

Cultural Anthropology

Spring 2018

Instructor Michaela Holdridge

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

REQUIRED TEXT

Perspectives: An Open Invitation to Cultural Anthropology, edited by Nina Brown, Laura Tubelle de González, and Thomas McIlwraith. This is an open educational resource (OER) (i.e., free) text that will be posted in its entirety and also one chapter at a time on our JetNet site.

General Education Outcomes

JC's general education requirements are designed to ensure breadth and depth of knowledge, and they are met through carefully designed programs of study. Programs of study help students meet these goals by addressing each of the skill areas identified in the General Education Outcomes (GEO). Each of JC's courses are reviewed, and assessment is required to be considered for GEO standards. These are the skills that the Jackson College Board of Trustees has determined students should develop or enhance while enrolled in the College.

The General Education Outcomes are:

1. Write clearly, concisely and intelligibly.
2. Speak clearly, concisely and intelligibly.
3. Demonstrate computational skills and mathematical reasoning.
4. Demonstrate scientific reasoning.
5. Understand human behavior and social systems, and the principles which govern them.
6. Understand and appreciate aesthetic experience and artistic creativity.
7. Understand and respect the diversity and interdependence of the world's peoples and cultures.

In conjunction with these GEOs, the College also has identified three Essential Competencies (ECs) that span across all six pathway areas:

1. Think critically and act responsibly.
2. Work productively with others, recognizing individual contributions to group success.
3. Exhibit technological literacy.

ANT 131 fulfills **GEO 7**

JC Academic Honest Policy:

Academic honesty is expected of all students. It is the ethical behavior that includes producing their own work and not representing others' work as their own, either by plagiarism, by cheating, or by helping others to do so.

Plagiarism: is the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Using data, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation
- Submitting other's work as your own
- Exhibiting other behaviors generally considered unethical

Cheating: means obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarizing in all forms
- Using notes/books without authorization
- Copying
- Submitting others' work as your own or submitting your work for others
- Altering graded work
- Falsifying data

Collaboration: While JCC encourages students to collaborate in study groups, work teams, and with lab partners, each student should take responsibility for accurately representing his/her own contribution.

Consequences/Procedures: Faculty members who suspect a student of academic dishonesty may penalize the student by taking appropriate action up to and including assigning a failing grade for the paper, project, report, exam, or the course itself. Instructors must document all instances of academic dishonesty beyond those of a very minor nature, in writing to the academic dean.

The Office of the Academic Deans will record and track students who have been reported as having cheated. If the same student cheats in other courses, the dean will enact sanctions appropriate to level of infraction. The sanction will be selected in consultation with the involved faculty. The Dean can administer consequences up to and including suspension.

Student Appeal Process: In the event of a dispute, all parties should follow the Academic Complaint policy. This policy is presented in Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook and the Master Agreement.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASS

The *Withdraw deadline* for this semester can be found online through the academic calendar. If you do not wish to complete the class and receive a grade, you must withdraw by this date. The instructor may withdraw any student who does not attend class, complete assignments and/or tests in a timely manner. *However, do not assume that I will withdraw you.*

Last day to withdraw with a "W" see jc website

It is critical that you keep these dates in mind if you decide to withdraw for refunds or a "W".

If you decide not to complete the course, and do not withdraw, your grade will be determined based on the grades you have earned. This can result in a grade of 0.0.

"I" INCOMPLETE GRADE

A student may request an "I" grade from an instructor. The request for the "I" grade may be granted if, in the opinion of the instructor, the course work is sufficient in quality and quantity to meet course objectives. All allowed make-up exams must be taken within the prescribed time unless extended by the instructor.

A grade of "I" may be removed by satisfactory meeting the course objectives during either of the next full-length semesters (fall/winter) or at an earlier date specified by the instructor. If the "I" is not removed by the end of the specified time, the "I" grade will remain as a permanent entry on the student's transcript, and the student must register and repeat the course to receive a grade and credit for degree and/or transfer purposes.

