

**Anthropology 110**  
**Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**  
**Winter 2021**



**Instructor: Sarah Walker**

**Office Location: Online only (I can meet via Skype or Zoom as well)**

**Course Start: 01/04/2021**

**Class Meeting Time: Online discussions (anytime)**

**Office Hours (online): Anytime per e-mail**

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**[Course Description](#)**

The course discusses the meaning of culture, its significance for human beings, its diverse forms, and degrees of elaboration among different groups of people, and its processes of growth and expansion.

We are going to explore the concepts of cultural relativism, cultural competency and how to understand cultures different than the one you grew up with as well as to give you insight into your own culture. Lastly, we will examine how culture deeply influences our lives from our health to our very thinking patterns and perceptions of the world.

**Welcome to Cultural Anthropology!**

## Course Objectives

At the end of the term students will be able to:

- Apply concepts and approaches of anthropology to everyday life and broader world issues.
- Use critical and analytical skills to understand cultural differences.
- Gain an appreciation for the enormous diversity and beauty of human cultural systems and lifeways.
- Gain more respect and tolerance for people of other cultures.
- Develop intellectual skills that will prove useful in interactions with people of other cultures in social settings, school, job interviews, business environments, and elsewhere.
- Understand the role cultural difference often plays in real-world situations and in the realms of policy, advocacy, and politics and even the business world.
- Develop/refine the ability to synthesize personal reality with the larger realities of the social world.
- Practice *doing anthropology* through participant-observation and other exercises.

## Optional TEXTBOOKS:

**You can get a copy of Haviland 15<sup>th</sup> edition Cultural Anthropology and it will help with studying, but it is not required. You also can get an older version as the text is basically the same. Mostly you will have readings located on the class page. (supplemental Readings discussed below)**

## Required SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS:

Each week you will be assigned readings and/or films **along with the lectures of each week**. You are required to read and participate in class discussion forum for full credit (see below). These readings will provide you with rich ethnographic examples of how different anthropologists engage with concepts and methods described in the text. Each discussion reading is listed under the date prior to which it should be read.

## Introductory Activities

You will have a 15-point introductory post and a short syllabus quiz. In the post, I want you to introduce yourself and then reply to four other students. Each post is worth 3 points apiece for a maximum of 15 points possible. The syllabus quiz is worth 10 points. **These activities are worth 25 points total.**

## Discussions

We will have 5 discussion forums on an article, chapter, or film which we have read or watched during the week. **In general, you are to post your initial post by Sunday at 11:59 pm at latest on week assigned and your responses by Sunday of the following week at 11:59 pm** except for the introductory posts. Each of these is worth 25 points with 15 for initial post and 5 for each response. Please look at the rubric I have posted to understand what a good post means. You will be graded on content, grammar and your “netiquette.”

**You have a total 125 points possible through these activities over the term, so please stay up to speed on these. They are worth more than your final and midterm combined!**

**You are allowed one late post.**

## Quizzes

Throughout the term you will have **four 25-point quizzes**. They are a mix of multiple choice, true/false, and occasional short essay answers.

*They are taken directly from the lectures and readings. Everything is fair game, so please stay up to speed. You have 100 points possible through these quizzes. These quizzes are meant for you to have a way to study for your midterm and final while still earning points 😊*

## Midterm: Test

The midterm will be on the quizzes you have taken to this point as well as will have a few questions from the material we have gone over the first half of class but most of the questions you will recognize as they are taken directly from your quizzes up to this point. This test is worth 50 points and will be made up of multiple choice, short essay, and true/false questions. If you do your quizzes and listen to the lectures and read your assignments, you will do awesome! You have 2 chances on this test.

## Final: Test

This is a simple final exam. Again, most of your questions will be familiar as they will be taken directly from your quizzes. There will be a few questions that are new, though from lectures, films, and articles as well. Remember, by taking your quizzes throughout the term, you are in essence studying for your exam! It will be made up of true/false, multiple-choice questions with a few essay questions. It is worth 50 points and you have 2 chances to take the test. It must be finished by Thursday at 11:59 of Final's week and will open week 9 of class to give you time to plan.

