

**Anthropology 2322.003: Global Cultures
Spring Semester 2017**

Professor: Isabel Montemayor, PhD

Class Meeting Location: University Hall 09

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 2pm-2:50pm

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Office hours 11am-1pm MW, University Hall 416

COURSE GOALS

- By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:
- Define basic anthropological concepts and apply them to everyday life.
- Identify, discuss and compare different cultural customs related to the family, economy, politics and religion.
- Describe theories developed by anthropologists that study human behavior.
- Observe cultural interactions and conduct ethnographic interviews in a culturally respectful way, and summarize findings clearly and effectively in written form.
- Question commonly held assumptions about what is “normal” or “natural” in human experience.
- Discuss the way anthropology has been used to work on contemporary problems.

CORE COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Critical Thinking Skills
- Communication Skills
- Personal Responsibility
- Social Responsibility

Course Description:

Cultural anthropology provides a comprehensive understanding of human diversity. This course is designed to introduce students to the methods, theories and concepts of cultural anthropology. Primary attention will be given to the concept of culture as an analytical tool and to the research methods of ethnographic fieldwork. Drawing on material from all parts of the world, including primarily Latin America, we will study – among other things – family systems, economic and political change, kinship, and cross-cultural concepts of self, religion, gender, migration. One of the primary goals of the course is to get students to question commonly held assumptions about what is “normal” or “natural” in human experience. Another goal is to provide students with a perspective of the human condition that is global in scope while remaining sensitive to local manifestations of cultural diversity. This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in language, philosophy and culture. Upon completion of the course students will have a basic understanding of the four subfields of anthropology. The course seeks to engage students in a dialogue regarding the growing field of anthropology. Lectures, readings, class discussions/presentations,

films, maps and handouts are used to explore these topics and to provide the foundation for better understanding humanity. While this class will focus on cultures across the globe, special attention will be given to Mexican culture as this is the area of specialization of the instructor.

Required Texts:

-Kottak, Conrad P. Mirror for Humanity 10th Edition

-Chinas, Beverly La Zandunga

*Additional Articles posted in Blackboard in the form of PDF

Please have all assigned readings completed prior to class meeting

Schedule:

Week 1 January 18&20

Introduction

Nacirema Article PDF

Week 2 January 23 & 25 & 27

What is Anthropology? (Kottak Chapter 1, Chinas Ch1))

What is Culture? How do we define culture (Kottak Chapter 2, Chinas Ch2)

Week 3 January 3 & February 1& 3

Anthropological Methods, What is Ethnography (Kottak Chapter 3, Chinas Ch 3 & Chinas Ch4)

Margaret Mead Film

Week 4 February 6 & 8 &10

Making a Living-Foraging, Cultivation and Farming (Kottak Chapter 5, Chinas Ch5)

FCF Activity

Food (Harris Chapter 1 PDF, Helman Food Categories (PDF) Chinas Ch6)

Week 5 February 13 &15& 17

Marriage (Kottak Chapter 7, Chinas Ch7)

Marriage Video (Chinas Ch8)

Marriage Activity

Week 6 February 20& 22&24

Family & Kinship Kottak Chapter 7 continued (Chinas Ch9)

Film Tribal Wives (Chinas Ch10)

Week 7 February 27 & March1 & 3

Gender (Kottak Chapter 8, Chinas Ch11)

Medical Anthropology (PDF Chinas Ch12)

Week 8 March 6 & 8 & 10

The World System and Colonialism (Kottak Chapter 12, Chinas Ch13)

Field Notes Part 1 due (March 8)

Midterm

Week 9 March 13 & 15 & 17

No Class Spring Break

Week 10 March 20 & 22 & 24

World System Activity

Applied Anthropology (PDF, Kottak Chapter 11, Chinas Ch14)

Folk Healing (PDF, Chinas Ch15)

Week 11 March 27 & 29 & 31

Religion, (Kottak Chapter 9), (Chinas 16)

Religion Film, (PDF, Chinas Chapter 17)

Week 12 April 3 & 5 & 7

Zapotec Women Chinas Chapter Reviews and Presentations of La Zandunga

Week 13 April 10 & 12 & 14

Political Systems (Kottak Chapter 6) **Field Notes Part 2 due**

Language (Kottak Chapter 4)

Week 14 April 17 & 19 & 21

Race & Ethnicity (Kottak Chapter 10)

Signature Assignment Paper Due

Week 15 April 24 & 26 & 28

Second Exam

Signature Assignment Presentations

Signature Assignment Presentations

Week 16 May 2-6

Signature Assignment Presentations

Review

Week 17 May 8

Third Exam (Cumulative)

Grading Scale

90-100=A

80-89=B

70-79=C

60-69=D

59 and below =F

Projects and Class Assignments: all assignments shall be typed in Times New Roman 12point font with 1 inch margins and double spaced the projects are not in order according to their due date

Signature Assignment: What's in a Culture?

