

Dr. Robert Ulin
Fall Semester 2021

Course 102-02
Online

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Course Description:

Cultural Anthropology is the study of human social and cultural diversity past and present. This course introduces students to and explores how human beings across the globe live and work according to different values and beliefs. Students will develop the tools for acquiring knowledge, awareness, and appreciation of cultural differences, and in turn enhance their abilities to interact across cultures. The course accomplishes these aims by examining the relationship between individuals and their communities, and the dynamics of ritual, religious, political, and social life in different parts of the world.

Course organization and requirements:

Since the course begins on Wednesday August 19, each week in the syllabus goes from Wednesday until Tuesday.

I have recorded short lecture videos that introduce each of the chapters in the Kottak book. Please view the video prior to reading the chapter as the video will direct you to what is important in each chapter. There is also a welcome video that will tell you more about my interests and research as a cultural anthropologist.

The syllabus will give you assignments you should complete week by week. Please be sure to consult the syllabus regularly. You will note that each week has reading assignments for the two required texts. In addition, each week has a discussion question related to the reader that I edited. The discussion questions are found under the discussion heading on My Courses with opening and closing dates weekly. You are required to make two discussion posts. Your first post should address the question of the week and the second post should be a response to what other students have posted. You will not be able to see other students' posts until you make the first one of your own. Your posts will be noted and graded by points. You may of course make as many posts as you want. Please note that there are 12 weekly discussion posts altogether so two weeks during which you do not have to make a post.

Power points: I have power points for each of the chapters that you will be required to read in the Kottak text. Many students have found the power points to be useful when studying for the course exams. Consult them as you wish. They are found under "Content" on my courses.

We will have five on-line exams. The exams are open book. With the exception of the first exam that covers two chapters, all exams will cover three chapters from the

Kottak text. The exams are not cumulative and there is no final exam. The exams will open at the beginning of the week (Wednesday) and you may take them anytime during the week before they close on Tuesday evening.

Grading:

First Exam	15%
Second Exam	15%
Third Exam	15%
Fourth Exam	15%
Fifth Exam	15%
Discussion posts	25%

Required Text:

Text books have become very expensive. Online versions of both books below are available through the publishers. Renting is the most economical option. However, hard copies are also available through the RIT Bookstore for the Kottak text and through Cognella for the reader that I have edited. If you purchase a hard copy of the Kottak book, 16th-18th editions are fine. Do not purchase earlier editions. My book is new so regrettably there are no earlier editions. See below to purchase directly through Cognella.

Conrad Phillip Kottak *Cultural Anthropology: Appreciating Cultural Diversity, 18th edition*. McGraw Hill Publishers.

Robert C Ulin editor *Cultural Anthropology and the Contemporary World: Critical Perspectives*. Cognella. <https://store.cognella.com/83088-1B-001>

Office Hours:

Since this is an online course, I will not have face to face office hours. However, we can arrange zoom meetings if you should need to talk to me. The best way to initiate a zoom meetings is to email me (rcugla@rit.edu) and I will find a convenient time for us to chat.

Week 1 August 24 – August 30

Read Kottak chapter 1

Read in Ulin chapter 1.1 (Silverman) pp. 3-17

Read in Ulin chapter 1.2 (Trouillot) pp.27-33

Make two posts for Discussion question 1

Week 2 August 31 – September 6

Read Kottak chapter 2

Read in Ulin chapter 1.3 (Ulin) pp.46-58.

Make two posts for Discussion question .2

Week 3 September 7 – September 13

Exam 1 on-line – Open Book (Kottak chapters 1 and 2)

Read Kottak chapter 3

Read in Ulin chapter 1.4 (Sahlins) pp.66-80.

Make two posts for Discussion question 3

Week 4 September 14 – September 20

Read Kottak chapters 4

Read in Ulin chapter 6.2 (Salzmann)

Make two posts for Discussion 4

Week 5 September 21 – September 27

Exam 2 on-line Open Book (Kottak chapters 3,4,5)

Read Kottak chapter 5

Read in Ulin chapter 2.1 (Harrison)

Read in Ulin chapter 2.2 (Jenkins)

Make two posts for Discussion 5

Week 6 September 28 – October 4

Read Kottak chapter 6

Read in Ulin chapter 3.1 (Babb) pp. 123-131

Read in Ulin chapter 3.2 (MacKenzie)

Make two posts for Discussion 6

Week 7 October 5 – October 11

Read Kottak chapter 7

Read in Ulin chapter 4.1 (Salzman) pp.163-176

Make two posts for Discussion 7

Week 8 October 12 - October 18

Exam 3 online Open Book (Kottak chapters 6,7,8)

Read Kottak chapter 8

Read in Ulin chapter 4.2 (Balee)

Read in Ulin chapter 5.1 (Gottlieb)

Make two posts for Discussion 8

Week 9 October 19 – October 25

Read Kottak chapter 9

Read in Ulin chapter 5.2 (Jacobs)

Make two posts for Discussion 9

Week 10 October 26 – November 1

Read Kottak chapter 10

Read in Ulin chapter 6.1 (Berkes)

Make two posts for Discussion 10

Week 11 November 2 – November 8

Exam 4 online Open Book (Kottak chapters 9,10, 11)

Read Kottak chapter 11

Week 12 November 9 – November 15

Read Kottak chapter 12

Read in Ulin chapter 6.3 (Heyman)

Make two posts for Discussion 11

Week 13 November 16 – November 22

Read Kottak chapter 14

Read in Ulin chapter 6.4 (Marwan)

Make two posts for Discussion 12

Week 14 November 23 – November 9

Read Kottak chapter 15

Week 15 November 30 – December 6

Exam 5 online Open Book (Kottak chapters 12, 14, 15)

