

SYLLABUS
INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY (070:101)
M, TH 12:35 – 1:55, HICKMAN 101
(See online course schedule for meeting times of recitation sections.)

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Office hours: Wed. & Thurs., 4:00 -5:00 p.m. or by appointment

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Teaching Assistants:

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TAs will announce their **office hours** in recitation sections.

Course Objectives:

Anthropologists today research sites as varied as Wall Street investment banks, India's Supreme Court, cities and villages in Africa, Indonesian mining towns, Amazonia, Japanese night clubs, health clinics, Occupy Wall Street, oceanographic research ships, and New York's Chinatown. Their methods often involve months or years of observing and participating in the communities they study—an approach that generates deep knowledge of the immense variety of human experiences and ways of life. This course introduces students to key concepts, methods, theories, and approaches in cultural anthropology. It provides opportunities to try out new analytical strategies and frameworks for understanding culture, power, language, politics, inequality, religion, gender, family, race, migration, health, and globalization. The course introduces students to key analytical tools for testing our assumptions about ourselves and others so that we can better understand the contemporary world and actively engage our shared challenges.

Catalog Course Description: History of cultural anthropology; changing theoretical and methodological approaches; fieldwork, ethnographic writing, and the culture concept; cross-cultural analyses and comparisons; complex society; local, regional, and global perspectives.

CORE CURRICULUM LEARNING GOALS MET BY THIS COURSE (FOR THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES)

II: Areas of Inquiry

B: Social Science and History

h) Understand the bases & development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.

i) Explain and be able to assess the relationship among assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in social and historical analysis.

B2: Social Analysis

m) Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization

An exercise held on the last day of class will assess students' achievement of these goals.

Required Textbook: *Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age*. Kenneth J. Guest. 2014. W.W. Norton & Company. (The required text is available at Barnes and Noble in New Brunswick.) Other readings will be available on the [Sakai course site](#) as PDFs or links.

Course Website: A Sakai website (<https://sakai.rutgers.edu>) accompanies this course; there you will find announcements, lecture outlines (topics, but not lecture notes), and some readings (as PDFs). If you have trouble accessing the site, please consult your TA.

All students are responsible for timely attention to email and Sakai postings for this course and therefore should check the Sakai site and their Rutgers email accounts regularly. Dates and assignments may change; all changes will be announced in class or posted on Sakai or both.

Special accommodations: Students with **disabilities** requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html>.

Attendance: You are required to attend all class meetings. Since any material covered in class may appear on exams, missing any class session can be costly. In order to do well in the class, you should **complete assigned readings on time (by Monday each week)** so that you are prepared both to answer pop quiz questions about the readings in lecture meetings, and to discuss them in section meetings.

Attendance at recitation sections is also required. You are allowed two unexcused absences from recitation section meetings during the semester; each additional unexcused absence beyond those two will lower your grade by 5 points (out of a possible 100 points).

Reporting absences online: If you miss a recitation section, within 24 hours, you are required to submit a form noting the date of the absence and explaining the reason, using the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/>. An email is automatically sent to the professor and TA. [Please use the Rutgers absence report online system rather than emailing the professor or TAs directly about absences.]

**If you miss more than two recitation sections, you are required to see a Dean of Students for assistance in verifying any special circumstances, and to submit documentation of those unusual circumstances to the professor and your TA. The only excused absences are for unusual circumstances—such as medical reasons or a death in the family—and these circumstances must be documented by a physician and/or academic Dean.

Religious holidays: Please notify the professor and your TA during the first two weeks of the semester if you will observe a religious holiday that will prevent you from attending a lecture or recitation section meeting. You may arrange to make up the work missed only if you notify the professor and your TA during the first two weeks of the semester about any expected absence due to a religious holiday.

Lateness: Please come to lectures and recitation sections on time; it is very distracting to your professor, TAs, and classmates when students arrive late to class. Students arriving late to lecture will have to wait in the hall until an instructor admits them to the classroom, usually about 15 minutes after the start of class. Do not open the door if it is closed. Students who arrive more than 15 minutes late will not be admitted to the lecture or to recitation sections. Arriving more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence.

E-mail communication with TAs and professor: In the subject line of your email message, begin with "101"—e.g., a subject line might read: "101/reading question" or "101/exam question." (Specifying "101" in your email subject line will help to ensure timely responses.)

Films: Films shown in class will be available on reserve for one week at the Media Center in the lower

level of Douglass Library. There will be questions on all films on each exam.

