

Anthropology 302-Spring 2019
INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
 Lecture Class Time: Monday, Wednesday 8:00-9:00am JES A121A
 Weekly Section Meetings: SAC 4.118 As Scheduled

Instructor:

Dr. Suzanne Seriff

Office: SAC 4.126 (24th and Speedway)

Office Hours: MW 11am-12:00pm; or by appointment

Phone: 512 471-0816

sseriff@austin.utexas.edu

Teaching Assistants and Discussion Sections:

Unique#	Classroom	Day/Time	T.A.	E-mail	Office Hours /Location (Additional office hours by apt)
31400	SAC 4.118	Tues 8:30-9:30am	Megan McQuaid	mmcquaid@utmail.utexas.edu	PAR 102; Wed 9:30-11:00.
31405	SAC 4.118	Thurs 8:30-9:30am	Kari Andreev	k.andreev@utexas.edu	Caffe Medici: Wed 11:00am-12:50pm
31410	SAC 4.118	Fri 9:00-10:00am	Kari Andreev	k.andreev@utexas.edu	Caffe Medici: Wed 11:00am-12:50pm
31415	SAC 4.118	Mon 12:00-1:00pm	Megan McQuaid	mmcquaid@utmail.utexas.edu	PAR 102; Wed 9:30-11:00
31420	SAC 4.118	Wed 12:00-1:00pm	Kelsie Gillig	gilligk@utexas.edu	SAC 5.114; 1:00-2:45
31425	SAC 4.118	Fri 12:00-1:00pm	Krishantha Fedricks	kfedricks@hotmail.com	SAC 5.114; Friday 2:00-3:00pm
31430	SAC 4.118	Thurs 2:00-3:00pm	A. Diyana Sastrawati	diyana@utmail.utexas.edu	SAC 5.114; Wed 1:00-3:00pm
31435	SAC 4.118	Mon 3:00-4:00pm	Erin Wheeler	ewheeler@utmail.utexas.edu	SAC 5.114; Mon. 2:00-3:00pm
31440	SAC 4.118	Wed 3:00-4:00pm	Kelsie Gillig	gilligk@utexas.edu	SAC 5.114; 1:00-2:45
31445	SAC 4.118	Fri 3:00-4:00pm	Krishantha Fedricks	kfedricks@hotmail.com	SAC 5.114; Friday 2:00-3:00pm
31450	SAC 4.118	Mon 4:00-5:00pm	Erin Wheeler	ewheeler@utmail.utexas.edu	SAC 5.114; Mon 2:00-3:00pm
31455	SAC 4.118	Wed 4:00-5:00pm	A. Diyana Sastrawati	diyana@utmail.utexas.edu	SAC 5.114; Wed 1:00-3:00pm

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to Cultural Anthropology in the Global Age. It is designed to introduce students to the central concepts, theories, and techniques employed by cultural anthropologists to explore the social and cultural dimensions of human experience in the 21st century. The course is organized around central questions in the study of human societies, including what it means to study culture, language, and belief systems in an interconnected global age; how systems of power affect our understandings of race, ethnicity, nationalism, gender, sexuality, age, and class; and how changes in the

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modern world influence our cultural understanding and practice of such fundamental issues as politics, economics, health, religion migration, and art.

This course carries the flag for Cultural Diversity in the United States. Cultural Diversity courses are designed to increase your familiarity with the variety and richness of the American cultural experience. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one U.S. cultural group—including your own!

Course Objectives

1. To familiarize students with the founding concepts, methods and debates in the discipline of cultural anthropology.
2. To develop a critical analysis of how culture, as system(s) of meaning, constructs our everyday life.
3. To generate an appreciation for cultural diversity.
4. To highlight the connections between the students' lives to other places, peoples, and processes in the world.
5. To understand the role of power in creating systems of hierarchy and oppression both locally and globally.