Please note that purchasing the wrong book, not "getting the grade you want", going on vacation, not having time to study, etc. are not sufficient reasons to consider an incomplete grade.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Passion for a topic is infectious. I believe that if a subject is taught with enough passion, students can learn anything!

A positive growth mindset can make lifelong learners out of everyone.

Participation Expectations:

You are expected to take an **active** role in activities and class discussions. This component will include attentive and active participation in discussion of materials and activities.

This course involves online instructional formats. In order to facilitate the best learning possible, each student is asked to comply with the following expectations:

- Login to JetNet and Check Announcements/Messages Regularly
- Participate in Online Discussion Forums Every Week
- Respond to Instructor Prompts/ Comments

JetNet and Email

JetNet is JC's electronic classroom platform. All students have access to JetNet, and I require that you access and use JetNet to get and submit assignments, take quizzes and participate in discussion. You won't receive paper copies of any assignments or quizzes for the remainder of the course. Grades will be posted to JetNet. Please check your JC email at least once a day. I periodically send out reminders and other courtesy notices to students.

Important Email Considerations

Some students have JC emails automatically forwarded to a personal email account. It's perfectly acceptable to do so; however, please be aware that JC emails sometimes fail to go through, or they get dumped into Spam folders, especially when they contain attachments. Telling me that you didn't receive an email will never be an acceptable reason for missing deadlines.

Readings

The readings shown on the syllabus should be finished before the week of class. This allows you to participate in the discussions, and other learning activities. The textbook can easily impart information; the class sessions deal with how to understand and use the information. This is very important since it is often necessary to have read the text material to contribute to class discussion. **You are responsible for all readings, whether they are discussed in class or not.**

Course Evaluation and Requirements: There are four main components to your grade in this course:

1. Quizzes: There will be seven quizzes (one a week) for a total of 70 points.

QUIZZES WILL BE TIMED (30 MINUTES).

The quiz questions will be multiple choice questions and/or short answers/essays. The questions will come from the book, power points, video clips shown during class and classroom discussion. Quizzes will be open for one week (Monday through Sunday) and can only be attempted once. Once you log on to take the quiz, your time starts and your one attempt is complete. You may not pause the quiz and log back in later. This means that you should not open the quiz until you are ready to take it. No exceptions will be made!

2. Discussion Forums: Every week includes a Topic Discussion Forum for a total of 130 points (10 pts for the introduction, 20 points each topic discussion)

There will be weekly discussion forums which requires three posts each. One initial post and two posts responding to peers. Instructor prompts will also require responses and will vary from week to week. Initial Discussion Post DUE Friday, 2 Peer Responses DUE by Tuesday of each week.

Your active participation will make learning and remembering technical information much easier. Since it is impossible to participate without logging in, attendance is necessary to complete these assignments. If you are absent for reasons beyond your control, I must be notified ahead of time to make any necessary arrangements. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor for missing assignments.

3. Cultural Context Forum: (60 points) Every week will include a cultural context forum where you will post a summary about a current event, culture, interesting fact, video, etc. that is related to the readings that week. It can be about your culture, or any other. For example, if we are learning about media in culture, you can post a summary of an article you read about how media is changing the way we communicate.

This forum instruction is intentionally vague, allowing you to be creative. You can use popular or scholarly sources for this forum. Be sure that your content is appropriate for class. Any inappropriate content will be removed and will receive a 0 for the week. If you are unsure whether something is appropriate, please ask before posting.

Each forum requires a 250 word-minimum summary including the link or reference. You must show critical thinking and apply the content within cultural context of the week's topic. You are also required to comment on two other peer posts.

4. Applied Anthropology Paper: (40 points) The final assignment will be an applied piece asking you to apply an anthropological concept from class to a current topic. Details about this assignment will be posted in the respective prompt.

Course total: 300 Points

Please keep in mind that 300 points is not a lot. Therefore, one missing assignment, quiz or discussion can significantly impact your overall grade.

Attendance: Merely reading the text or copying a classmate's notes are unlikely to result in enough understanding for you to be successful in class. Therefore, don't miss class. You are expected to attend all scheduled class meetings, and your participation is evaluated as part of our grade. However, all of us have lives outside of college, and occasionally work, illness, accidents, or other low-probability events prevent attendance.