Ethnographic Fieldwork Project

This course-long project is intended to provide you with a firsthand glimpse of the fieldwork experience. This project will convey the complex issues that come into play in the process of doing participant-observation. You must choose a partner with whom you will conduct your ethnographic fieldwork (must be done within the first two weeks of class, independent projects will not be allowed, no partner will + a zero). The two of you will agree upon a field-site. The field- site can be the laundry-mat, a coffee shop, a church, a library, a store, a bank, or any other public space. You and your partner must conduct two sessions of at least one to two hours of fieldwork together. I suggest that you vary the time and day of your two separate observation periods.

-Field notes

When you are conducting participant observation at your field-site, you will record your observations and reflections in a field notebook. There is no page limit to these field-notes, but try to keep them legible since you will be turning them in to the instructor. One page is NOT acceptable. You can note the spatial organization of your field-site as well as the different behaviors of people there. When you turn in your field-notes to the instructor, you must also photocopy those field- notes for your partner to read. This will enable you to see how your perception may be similar or different from that of your partner's. You should begin to think about the implications of these differences or similarities. The field notes will constitute 10 % of your grade and will be turned in on two separate occasions.

-Final Paper

Your final paper must be 4 to 5 pages, double-spaced, and typed. In this paper, you will include a brief description of your field-site (1-1 1/2 pages). Your paper must have a thesis making one central argument about your field-site. The body of your final paper should be devoted to supporting your central thesis. At some point in your paper, you should also reflect on the process of conducting ethnographic observation. Did anyone react to your presence in the field? What may have surprised you about the behavior you witnessed? How did you feel while doing the observation? What kind of response do you think your observations had on the behaviors observed? In the conclusion of your final paper, you must also include a brief comparison of you and your partner's final paper. In this comparison, you must account for the differences and similarities between your papers, discussing the implications for the field of anthropology as a whole. This paper will constitute 20% of your grade, each individual will turn in a paper.

-Presentation

During the last week of class, you and your partner will present to the class the findings of your ethnographic work. Your presentation must be 10 minutes in length. (Will constitute 10% of your final grade)

Participation points: In addition you will have the opportunity for 10 participation points these will come in the form of questions asked about a previous lecture or the day's reading. You will NOT be able to make these points up. You will not know when these questions will be asked. You must answer the questions correctly. **(These points will make up 10% of you final grade)**

The Midterm and Final Exam: The first exam (20%) will cover the first half of the class and the second exam (20%) will cover the second half of the class, the third exam will be cumulative (10%). All three exams will consist of multiple choice questions. You must bring a scantron and pencil for the exams, these will not be provided.

Class Policies

- **Extra Credit:** There is NO extra credit for this course all points will be earned through assignments, participation, and exams.
- **Syllabus:** The syllabus is subject to change according to the Professor's discretion, in subsequent weeks these changes will be shared during scheduled class time. The information on this syllabus serves as a guide but it is not set in stone. As we cover chapters and move along the course assignments may change and will be updated weekly in Blackboard.
- **Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to have read the material, indicated for each day, before entering class. Students are expected to be on time and NOT leave class early, if you do leave early your participation grade will be lowered. Students are expected to be attentive and to take notes by notebook. The use of cell phones, i-pods, computers and other electronic devices that could distract the student or others is strongly prohibited and will result in a reduction of participation points.
- **No late assignments will be accepted! No make-up exams allowed!** Assignments may be turned in at a later date and exams may be scheduled within one week of original exam only for documented medical emergencies, family death or other documented extenuating circumstance. You must advise the Professor by e-mail message or in person regarding your emergency before the start of the test. This must be followed up with a written excuse with no exception, to be received within 24 hours of notification. The Professor will then provide instructions for submission of the

assignment. If you are an athlete and you anticipate an absence on a day that an assignment is due you will be expected to turn the assignment in during the class period before your absence with proper documentation.

- **Always hand in assignments directly to the Professor** in the class in which they are due, unless otherwise indicated. Any papers, in class questions or exams will be graded, initialed, and returned to you in a timely fashion. It is highly recommended you hold on to all your returned assignments until the course is complete. Should there be a discrepancy in the grading system you would need to produce all graded assignments as documentation to address the error.
- **Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the professor for this course I will take attendance on random days of my choosing in the form of questions regarding the previous lecture.
- **Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:** Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required texts, preparing for class and completing assignments
- **Grade Grievances:** Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. see <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>.
- **Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Important Information

- **Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.*

- **Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule 50101*, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

- **Electronic Communication:** As this is a professional environment please use proper language when addressing the professor through email. Regardless of how comfortable you feel you are please correspond with the Professor in a respectful manner. UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.
- **Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>. Your professor will give you time during class to complete the survey.
- **Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition,

instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

- **Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.
- **Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In *Quick Hits* sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information.

Library Information

Library Home Page.....	http://www.uta.edu/library
Subject Guides.....	http://libguides.uta.edu
Subject Librarians	http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php
Course Reserves	http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do
Library Tutorials	http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php
Connecting from Off- Campus	http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus
Ask A Librarian	http://ask.uta.edu

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