Required Texts:

All required textbooks will be available in the University Co-op Bookstore. The required textbooks are:

- (1) Kenneth J. Guest. Essentials of Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age. 2nd edition. New York: WW Norton & Company. 2018.
- (2) Kenneth J. Guest. Cultural Anthropology: A Reader for a Global Age. New York and London: W.W. Norton & Company. 2018.
- (3) Jay Macloed. Ain't No Makin' It: Aspirations and Attainment in a Low-Income Neighborhood. (Third Edition) Westview Press. (Note: Only the 3rd edition of this text is acceptable for this class). 2008.
- (4) Sherine Hamdy and Coleman Nye (authors); Sarulo Bao and Caroline Brewer (artists). Lissa: A Story About Medical Promise, Friendship, and Revolution (ethnographic). University of Toronto Press. 2017.

Note: All readings for the week should be completed in time for your section meeting that week.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Grading Policy: Final grades will be determined on the basis of the following university-prescribed plus/minus rubric. Please note: to ensure fairness, all grades are absolute, and will not be rounded up or down at any stage. The University does not recognize the grade of A+.

A = 94-100; A- = 90-93; B+ = 87-89; B = 84-86; B- = 80-83; C+ = 77-79; C = 74-76;

C- = 70-73; D+ = 67-69; D = 64-66; D- = 60-63; F= 0-60

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: (30%): Every student will be assigned a section with obligatory meetings each week. Attendance will be taken both in lecture and in your section and students are responsible for information covered in both lectures and sections. Attendance and participation—through in class discussion, on line discussion blogs, lectures, lecture quizzes, and class presentations-- will constitute 30% of your semester grade. Each week there will be required readings, and a discussion blog.

- The **discussion blog** is our CANVAS site for summarizing and analyzing the articles assigned each week from the Reader, based on concepts introduced in the Toolkit. Most weeks, your TA will formulate a question/prompt in the discussion section of Canvas which relates to your readings/topic for the week. Some weeks, the discussion blog prompt will require you to apply the concepts we learn in class to a fieldwork exercise out in the world. Most weeks, the discussion blog prompt will ask you to analyze one of the ethnographic excerpts from your Reader in terms of main points or terms outlined in your Toolkit. There will be 11 blogs total, from which you will select the top 10 for your blog grade. You will get no points for turning the blog in late or missing a blog, and there will be no make ups. All blog entries are due by 9pm the day before your section. The blog entries should be about a page in length (double spaced) and fully address each of the elements in the prompt. Discussion blog entries are worth 10% of your final grade.
- **Class Lectures:** Students are expected to attend lectures regularly. Lecture outlines will be posted as ppt documents the week before the midterm and the end of term exam. Students are urged to follow the lectures carefully, take selective notes and participate in class discussions rather than trying to write everything down. All films listed under the Assignment column will be shown during lecture. They are listed here only in case you need to see them outside of class. In order to insure your attendance at lecture, there will be 5 pop quizzes during the semester. The entry code for the pop quiz, which you will complete on Canvas, will be announced ONLY during lecture and must be completed during that same day. There will be NO Makeup quizzes, even if you have an excused absence. We will give 6 quizzes throughout the semester and you will take the top five as credits for your lecture grade. Lecture quizzes are worth 5% of your final grade
- **Section attendance** is worth 10% of your grade. Attendance will be taken each day of section by the TA. You are allowed one unexcused section absence without penalty. After that, each unexcused absence in your section class will count for **2 points** off of your final grade, up to 5 absences. If you miss more than 5 sections, you will be docked your full participation grade as well.
- **Participation** is worth 5% of your grade. TAs will keep track of your participation including both the number of times you contribute to discussion and the quality of your contributions. If your contributions are particularly insightful

and/or reflect a good grasp of the readings and materials, you will get the full 5 points. The section you are assigned is listed on your registration materials by unique number, and is also available through the Canvas. **You must attend the section for which you are officially enrolled.**

