: Pacific Islanders: from Leaders to Rulers (179-196; stop at “Chieftoms and the Politicization Process”.

Wednesday, Sept. 30th: Chapter 6: Pacific Islanders: from Leaders to Rulers (196- 212).

Week 7

Monday, Oct. 5th: Chapter 7: Ancient Empires in Two Worlds: Mesopotamia and the Andes (217-240; stop at “The Inca Empire.”)

Wednesday, Oct. 7th: Chapter 7: Ancient Empires in Two Worlds: Mesopotamia and the Andes (240-257)

Week 8

Monday, Oct. 12th: Chapter 8: The Chinese Great Tradition (263-277. Stop at “Daily Life in Village China).

Wednesday, Oct. 14th: Chapter 8: The Chinese Great Tradition (277-289).

Week 9

Monday, Oct. 19: Chapter 9: Hinduism and Islam in South Asia (293-311)

Wednesday, Oct. 21st: 2nd half of Chapter 9: Hinduism and Islam in South Asia (311-327)

Week 10

Monday, Oct. 26th: **(Part III: The Commercial World–global Capitalism)** (Chapter 10: The Capitalist World System (331-358; stop at “Growth and Poverty under the British Empire”)

Wednesday, Oct. 28th: Chapter10: The Capitalist World System (358-375)

Group presentation proposal due (Bring a hard copy of your proposal)

Week 11

Monday, Nov. 2nd: Chapter 11: The United States–An American Plutocracy (381-402; stop at “Growth, Scale, and Power in America.”)

Proposal return with feedback

Wednesday, Nov. 4th: Chapter 11: The United States–An American Plutocracy (402-414)

Week 12

Monday, Nov. 9th: Chapter 12: An Unsustainable Global System (419-438; stop at “Global Plutonomy and the Stock Market Backbone.”)

Wednesday, Nov. 11th: Veterans Day, USF closed

Week 13 (Group presentation November 16th and 18th)

Monday, Nov. 16th: Chapter 12: An Unsustainable Global System (438-454)

Wednesday, Nov. 18th: Chapter 13: Tribes and Nations: Progress of the Victims (463-477; stop at “The Cultural Autonomy Alternative.”)

Week 14

Monday, Nov. 23: Chapter 13: Tribes and Nations: Progress of the Victims (477-496)

Wednesday, Nov. 25th: Chapter 14: Small Nations Solving Global Problems (503-522; stop at “Population Growth and Economy.”)

Week 15

Monday, Nov. 30th: Chapter 14: Small Nations Solving Global Problems (522-538)

Wednesday, Dec. 2nd: Chapter 15: Envisioning a Sustainable World (543-563) (LAST CLASS)

WEEK 16

Monday, December 7th: **OPTIONAL FINAL EXAM, EDU 317, 12.30 PM-2.30 PM**

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