In general, the discussion exercises are designed to provide you with an experimental and applied orientation to sociology. All students are expected to attend their weekly discussion section starting with the first week of class. The objective of these sessions is to provide the student with exercises that will supplement and expand upon the lecture material. In the discussions sections, the student will participate in experiments and other group activities (including debates regarding controversial issues). Specific handouts and explanations will accompany each weekly discussion section.

Late Policy: Late work will be penalized 10% per day (with the "late clock" beginning at class time rather than the end of the workday), after 4 days the assignment will not be accepted. Excuses such as "I overslept" or "The printer wasn't working" will not exempt you from late penalties.

Extra Points Opportunities

I understand that life happens and sometimes we just don't have time or the ability to study as much as we would like. Unfortunately, our grades tend to suffer for it. Therefore, opportunities for extra credit might be available in class throughout the course at my discretion. Do not come to me asking for extra credit.

Grading Philosophy

The percentages and grades on the Grading Scale are a starting point, and I may adjust final grades up or down based on my evaluation of student attendance, participation, and timeliness. 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. At a minimum, s/he comes to class prepared and on time, participates regularly in a thoughtful and informed manner, submits all assignments completely and on time, and has no absences. If you manage to get a raw score of 93% or above but you haven't actually performed as an outstanding student, I will likely adjust your grade down.

Grades: Your final course grade will be determined by summing points earned on the quizzes, in class assignments, homework, and comprehensive requirement detailed above.

Grade	Percent
4.0	90-100
3.5	85-89
3.0	80-84
2.5	75-79
2.0	70-74
1.5	65-69
1.0	60-64

Assistance: Tutors (plus additional services for academic success) can be accessed by calling 796-8415 or by stopping by the Center for Student Success. Students requiring special assistance (including those affected by the Americans with Disabilities Act) should also contact the Center for Student Success. This is the first step in acquiring the appropriate accommodations to facilitate your learning.

Office Hours: You are encouraged to consult with the instructor should you have a problem with any aspect of the course, or a question you can't find an answer to. You can also reach me by email. If you leave a message requesting a return phone call, please indicate a phone number and time at which you can be reached. Thank You.

Your grade is your responsibility! Please check JetNet often to make sure your grade is what you expect. Please be sure to read through any announcements, emails or comments to your assignments as they are posted. The last week of class is not the time to approach me about your grade or assignments.

Week	Date	Reading/Lecture Topic	Chapters & Quizzes	Discussion Due Dates	Cultural Context Forum
1	May 23-29	First Day of class Introductions Development of Anthropologic Ideas; Culture Concept; Doing Fieldwork/Methods	1,2,3 Quiz 1 (closes May 29 th at 11 p.m.)	Introductions: May 23 rd Initial Post: May 25 th Peer Responses: May 29 th	DUE May 29
2	30-June 5	Language; Media	4, 15 Quiz 2 closes June 5 th at 11 p.m.)	Initial Post: June 1 st Peer Responses: June 5 th	DUE June 5th
3	June 6-12	Race; Gender; Family & Marriage	9, 10, 8 Quiz 3 closes June 12 th at 11 p.m.)	Initial Post: June 8 th Peer Responses: June 12 th	DUE June 12th
4	13- 19	Religion; Performance, Health & Medicine	11, 14, 16 Quiz 4 closes June 19 th at 11 p.m.)	Initial Post: June 15 th Peer Responses: June 19 th	DUE June 19th
5	20-26	Subsistence; Political Anthropology, Sustainability	5, 7, 13 Quiz 5 closes June 26 th at 11 p.m.)	Initial Post: June 22 nd Peer Responses: June 26 th	DUE June 26th
6	27- July 3	Economics; Globalization;	6, 12, Quiz 6 closes July 3 rd at 11 p.m.)	Initial Post: June 29 th Peer Responses: July 3 rd	DUE July 3rd
7	July 5-8	Practice; Public	17, 18 Quiz 7 closes July 8 th at 11 p.m.)	Applied Paper: DUE July 8th By Noon	