MIDTERM and END OF TERM EXAM (50%): This portion of your grade consists of your midterm and end of term exam. The midterm exam will be given on a regular class day the week before spring break, and the final exam will be given during the final 3 hour exam slot scheduled by the university for our course. Each test (the midterm and second exam) will include multiple choice questions, fill in the blank questions, and short essay questions. Questions will include material covered in the assigned readings, lectures, discussions, and films. The second exam will only cover material from the second half of the course (after spring break) but will include a longer essay which will specifically test you on your critical analysis of the “Aint No Makin It” ethnography we have read in class. Make-up exams will only be given in the event of a serious illness or emergency, for which official documentation is required. The midterm will be worth 20% of your final grade and the final exam will be worth 30% of your final grade.

WRITING ASSIGNMENT (20%): You will also be assigned one paper topic during the second half of the semester. The paper should be between 5-6 pages in length. It will have several cumulative components, each of which will be graded separately, including a fieldwork component, a data gathering/research component, and an analysis component.

Academic Honesty:

Students are required to do their own research and work. All students are responsible for knowing the standards of academic honesty:

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis.php>. Plagiarism, using research without citations or using a created production without crediting a source, is forbidden. This applies to any non-credited websites (including Wikipedia) as well as written sources. All suspicions of plagiarism will be immediately sent to the Dean for consideration.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities may arrange for necessary accommodations for the course by contacting the office of Services for Students with Disabilities, within the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. This office can make arrangements in coordination with the instructor, given proper advance notice. For more information, as well as the relevant online forms, call SSD at 471-6259 or look them up at: <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>.

Classroom Etiquette:

Please respect the class, the instructor and your fellow students by avoiding disruptive behaviors including private conversations, napping, or attending to something outside the scope of the class. Absolutely no cell phones are allowed in class or lecture. All visible cell phones will be picked up during class and returned to students after class. Computers only allowed in lecture with prior permission.

Canvas and Electronic Reserves:

Students will find the CANVAS site under the unique number for which they are enrolled. All correspondence between you, your TA, and your fellow students in your section and your instructor will be conducted within this site. Please regularly check the announcements on the site, which is where your instructor will convey any changes to the schedule, due dates, or general announcements. The CANVAS site will be demonstrated during the first week of the class in your section.

- The CANVAS site will include the syllabus, any instructions or announcements to students, power points of the week's lectures (uploaded before each exam), exam reviews, prompts for your discussion blogs, assignment instructions and access to any additional readings or URLs (in addition to your textbooks) These will be found under FILES on your CANVAS page. All emails to the professor should be to sseriff@austin.utexas.edu

COURSE CALENDAR

Note: All assignments—readings and discussion blog—are to be completed BEFORE your discussion section for that week, unless otherwise specified. Films will be shown in lecture and do not require additional work outside of class.

Week One: Jan 23

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

No readings assigned for this week; Sections will NOT meet this week.

Week Two: Jan 28-30

Anthropology in a Global Age

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 1: 4-29	Ch. 1: 1-31. Jason De León; Edith Turner	None	No discussion blog due this week	Film Excerpt from Cannibal Tours (UGL Vidclass 3.138)

Week Three: Feb 4, 6

Culture

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 2: 30-59	Ch. 2: 42-69 Horace Miner; Lila Abu-Lughod; Lucas Bessire.	None	Discussion Blog #1: Due by 9:00PM the day before your	

			section. Check under Discussions on Canvas to find and respond to the prompt.	
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Week Four: Feb 11, 13
Fieldwork and Ethnography

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 3: 60-89	Ch. 3: 70-93 Barbara Myerhoff; Sienna Craig	None	Discussion Blog #2: Due by 9:00PM the day before your section. Mapping a Block	No additional assignment for the week

Week Five: Feb 18, 20
Kinship, Family and Marriage

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 9: 232-259	Ch. 9: 213-230 Melvyn Goldstien; Dana-Ain Davis	None	Discussion Blog #3: Mapping Kinship Relationships	No additional assignment for the week

