

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
(ANTH 100)
Prof. Vincenza Kay
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ANTHROPOLOGY: The study of humankind, its similarities and diversities, across the world, and through time: an holistic approach.

TEXTS:

Cultural Anthropology, Crapo, R.H., Dushkin, 3rd edition.
A Street in Marrakech, Ferner, E.W., Waveland.
Yanomamo, Chagnon, N.

REQUIREMENTS:

Two exams: mid-term and final
One reaction paper, topic choice to be discussed in class. Paper length to be 5 double-spaced pages.
Short reading-analyses throughout semester based on texts.

NOTE: Mod-term, final, reaction paper, and reading-analyses/class assignment each count for 25% of the semester grade. (Class preparedness and participation is essential.) EXAMS BASED ON CLASS LECTURES AND READINGS. (Class attendance is central to a successful completion of this course.)

TOPICAL OUTLINE

- A. Introduction to Anthropology; major branches, major concepts, the holistic approach (theoretically and in practice).
- B. Human evolution, adaptation, variation in humankind: race, sex, physical characteristics.
- C. Subsistence Strategies and Cultural Development (FILM: The Feast)
 - 1. Hunters and Gatherers (the way they were, the way they are today)
 - 2. Horticulture
 - 3. Pastoralism
 - 4. Agriculture
 - a. Peasantry
 - b. Family farms
 - c. Agribusiness

- 5. Industrialism, urbanization
- D. Anthropological Linguistics (origin of language, language and culture)
 - 1. Communication: verbal, non-verbal
 - 2. Language vs. call-systems
- E. Personality in culture, socialization
- F. Kinship, Marriage, Families (The future of "the family")
- G. Mid-term exam
- H. Religion, Magic, rituals (the anthropological approach to religion
FILM: Trance and Dance in Bali
- I. Social Stratification: class, caste, racism, sexism, ageism
- J. Political Systems: Bands, tribes, chiefdoms, state governments, etc.
- K. Economic Anthropology: reciprocity, redistribution, market exchange
- L. Culture change: acculturation, assimilation, cultural survivals.
FILM: Sons of the Wind
- M. Reaction Paper due
- N. Applied Anthropology, an overview of Anthropologists at work
outside of the traditional academic setting
- O. Specific Contemporary Issues
 - 1. Government programs, congressional investigations,
"Pork Barrel" projects
 - 2. Drugs in our cities and towns
 - 3. Race relations on and off campus
 - 4. Environmental concerns: oil spills, deforestation, unchecked
urbanization, etc.
- P. Cultures in Conflict in Today's World
 - 1. Latin America
 - 2. Middle East
 - 3. Ethnicity after the U.S.S.R. break-up (Croats, Serbs, Muslims, etc)
- Q. Final Exam