Pop Quizzes: 3-5 pop quizzes will be given during lecture meetings. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. Quizzes will cover material from assigned readings, lectures, and films. If you are late and arrive after the pop quiz has started, you will not be able to take a make-up quiz. Pop quizzes cannot be made up if missed for any reason at all.

In-class Examinations: There will be two in-class examinations (Feb. 27 & April 17) and a 30-minute quiz (May 1). The format will be multiple choice and true/false questions, and possibly occasional fill-in-the-blank questions.

Grades will be based on two in-class examinations (weeks 6 & 12), a 30-minute quiz (week 14), 3-5 pop quizzes during lecture meetings, and attendance and participation in recitation sections. Quizzes and exams will cover assigned readings, lectures, and films. There will be no exam during the final exam period.

Grades will be determined as follows:

Pop quizzes = 20%

In-class exam #1 (Thursday, Feb. 27) = 25%

In-class exam #2 (Thursday, April 17) = 25%

30-minute quiz during week 14 (Thursday, May 1) = 15%

Attendance and participation in recitation sections = 15%

*In addition, during the last class meeting on Monday, May 5, we will administer an assessment of students' attainment of the core curriculum certified learning goals of the course (which are listed here on p. 1). The results of this assessment will not count toward the final grade. Completion of this exercise, however, contributes to the participation grade in recitations.

**Only TWO MAKE-UP TIMES will be scheduled for the two exams in weeks 6 and 12 and 30-minute quiz in week 14. To qualify to take a make-up exam during these times, you must contact your TA and Professor Haugerud by email within 24 hours of missing the exam, and then within 72 hours you must present a letter from your Dean as proof of an excused absence (those defined by University rules, such as a documented medical problem). If you miss one of the two exams or the 30-minute quiz with an approved excused absence, you must take the make-up during one of the two scheduled make-up times -- no exceptions will be made.

Travel plans are not an acceptable reason for missing an exam. Make your travel arrangements so that you will be in class when exams are given.

Ethics/Academic Integrity: It is your responsibility to avoid plagiarism and cheating. See the Rutgers academic integrity policy at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml>. Violations include cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating violations of academic integrity.

You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism and cheating. For tips about how to consult sources without plagiarizing—how to take notes so that you don't plagiarize by accident, see

<http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/lib_instruct/instruct_document.shtml>

Students should take a 20-minute interactive tutorial on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:

<http://sccweb.scc-net.rutgers.edu/douglass/sal/plagiarism/Intro.html>

Exam procedures: On exam days, you are required to bring your student ID and a pencil. No cheating will be tolerated, and anyone found cheating will receive an "F" grade for the exam.

Classroom atmosphere: We are all responsible for creating a friendly, relaxed, and productive

classroom atmosphere. That requires listening respectfully to everyone, phrasing comments constructively and politely; turning off cell phones, laptop computers, and all other electronic devices (e.g., no headphones or listening to music, no texting, no Facebooking, no use of Google Glass, etc.); coming to class on time; and refraining from reading the newspaper, working on other assignments, or playing games during class. Show courtesy and respect to instructors and other students and avoid distracting them from a lecture, film, or discussion.

How well you practice these common courtesies will be reflected in the class attendance and participation portion of your grade.

No audio or video recording devices may be used during class.

Additional Course Resources: What Do Anthropologists Do? What kinds of jobs are available to anthropologists?

American Anthropological Association (AAA): <http://www.aaanet.org/resources/students/>

From AAA website: "The skills of anthropologists - research methods, analytical thinking, intercultural communication, writing - are sought after by employers in a wide range of careers. An anthropology degree is not just useful for an academic career. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job outlook for anthropologists and archaeologists for 2010-2020 is growing at a 'faster than average' pace" (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/anthropologists-and-archeologists.htm>)

More on careers in anthropology: <http://www.aaanet.org/profdev/careers/index.cfm> and <http://www.thisisanthropology.com/index.cfm>

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1 (1/23) Introduction to the Course

Week 2 (1/27 & 30) What is Anthropology?

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age* chapter 1, pp. 5-31.
-Horace Miner, 1956, "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema." *American Anthropologist* 58(3):503-507.
[NOTE: To access Miner's article, go to <http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/cms/findarticles> and then to "search indexes and databases." Log in with your netid, and then go to "indexes and databases" and then to Wiley Online Library and enter search terms for the Horace Miner article.]