Week Six: Feb 25, 27
Language

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 4: 90-117	Ch. 4: 94-112 Laura Bohannan	Lissa: Begin Ethnography Pgs. 15-144	Discussion Blog #4	Film Excerpt: American Tongues by L. Alvarez and A. Kolker (Fine Arts Lib VIDCASS 5999)

Week Seven: Mar 4, 6

Health and Illness

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 14: 394-423	Ch. 14: 348-361 Didier Fassin, Frederic Le Marcis and Todd Lethata; Plus: Nancy Schepler-Hughes (pgs. 32-41)	Lissa-Finish graphic ethnography 144-250	Discussion Blog #5	No additional assignment for the week

Week Eight: Mar 11, 13 Anthropology for the 21st Century

3/11 Midterm Review in Class

3/13 In Class Midterm: You will need a blue book, pen or pencil

NO SECTIONS

Week Nine: March 18-23 Spring Break

Week Ten: March 25, 27 Gender and Sexuality

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch.s 7 & 8: 176-231	Ch. 7: 167-189 Evelyn Blackwood; Emily Martin Ch. 8: 190-202 Bobby Benedicto	None	Discussion Blog #6	No additional assignment for the week

Week Eleven: Apr 1, 3 Class and Inequality

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 10: 260-	Ch. 10: 236-	MacLeod:, Ain't	Discussion	No additional

293	249 Philippe Bourgois.	No Makin' It, Part I: pgs 3-24 and 25-50	Blog #7	assignment for the week
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Week Twelve: April 8, 10
Race and Racism

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 5: 118-149	Ch. 5: 113-126 and 133- 144	MacLeod, Ain't No Makin' It, 113- 153 Part II: PGs 157- 270	Discussion Blog #8	Race Forward: The Center for Racial Justice Innovation. https://www.raceforward.org/research/reports/moving-race-conversation-forward
	Karen Brodkin Sacks; Yarimar Bonilla and Jonathan Rosa			Crenshaw, Kimberle: The Urgency of Intersectionality: Tedtalk: https://www.ted.com/talks/kimberle_crenshaw_the_urgency_of_intersectionality
				Hunter, Amy, Tedtalk, "Lucky Zipcodes" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gdX8uN6VbUE

Writing Assignment: Commodity Chain Analysis Paper. Due Date: In Section, Week of April 29th

Week Thirteen: April 15, 17
Ethnicity and Nationalism

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 6: 150-175	Ch.6: 145-166 Paul Farmer; Audra Simpson	MacLeod: Part Three, Pgs: TBD	#9: Seeing the Business of Ethnicity	Commodity Chain Assignment Part 1: Approval of commodity;

				visit to site of consumption or distribution
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Week Fourteen: April 22, 24
The Global Economy

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 11: 294-331	Ch. 11: 259-286. Elizabeth Dunn; Gilian Tett	None	Discussion Blog #10: The Global Economy: Tracking the Travels of a Chocolate Bar (substitute your Commodity for the chocolate bar).	Commodity Chain Analysis Paper: Paper Outline and Annotated Bibliography Due Film: Ilha das Flores http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3AyWcptRx0&feature=related http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&NR=1&v=5yI7STDk5nQ

Week Fifteen: April 29, May 1
Politics and Power

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 12: 332-361	Ch. 12: 286-315 Margaret Mead, Carolyn Nordstrom	No ethnography	No discussion blog due	Commodity Chain Analysis Final Paper Due in Sections

Week Sixteen: May 6, 8
The Anthropology of Art

TOOLKIT	READER	ETHNOGRAPHY	DISCUSSION BLOG	ASSIGNMENT
Ch. 15: 424-451	Ch. 15: Pgs. 373-386 Plus Seriff	No ethnography	No blog	No additional assignment for the week

	article, under FILES			
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May 6: 8:00-9:00AM Final Lecture on Anthropology of Art
May 8: 8:00-9:00AM Review for End of Year Test

Final Exam Period (TBD): End of Year Test. Includes Essay Question on “Ain’t No Makin It” ethnography.