## Term Project

You have one term project that is worth 100 points. For this paper, you are to complete your own ethnography. It can be on anything cultural you find interesting and want to learn more about and hopefully have personal access to in general. Because of the pandemic, though, you can pick a culture you are interested in but have not had any contact with. This is ok as long as you can either provide me with indications that you are part of that culture or have access to that culture for your study via articles, film, etc.

So, examples include doing an ethnography about rituals in Football stadiums, college campus culture, what Hipster culture is like, the religious practices of Pacific Islanders or Born-Again Christians, or even a discussion of Indonesian Folklore or the underground Rap music scene. This is an open assignment. **However, you must clear your topic idea with me before you write it.**

More than anything, I want you guys to find a subject to study which you really find interesting. I want you to research the culture and discuss how participant observation was involved (due to pandemic this can be stuff like going online and reading about the culture or even talking to someone online from that culture). Then tell me what you learned from it. Is the culture different from your culture? Are there similarities? What behaviors within the culture have you noticed that seem to be part of our common human worldview? Again, you should utilize terminology and knowledge from the readings from the term. Have some fun with this and be safe.

This term project paper should be about two -three pages long, double spaced with 12-point font. You must have at least three references and please use AAA formatting for your citations. **This paper is worth 100 points total.**

## Disability

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations should be approved for services by providing appropriate and recent documentation to the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) Office. Here is the link to their page

<https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-services/accessibility/>

and their email

[cfar@linnbenton.edu](mailto:cfar@linnbenton.edu)

You can also email me, call me at 541-337-7945 or we can Zoom or Skype. Let me know what you need, and I will do my best to assist. No one should feel they are alone in this and if any of you feel you need extra help or guidance, just let me know! 😊

## Late work

I am willing to work with you guys in the case of an emergency, but I request documentation in general. However, I want you guys to do well and will always try to assist, so please do not be afraid to ask for extra time or a chance to make something up if you have missed something. In general, you each get one late discussion post and one late quiz. If you need more than that, please contact me ASAP either via email or text messaging.

## Academic Honesty

Students will be expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Student Academic Honesty Policy. All assignments must be original work, clear and error-free. All ideas/material that are borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated accordingly. Academic Honesty and Integrity: Students are responsible for honest completion and representation of their work. Your course catalog details the ethical standards and penalties for infractions. There will be zero tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor's attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty, in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary

action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole.

## Netiquette

Students in this class are expected to follow these basic principles:

- **Demonstrate respect for oneself and for others.**
- **Treat others with dignity and behave in a way which promotes a physically and psychologically safe, secure, and supportive climate.**
- **Allow all community members to engage as full and active participants where the free flow of ideas is encouraged and affirmed.**
- **Do not be afraid to have differing opinions than others in class or even disagreements on the discussion page. We don't all have to agree! Just remember to give everyone the same respect you expect and that each of us has our own set of experiences that help us to develop of perception of the world. Because all our experiences are different, our perceptions are too. Having different opinions helps humans to teach each other and learn from each other.**

## Points Overview

Introductory Activities (2)	25 points
Quizzes (4)	100 points
Discussion Forum (5)	125 points
Midterm	50 points
Final	50 points
Term Project	100 Points

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**TOTAL**

**450 points possible**

## Grading Scale

A	90%-100%
B	80%-89%
C	70%79%
D	60%-69%
F	0%-59%

### Extra Credit

I will allow one extra credit option of a short review of an anthropological article or film. It can be on a new discovery in the world of anthropology, a film on culture, etc. It should be a page long and double spaced. This is worth potentially 10 points.

Lastly, keep checking our main page. There you will find due dates, readings, films, and more. I am always available to assist, so please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need help. Here is to a great term!

**Class Calendar-** This is only a rough sketch to give you guys an idea of what we will be doing this term. I will add readings from Haviland, elsewhere, as well as short videos so stay up to date on my announcements, etc..

