

Dr. Cronk  
Anthropology 361: Hunters and Gatherers (01:070:361:01)  
Fall 2003  
Mondays, 1:10pm - 4:10pm (periods 4 and 5)  
Waller Hall, Room 210, Cook Campus  
Index number: 31477

**Office:** 309 Biological Sciences Building, Douglass Campus. Phone: 932-2642; email: LeeCronk@rci.rutgers.edu.

**Office hours:** Mondays 10am to noon and Thursdays 2pm to 4pm, and by appointment.

**Description:** Survey of ethnographic, demographic, and ecological research on hunting and gathering societies. Format: A combination of lectures, discussions, and films.

**Books:**

Kelly, Robert L. 1995. *The Foraging Spectrum: Diversity in Hunter-Gatherer Lifeways*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian.

Shostak, Marjorie. 1981. *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*. New York: Vintage.

You will also need to select an ethnography of a hunter-gatherer group to read on your own. The name of the book you have chosen will be due on the date of the midterm exam, and simply turning in the name will be worth five percent of your grade for the semester. Robert Kelly's book is a good source of ideas for ethnographies to read, and I can also provide suggestions.

**Reading assignments:** The Kelly book will be read throughout the course (see below for more details). Questions about the Shostak book will appear on the midterm exam, and the final will include one or more questions about the ethnography you choose for yourself.

**Evaluation:**

Grades will be based on an in-class midterm exam (35%), a final exam (40%), the selection of an additional ethnography to read (5%), and a paper focusing on that ethnography (20%). Grades will be assigned according to the usual system of 10% per grade, with grades of B+ and C+ being restricted to grades of 88-89% and 78-79%, respectively. T grades will be given only in very unusual circumstances, and requests for T grades must be accompanied by full documentation of the reasons behind the request and a letter from a college dean in support of the request.

**Mid-term and final exams:** A midterm exam will be given in class on 10/27 and a final exam will be given at the regularly scheduled time, Tuesday, December 16 at noon. These will be bluebook exams consisting of identification, short answer, and essay questions on the readings and on the material covered in class. The midterm will cover the material of the first half of the course, and the final will cover the second half of the course. The final will not be cumulative, though a good understanding of the material covered in the first half of the course will inevitably improve one's performance during the second half of the course.

**Paper:** Each student is to write a five page paper focusing on the hunter-gatherer

ethnography he or she has chosen. It will be due on the last day of class, 12/7. More details about the paper assignment will be handed out in class on a later date. Late papers will be accepted until a week past the due date, but 6% per day will be deducted for each day it is late.

**Make-up exams:** You are required to take the exams at the time scheduled. Exceptions will be made only in very rare circumstances involving your own severe illness or injury, a family emergency, such as a life-threatening injury or illness to a close relative or the death of close relative, or a religious observance. All such excuses must be completely documented and accompanied by a letter from a college dean in support of the request for a make-up. Arrangements for make-up exams must be made within two weeks of the missed exam.

### **Schedule:**

9/8 - Introduction; hunter-gatherer ethnography; Video: *Baka: People of the Forest*.

9/15 - The development of hunter-gatherer studies in anthropology; Video: *Fieldwork*. Reading: Kelly Chapters 1 and 2.

9/22 - Optimal foraging theory; Video: *Cree Hunters of Mistassini*; Reading: Kelly Chapters 3 and 4.

9/29 - Demography; Video: *Nanook of the North*; Reading: Kelly Chapter 6.

10/6- Conservation by hunter-gatherers?; Video: *In the Land of the War Canoes*.

10/13 - Sharing, reciprocity, and economics as culture among hunter-gatherers; Reading: Kelly Chapter 5.

10/20 - Review for midterm; discussion of *Nisa*; Video: *N!ai: The Story of a !Kung Woman*; Readings: Shostak.

10/27 - Midterm exam

11/3 - Social organization and gender among hunter-gatherers; Video: *Caterpillar Moon*; Reading: Kelly Chapter 7

11/10 - Complex hunter-gatherers; Video: *A Matter of Respect*. Reading: Kelly Chapter 8

11/17 - Hunter-gatherer revisionism; Video: *The Lost Tribe* (NOVA program on the Tasaday). Before watching this videotape, please be sure to visit Thomas Headland's website on the Tasaday controversy ([www.sil.org/sil/roster/headland•t/tasaday.htm](http://www.sil.org/sil/roster/headland•t/tasaday.htm)) and read the sections entitled "Headland's short summary of the Tasaday," "Headland's eight little•known facts," and "Headland's hypothesis of Tasaday history."

11/24 - Film: *Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner*.

12/1 - The humanistic anthropology of hunter-gatherers; Videos: *Road to the Stamping Ground* and *N/um Tchai: The Ceremonial Dance of the !Kung Bushmen*.

12/10 - Last class day; papers due; discussion of hunter-gatherer ethnography; review for final exam.  
Video: *Hunters and Bombers*.

Tuesday, December 16 at noon: Final Exam.