SYLLABUS†
Cultural Anthropology (ANT 131.I50)
Distance Learning/Internet-Based Instruction

Instructor: Nancy Demeter
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Academic Term (this course): May 23, 2016, through July 6, 2016
Session Availability: Session assignments will become available at midnight on Sunday of every week.

Text: *Cultural Anthropology*, Carol R. Ember and Melvin Ember. 14th edition. Available at the JC Bookstore in person or online.

Course Description

Cultural anthropology is a one-semester introductory course. The course focuses on the thesis that every society is based on an integrated culture, which satisfies human needs and facilitates survival. The course also explores the ways in which our own culture fits into the broad range of human possibilities. Prerequisite: ENG 085*

Instructor Expectations

- Participate/Engage with the course, me, and classmates a minimum of 90 minutes (1.5 hours) each week, over and above the time needed to complete the readings.
- Complete assignments to the best of your ability.
- Check JC email and JetNet at least once daily for updates and announcements
- Submit your own work.
- Give credit for work that isn't yours.
- Seek guidance/clarification if materials/assignments/instructions aren't clear.
- Let me know *immediately* if you're experiencing any technical and/or academic difficulties.

Associate Degree Outcomes

Jackson College's Board of Trustees has determined that all of our graduates should develop or enhance a variety of important skills while enrolled here. The Associate Degree Outcomes (ADOs) for this course are:

ADO 5: Understand human behavior and social systems, the principles which govern them, and their implications for the present and future
ADO 7: Think critically
ADO 10: Understand and respect the diversity and interdependence of the world's peoples and cultures

The readings, lectures, and activities associated with this course are designed to meet these ADOs.

Communicating with Me: Ask the Instructor and Contact Info

Ask the Instructor is a forum space where you can ask for clarification about anthropology topics (specific and in general), course materials, and assignments. Think of it as our classroom, and think of your posts as questions you'd ask during class. If you have questions about an assignment, please use this forum, because other students likely have the same question.

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If you'd like to contact me about any personal academic matters (e.g., grades, personal schedule), please contact me right away. The best way to reach me is at my JC email account (demeternancyf@jccmi.edu). Please use your JC email account to originate any email communication with me. The second best way to contact me is to call or text me at 517-798-5359. If you call, I may not be able to pick up, so please leave a voice mail with all the pertinent details about why you're calling. *Please be sure to leave your name in your voice mail, because my caller ID records only phone numbers, not names.*

Please also send questions to me if you're having trouble with any of the online functions of our class. If I can't fix the problem, I'll ask you to contact the Solution Center (see the section, "Student Technical Support and Assistance," below).

Communicating with Each Other: Student Coffee House

The Student Coffee House is a forum space where you can chat among yourselves. This is your space, and I won't visit and read your posts. Please be aware that I won't monitor the discussions, so please be sure to self-monitor posts. If you feel that any discussion is inappropriate, feel free to email me (demeternancyf@jccmi.edu) explaining why you think the post is inappropriate and how you'd like the matter resolved.

Student Academic Assistance and Success

JC provides a variety of excellent resources for students. Here's a sample:

Instructor and Classmates

Of course, you can rely on me and your classmates for information and assistance. I encourage you to visit the Student Coffee House and the Ask the Instructor forums if you want to chat about the course.

Center for Student Success

The Center for Student Success (CSS) provides all JC students with a variety of support services free of charge. This includes, peer and faculty tutoring in math, science, and English; note taking skills; plagiarism/citation style (MLA, APA) training; critical thinking skills; various workshops/seminars.

In addition, the CSS staff is committed to adapting the College's general services to meet the individual needs of otherwise qualified students with disabilities, for the purpose of providing equal access to all programs and facilities. Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the CSS as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Visit or contact the CSS at: JC Main Campus
                                 Potter Center, Federer C
                                 Phone: 517-796-8415
                                 http://www.jccmi.edu/Success/

Student Technical Assistance and Support

Solution Center

JC offers technical email and internet support to all enrolled students through the Department of Information Technology/Solution Center.

Visit or contact the Solution Center at: JC Central Campus
                                 William Atkinson Hall, Rm. 203
                                 Phone: 517-796-8639
                                 https://www.jccmi.edu/information-technology/contact-information-technology/

JetNet Home Page

The JetNet home page contains a number of helpful links to information such as:
- JetNet Orientation (JetReady) – more details are below
- JetNet FAQs
- JetNet Tutorials
- JetReady
- CSS
- Solution Center
- Student Services

JetReady Orientation

If you haven't taken JetReady training, I strongly encourage you to do so before you get too far into this—or any—online class. The training is a free, self-directed, online course designed to give students additional experience with JC's JetNet platform. For more information, visit the JetNet Home Page.

Weekly Assignments

Below is a summary of the three types of graded assignments we'll complete every week. I'll give more details about each on our JetNet site:

1. **Glossary Entry**

Each week, you'll add two terms to our Anthropology Glossary. You'll choose from a list that I put together, and I'll ask you to get your definitions from an academic source other than the text, a standard dictionary (e.g., Webster's), or Wikipedia. The glossary won't have any duplicates, so glossary choices are first-come-first-served. In this case, the early bird gets the term.

2. **Wiki Entry**

Every week, you'll add sections to our class Anthropology Wiki. Your entries will contain information specific to a culture that you choose during the first week of class.

3. **Discussion Forums**

The weekly Discussion Forums will ask for your opinion/theory about a topic relevant to the material covered in that session. You'll also respond to a classmate's post.