WEEK	TOPIC	REQUIRED READING and activities
Week 1	What is Anthropology?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read "The Nacirema"</li><li>• Read the S.Oring article</li><li>• Post in the Introduce yourself discussion</li><li>• Post your initial post in Discussion one "The Nacirema and Uretics" by Sunday at 11:59 pm</li><li>• Listen to weekly lecture</li><li>• Optional- Read pages 3-14 What is Anthropology in your Haviland Text</li></ul>
Week 2	Nature of Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Listen to Sarah Walker's lecture on The Nature of Culture</li><li>• Take Quiz One by Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm</li><li>• Read page 27 thru 38 in your Haviland text on culture</li><li>• Post your replies to discussion one by Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:59</li><li>• Watch How Culture Drives Behavior</li><li>• Watch the film," Nanook of the North" It will be in your first quiz.</li><li>• Take Quiz One</li></ul>
Week 3	The Characteristics of Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Listen to Sarah Walker's lecture on culture and its characteristics</li><li>• Read "Anthropologists in Medicine"</li><li>• Read Christmas in the Kalahari and then post in discussion 2 by Sunday at 11:59 pm</li><li>• Begin Reading the Coyote Myth Cycle. The chapters you need to read are on your class page. You can also buy</li></ul>

		<p>yourself a copy at Amazon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read articles as assigned – they are posted in the weekly module</li> </ul>
Week 4	The Origins of Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optional- Read Haviland pages 123- 131</li> <li>• Take quiz 2</li> <li>• Listen to Sarah Walker’s lecture on Language</li> <li>• Begin to think about what culture you want to study for your ethnography term project! Please check with professor to make sure it is ok-</li> <li>• Finish your replies to discussion 2 by Sunday 11:59 pm</li> <li>• <u>Read Articles as assigned indicated in the week module</u></li> </ul>
Week 5	Social Stratification- Cultural Appropriation versus Cultural Diffusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read article on Cultural Appropriation by Roger’s</li> <li>• Read article The Role of Social Stratification in the Aztec Empire</li> <li>• Post your initial discussion post by Sunday at 11:59 pm</li> <li>• Optional- Read grouping chapters in Haviland pages 253- 266</li> <li>• Listen to Sarah Walker’s lecture on Social Stratification</li> <li>• Read articles as assigned – they are posted in the weekly module</li> </ul>
Week 6	Social Stratification and Hierarchies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish your discussion replies by Sunday at 11:59 pm</li> <li>• Read the Origin of the Idea of Race</li> <li>• Read Social Order in The Spanish New World</li> <li>• Listen to Sarah Walker’s lecture on Groups and Social Stratification</li> <li>• <u>Midterm- Take by Sunday at 11:59 Pm</u></li> </ul>
Week 7	Human Subsistence Strategies and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch Guns, Germs and Steel (at least Part 1) and How African History Disproves Diamond’s Theory</li> <li>• Post your initial post in this week’s discussion by Sunday at 11:59 pm</li> <li>• Listen to Sarah Walker’s lecture on Human subsistence</li> <li>• Read articles as assigned – they are posted in the weekly module</li> </ul>
Week 8	Political Organization and Economic systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read “The Myth of the Barter Economy”</li> <li>• Listen to Sarah walker’s Lecture on Economic anthropology and political systems</li> <li>• Finish your discussion of Diamond’s theory by Sunday at 11:59 Pm with 2 replies to other students</li> <li>• Take Quiz 3 by Sunday at 11:59 You have unlimited</li> </ul>

		<p>tries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read articles as assigned – they are posted in the weekly module</li> </ul>
Week 9	Religion, Ritualism and Magic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch Margaret Mead’s famous ethnography of Balinese trance and ritual called “Trance and Dance in Bali”</li> <li>• Post your initial post in the discussion on this film by Sunday at 11:59 pm</li> <li>• Listen to Sarah Walker’s lecture on Religion, Ritualism and Magic</li> <li>• Read articles as assigned – they are posted in the weekly module</li> </ul>
Week 10	Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the Hijra Chapter at the link provided</li> <li>• Watch Pink Saris</li> <li>• Watch Range of Gender Identity</li> <li>• Listen to Sarah Walker’s lecture on Gender and Culture</li> <li>• Take your last quiz, Quiz 4 by Sunday at 11:59 pm. You have unlimited chances</li> <li>• Read articles as assigned – they are posted in the weekly module</li> </ul>
Week 11	<b>Finals!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Take your final exam</u></a></li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Turn in your Term paper of your Ethnography</u></a></li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>If you have late work, you MUST Finish all late work by the Friday of Finals at 11:59 PM</u></a></li> </ul>
Week 12		Have some fun! You are done! Congratulations!!!