

INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

FALL 2009

ANTH 2 (6) MW, Noon-1:15 (MND 1005)

Dr. Castaneda tac@csus.edu (e-mail read and answered during office hours).

Faculty Webpage: www.csus.edu/indiv/c/castanedat

Office Hrs: Tuesday 9-10:30; Wednesday 1:15-2:45 & by appt.

NOTE: I will not hold office hours due to instructor furlough on 9/29 (T), 10/26 (M) and 11/3 (T).

Office: MND 4028; Phone 278-6067

Required Texts:

Angeloni, Elvio (editor)

2009 **Annual Editions in Anthropology** 09/10, 32nd edition. McGrawHill-Dushkin.

Kottak, Conrad

2008 **Cultural Anthropology**, 13th edition. Boston: McGrawHill.

Course Description:* This course explores the human condition from a cross-cultural perspective and introduces the basic concepts, theories, and methodologies of cultural anthropology. The primary textbook, *Cultural Anthropology*, along with the supplementary articles in *Annual Editions*, offer a cross-cultural perspective on culture and society. These readings, along with lecture, films, discussion, and group exercises, will provide you with a springboard for exploring the role of culture in your own life and society, and help you to think critically about such sociohistorical processes as cultural imperialism and globalization.

***Catalog Description:** *ANTH 002. Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. Introduction to anthropological approaches in the study of people and cultures. Using ethnographic case studies, the course contributes to a critical understanding of continuity and diversity in peoples' lifestyles, social institutions, and cultural practices in different societies around the world. The course also examines the impact of political, economic, and social changes, such as colonization, decolonization, and globalization on people and cultures over the last century. 3 units. (CAN ANTH 004).*

Student Learning Objectives: This course meets the university's GE Requirement for Area D1a: *Foundations in Social and Behavioral Sciences*. As such, it prepares students to demonstrate an understanding of: 1) the key concepts, perspectives, and theories of cultural anthropology, and their relevance to understanding the contemporary world; 2) the various methodologies of cultural anthropology; 3) the nature of human cultural variation; and 4) the contributions to human society of women and various ethnic groups.

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

Attendance—While I will occasionally record attendance, you are largely responsible for your own success in this class, so please be forewarned that there has traditionally been a very clear correlation between attendance and ability to do well on exams. Please do not

come to class late (some of you do this consistently). Late arrivals interrupt the teaching and learning process for us all.

Readings—Please complete the reading assignments before the day they are scheduled for lecture/discussion.

Evaluation—Your course grade is based upon the average of 3 scores: 2 midterms and a final (non-comprehensive) exam. Exams feature objective (multiple choice and t/f) questions. A mandatory *writing assignment* completed halfway through the semester counts toward the final score on your second midterm.

Grading Scale—A=90-100%; B=80-89%; C=70-79%; D=60-69%; F=59% or below.

Make-up Policy—An excused absence on examination days will require you to take your makeup exam in the Testing Center (no more than one exam per semester may be taken as a makeup). It is your responsibility to request permission to makeup an exam. Please note: the Testing Center has its own hours and fee requirements; be sure to go prepared. The final exam must be taken during its regularly scheduled period (see attached course schedule) and may not be taken as a makeup exam.

LOCUS—I will use LOCUS (<http://locus.csus.edu/locus2005/index.php>), an electronic resource created and maintained by the Sacramento State Library, to help manage portions of this course. For instance, I will use it to deliver one of your reserve readings, your writing assignment instructions, and I will post announcements via LOCUS throughout the semester. Prior to each exam, I will also use LOCUS to deliver a *very brief* guide for using Kottak's in-text, chapter-based study guides. You will need to login using your saclink username and password. After this, you will need to enroll in the class using (yet again) your saclink account, plus the password for our course: _____.

Cell Phones & Pagers—Please silence or turn these off during class (*unless* you have an emergency—kids home alone, an ill relative, etc. and you bring this to my attention before class begins).

SSWD—Students who need disability accommodation are urged to approach me early in the course of the semester. See: <http://www.csus.edu/sswd/services/policies/LD-Policy.html>.

Academic Dishonesty—Cheating on examinations and/or plagiarism will result in a score of zero on the assignment in question and may well result in your permanent dismissal. See our official policy: <http://www.csus.edu/umannual/AcademicHonestyPolicyandProcedures.htm>.

Please Note—The Kottak text comes with an extremely valuable set of web-based study materials, including sample quizzes and chapter outlines. Take advantage of these at www.mhhe.com/kottak.

Course Schedule *

Week	Dates	Lecture Topics	Readings
1	8/31-9/2	Introduction to Anthropology	Kottak: 1
	9/7	Labor Day Holiday	
2	9/9	Culture	Kottak: 2
3	9/14 9/16	Culture (cont'd) "Body Ritual of the Nacirema" Method & Theory in Cultural Anthropology; "Virtual Worlds <i>and</i> Futures of Anthropology"	<u>Annual Edition 29</u> Kottak: 3 Reserved on LOCUS: Tom Boellstorff article
4	9/21 9/23	Method & Theory (con'td) Applying Anthropology "Death Without Weeping"	Kottak: 4 <u>Annual Editions 16</u>
Monday	9/28	Exam 1	Bring Pencil & Scantron
5	9/30	Language & Communication	Kottak: 5
6	10/5 10/7	Language and Communication (cont'd) Ethnicity and Race	Kottak: 6
7	10/12 10/14	Ethnicity and Race (cont'd) Making a Living "Understanding Eskimo Science"	Film Kottak: 7 <u>Annual Editions 10</u>
8	10/19 10/21	Making a Living (cont'd) Political Systems	<u>Kottak: 8</u>
9	10/26 Instructor Furloughed 10/28	"Eating Christmas in the Kalahari," NOTE: Writing assignment <u>in lieu of class</u> Political Systems (cont'd) "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?"	<u>Annual Editions 2</u> Instructions will be posted to LOCUS *** assignment due 12:00 <u>Annual Editions 31</u>
10	11/2 11/4	Political Systems Exam 2	Film Bring Pencil & Scantron
11	11/9	Gender	Kottak: 9
	11/11	Veteran's Day—No Class	
12	11/16 11/18	Gender (cont'd) Families, Kinship & Descent	Kottak: 10
13	11/23 11/25	Families, Kinship & Decsent (cont'd) Marriage "When Brothers Take a Wife"	Kottak: 11 <u>Annual Editions 15</u>
14	11/30-12/2	Marriage (cont'd)	film
15	12/7-9	Religion (no readings)	Lecture & Film Only
16	12/18 (F)	Final Exam 10:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m.	Bring Pencil & Scantron

* This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion; updated syllabi will be posted to my faculty webpage and to LOCUS. I will alert you to changes via LOCUS & MySacState.