

Course Outline, Required Reading, Etc.

The “text” for this course is a reader available from University Publishing Solutions. A representative of this establishment will be present at the first meeting of the class, at which time you can purchase the reader. I should note that the reader contains part or all of the following two books: Roger Keesing’s *Kin groups and social structure* (hereafter KGSS) and my own *Social organization in Aboriginal Australia* (hereafter SOAA).

As for me, my office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30-4 PM. I can also be reached via email at ws1369@aol.com

Your grade for the course will be determined as follows: 50% for class participation, 50% for a research paper. On the former, please remember that this is a seminar. On the latter, I’ll assign each student an ethnographically-documented population (or a ‘culture’ or a ‘society,’ if you insist: obviously, I dislike these terms), as well as the key references pertinent to that population. The question to which I’ll expect an answer is, How does the ethnographic material you’ve examined bear upon the focality question in kinship terminology and kinship in general?

1. Focal and extended meanings: general

(1) Roy D’Andrade, *The growth of cognitive anthropology*, pp 104-21

2. The evolutionary psychology of kinship

(2) David Buss, *Evolutionary psychology*, Ch 8

3. Early nurturance

(3) James Wilson, *The moral sense*, pp 145-8, 165-70

(4) Robert Munroe & Ruth Munroe, “Fathers in children’s environments”

(5) Joan Silk, “Adoption and fosterage in human societies”

(6) Arthur Wolf, “Westermarck redivivus”

3. Ideologies of conception and nurturance

(7) KGSS, pp 9-16

(8) James Preston, "Conclusion: new perspectives on mother worship"

(9) SOAA, ch 1

(10) Warren Shapiro, "The quest for purity in anthropological inquiry"

(11) Paul Valentine, "Fathers that never exist"

(12) Peter Loizos & Patrick Heady, "Introduction"

(13) Julian Pitt-Rivers, "The kith and the kin"

4. Descent constructs and their limitations

(14) KGSS, pp 16-77

(15) SOAA, chs 2, 4

(16) Robert Murphy, "Lineage and lineality in Lowland South America"

(17) James Faris, "Some cultural considerations of duolineal descent organization"

5. Kinship terminologies

(18) KGSS, pp 101-20

(19) Roger Keesing, "On quibblings over squabblings of siblings"

6. Special problems

(20) John Beattie, "Cutting kinship in Bunyoro"

(21) Nancy Scheper-Hughes, "Death without weeping"

(22) Linda Stone, *Kinship and gender* (1st edn.), pp 261-76

(23) Erik Schwimmer, "Friendship and kinship"

(24) Christoph Brumann, "All the flesh kindred that ever I see"

(25) Kath Weston, "Forever is a long time"

(26) Jack Eller, *From culture to ethnicity to conflict*, pp 7-16

(27) Nurit Bird-David, "Tribal metaphorization of human-nature relatedness"

7. The current state of the extensionist/constructionist controversy

(28) Ladislav Holy, *Anthropological perspectives on kinship*, pp 9-16, 165-73

(29) Warren Shapiro, "Kinship"

(30) Warren Shapiro, review of *The cultural study of kinship*

(31) Warren Shapiro "'A little bit' ethnography"

Warren Shapiro
Professor of Anthropology

Course notes coming soon.