Film: "Cannibal Tours"

Week 3 (2/3 & 6) Culture

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 2, pp. 33-73.
-Clifford Geertz, 1973, *The Interpretation of Cultures*, pp. 5-7. [Sakai]

Week 4 (2/10 & 13) Fieldwork and Ethnography

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 3, pp. 73-112.
-Bronislaw Malinowski, 1960(1922), "The Subject, Method and Scope of this Inquiry," pp. 1-25. In *Argonauts of the Western Pacific*. London: E.P. Dutton. [Sakai]

Film: "Off the Verandah"

Week 5 (2/17 & 20) Language

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 4, pp. 113-152.

-Laura Bohannan, 1966, "Shakespeare in the Bush," pp. 23-31 in *Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology*, Eleventh Edition. James Spradley and David W. McCurdy, eds., 2003. Pearson Education, Inc. [Sakai.]

Week 6 (2/24 & 27) Race and Racism

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 6, pp. 195-236.

-Antoinette T. Jackson, 2011, "Diversifying the Dialogue Post-Katrina: Race, Place, and Displacement in New Orleans, U.S.A." *Transforming Anthropology* 19(1): 3-16. [NOTE: To access Jackson's article, go to <http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/cms/findarticles> and then to "search indexes and databases." Log in with your netid, and then go to "indexes and databases" and then to Wiley Online Library and enter search terms for Antoinette T. Jackson's article.]

****EXAM #1, Thursday, February 27**

Week 7 (3/3 & 6) Ethnicity and Nationalism, Religion

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 7, pp. 237-268, and excerpts from chapter 15, pp. 573-585 and 596-598

-Hugh Gusterson, 2005, "The Seven Deadly Sins of Samuel Huntington," pp. 24-42 in *Why America's Top Pundits Are Wrong: Anthropologists Talk Back*. Catherine Besteman and Hugh Gusterson, eds. University of California Press. [Sakai]

Film: "7 Up in South Africa" or "The Triumph of Evil"

Week 8 (3/10 & 13) Class and Inequality

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 11, pp. 393-440

-Angelique Haugerud, 2013, "A Wealth Gap Video Goes Viral, and Why It Matters." Stanford University Press Blog:

<http://stanfordpress.typepad.com/blog/2013/03/a-wealth-gap-video-goes-viral-and-why-it-matters.html>

-6-minute **video** on youtube, "Wealth Inequality in America,"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPKKQnijnsM>

-Sam Polk, 2014, "For the Love of Money." *New York Times*, January 19, 2014. [Sakai]

Film: "Inequality for All"

****SPRING BREAK, March 15-23****

Week 9 (3/24 & 27) Politics and Power, Movements for Change

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 14, pp. 531-572

-Occupy Wall Street readings TBA. [Sakai]

Week 10 (3/31 & 4/3) Global Economy, Migration

--Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 12, pp. 441-488 and chapter 13, pp. 489-511.

Film: "Life and Debt"

Week 11 (4/7 & 10) Kinship, Family, and Marriage

--Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 10, pp. 349-392.

Film: "Two American Families"

Week 12 (4/14 & 17) Gender and Sexuality

--Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 8, pp. 269-308 and chapter 9, pp. 309-348.

****EXAM #2, Thursday, April 17**

Week 13 (4/21 & 24) Health and Illness -- Medical Anthropology

-Ken Guest, 2014, *Cultural Anthropology*, chapter 16, pp. 619-656.

-Paul Farmer, 2002, "On Suffering and Structural Violence: A View from Below," pp. 424-437, in *The Anthropology of Politics*, Joan Vincent, ed. Oxford: Blackwell. [Sakai]

Film: excerpt from "Food, Inc."

Week 14 (4/28 & 5/1) Using Anthropology

-Hoyt S. Alverson, 2011, "Advice for Developers: Peace Corps Problems in Botswana," pp. 340-351, in *Conformity and Conflict*.

-John T. Omohundro, 2011, "Career Advice for Anthropology Undergraduates," pp. 382-390, *Conformity and Conflict*, Fourteenth Edition. James Spradley and David W. McCurdy, eds. Pearson Education, Inc.

-David McCurdy, 2011, "Using Anthropology," pp. 371-381, in *Conformity and Conflict*.

[See also online anthropology career resources listed on p. 3 above.]

30-minute QUIZ, Thursday, May 1

Week 15 (5/5) Wrap-Up

Core curriculum learning goals assessment