Assessments: Exams

In addition to the Glossary, Wiki, and Discussion Forums, there are two assessments in the course: a mid-term assessment and a final assessment. The assessments contain a variety of multiple-choice, true-false, short-answer, and essay questions related to the information presented in the sessions leading up to the assessment. The mid-term covers the material presented during the first half of the course, and the final assessment covers the material presented from the mid-term to the end of the course (i.e., the final assessment is not cumulative). Even though the final assessment is not cumulative, it will draw on knowledge gained from the material presented before the mid-term assessment.

Extra Credit

Each week you'll have the opportunity to take an optional pre-test that assesses your current knowledge about that session's topics. You'll be eligible to receive up to 0.25 extra credit point for each question answered correctly. Please note that you'll receive extra credit from the pre-tests only if you turn in and receive a grade on all of the assignments and assessments; therefore, pre-test extra credit will be calculated at the very end of the semester.

Late Assignments

Weekly Assignments

Life happens, and sometimes assignments fall to the bottom of the To Do list. Consequently, you can turn in most of your assignments after the due date. I'll accept any assignments as late as 11:59 p.m. on June 17. After this date, I won't accept any late assignments, despite the reason. Note that the assignments due on June 24 and July 1 must be turned in by the due date to receive credit.

Mid-Term and Final Assessments

I will not accept Mid-Term or Final Assessments past 11:59 p.m. on their respective due dates. The assessments will automatically close at that time, the assessments will be automatically submitted, and the grade will be automatically entered in the JetNet online gradebook.

Some Final Words of Wisdom about Schedules

Online courses are challenging. This is especially true of a six-week Spring/Summer class. As the weather gets nicer and the days get longer, it can become easy to "wait 'til later" to finish readings and assignments. Please believe me when I say that habitually postponing course commitments will create a very real possibility that you'll fall impossibly behind very quickly. I strongly suggest that you finish work by the due date to avoid any last-minute stress during the second half of the semester.

Please be aware that I won't remind you of late or missing assignments. I expect you to manage your own assignments and your own calendar.

Academic Honesty

I expect that all of the work you complete for this class with be your own work and that you will give credit for any work that is not your own. Plagiarism and other forms of dishonesty, whether intentional or unintentional, can result in a grade of zero for an assignment, for an assignment that relies on plagiarized information, and/or for your final course grade. In addition, the plagiarism will be reported to the Academic Dean.

You can find a copy of JC's Academic Honesty Policy on the Jackson College Policies page.

Grading

Grading Scale

90% to 100% = 4.0	70 to 74 = 2.0
85 to 89 = 3.5	65 to 69 = 1.5
80 to 84 = 3.0	60 to 64 = 1.0
75 to 79 = 2.5	55 to 59 = 0.5
54 and Below = 0.0	

In addition to final grades, I'll submit to Student Services a general grade for each student twice during the semester. This periodic reporting is designed to identify students who are performing successfully ("V"), students who may benefit from working with the CSS or other student support services ("H"), and students who have stopped attending ("Q"). Please be aware that I'll receive usage reports, and, if you aren't participating (i.e., putting in the minimum amount of time), I'll "Q" you from the course. If you're "Q"-ed from the course, it will be your responsibility to complete all reinstatement procedures to be re-enrolled.

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Grade Breakdown

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Glossary Entries (36 @ 5 pts. ea.)	180
Discussion Forums (6 @ 10 pts. ea.)	60
Wiki Entries (6 @ 20 pts. ea.)	120
Mid-Term Assessment	100
Final Assessment	80
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS	**540**

Grading Philosophy

The percentages and grades on the Grading Scale are a <u>starting point</u> and I may adjust final grades up or down based on my evaluation of student performance. This is especially true for awarding a 4.0. This grade means that a student has performed in an outstanding manner in every aspect of the course: s/he participates regularly in a thoughtful and informed manner and submits assignments completely and on time. If you manage to get a raw score of 90% or above but you haven't performed as an outstanding student, I will likely adjust your grade down.

Final Important Behavioral Expectations

My goal is for us to have a space for learning and thinking, and I hope that we all contribute to a community where we are comfortable expressing our ideas. To reach that goal, we must all be cognizant of what we say and how we say it. Please be as courteous to each other as you would be in a face-to-face class. This doesn't mean that you must stifle your own expressions, but it does mean that we must all be tolerant of ideas that differ from our own. Personal attacks, condescension, and general disrespect will not be tolerated and will result in penalty befitting the offense.

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY (ANT 131.I50) CALENDAR
Spring/Summer Semester 2016‡

Date	Session and Topics	Text Chapters	Forums Due	Wiki Entries Due	Glossary Entries Due
May 23-29	**Session 1** What Is Anthropology?: Understanding, Explaining, and Studying Culture	1, 2, 4	May 27	May 27	May 27
May 30 – June 5	**Session 2** How Do We Survive?: Food Resources, Economics, Social Stratification	6, 7, 8	June 3	June 3	June 3
June 6 – 12	**Session 3** Who Are We?: The Individual, Communication, Identity, The Arts	3, 5, 9, 15	June 10	June 10	June 10
	Mid-Term Assessment		**Due June 12**		
June 13 – 19	**Session 4** Who Is Family?: Marriage, Family & Kinship, Marital Residence	10, 11	June 17	June 17	June 17
June 20 – 26	**Session 5** How Do We Keep Control?: Associations, Politics, Religion	12, 13, 14	June 24	June 24	June 24
June 27 – July 6	**Session 6** So What?: Applying Anthropology	16, 17, 18	July 1	July 1	July 1
	Final Assessment		**Due July 6**		

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