People and Culture of the World Professor Dustin M. Wax

MW 9:30 am - 10:50 am, WC B-106

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Office Hours: W 11:00 am - 12:00 am, Hum. Beh. Office (D-169)

Course Description

This class is a study of human societies and their peculiar institutions as seen in the cultures of various peoples around the world. It offers a more thorough examination of human culture and nature, particularly in relation to specific culture areas and geographic areas, than does Anth 101, Intro to Anthropology. Specific areas to be dealt with include Australia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, Native North America, state-level societies around the world and in relation to under- and unevenly-developed areas of the modern world.

Course Objectives

By course's end, through the successful completion of assigned papers, projects, and examinations, the student should be able to:

- Define the major culture areas of the world.
 Discuss the defining criteria of the major culture areas.
- Discuss in detail specific cultures from each area.
 Discuss variation within these culture areas based on
 - Discuss variation within these culture areas based on information from specific cultures.
- 5. Compare cultures on the same level of organization from the different culture areas.
- Discuss the impacts, pro and con, of western civilization on "underdeveloped" cultures in the various culture areas.

Required Texts

John Bodley, *Cultural Anthropology: Tribes, States, and the Global System*, 4th ed.

William Worsley, "The White Man Will Eat You"

Elizabeth Fernea, Guests of the Sheik

Assignments

Tests (due Feb. 21, Apr. 2, and May 7)

Three take-home tests, each consisting of essay and/or short answer questions. Tests will be handed out one week prior to its due date. You may use any source from the class or elsewhere in your answers, provided you adequately reference your sources. (3 x 20 pts)

Research Paper (due Apr. 16)

A 7 - 10 page research paper on a culture not directly covered in this course, subject to my approval. (25 pts)

Research Paper topic (due Feb. 5)

A short (1 - 2 paragraph) description of your research paper topic, including questions you hope to answer about the subject. (5 pts)

Research Paper bibliography (due Feb. 26)

A list of 5 sources, of which only 2 may be Internet-based sources. (5 pts)

Research Paper annotation (due Mar. 26)

Select one of your references and write a short (1 - 2 paragraph) summary of the source and what it's relevance is to your project. (5 pts)

Grading Scale

A 90 - 100 pts B 80 - 89 pts C 70 - 79 pts D 60 - 69 F Below 60

Offensive Material

Some of the things said or shown in this class may and should offend you. Films, if shown, as well as written material may contain violence, nudity, and/or coarse language. I or your fellow students may say things that shock or disturb you. I expect students to exercise their own discretion and judgment when faced with such potentially offensive material. I also expect students to deal with their classmates with respect and decorum, even when a classmate has said or done something you find offensive (although this is not a license to be offensive, and abusive behaviour or harassment will not be tolerated at any time). If the material covered in this class brings into question matters relating to your own faith, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, race, or any other feature of your identity, please take the time to examine your reactions and their bases and reflect on the nature of your discomfort.

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Class Introduction

Week 2 (Jan. 22 - 24)

Bodley, Chapter 1, "Understanding Culture"

Week 3 (Jan 29 - 31)

Bodley, Chapter 2, "Australian Aborigines" "The White Man Will Eat You", Chapter 1 - 4

Week 4 (Feb. 5-7)

Bodley, Chapter 4, "African Cattle Peoples"
"The White Man Will Eat You", Chapter 4 - 8
• Research Paper topic due (Feb. 5)

entative Class Outline

Week 5 (Feb. 12 - 14)

Bodley, Chapter 5, "The Quality of Tribal Life" "The White Man Will Eat You", Chapter 9 - 12

Test #1 handed out (Feb. 12)

Week 6 (Feb. 21)

Bodley, Chapter 6, "Pacific Islanders"

• Test #1 due (Feb. 21)

Week 7 (Feb. 26 - 28)

"The White Man Will Eat You", Finish

Research Paper bibliography due (Feb. 26)

Week 8 (Mar. 5-8)

Bodley, Chapter 3, "Native Amazonians" Guests of the Sheikh, Chapter 1 - 3

• Spring Break (Mar. 12 - 18) -- No Class

Week 9 (Mar. 19 - 21)

Bodley, Chapter 9, "Hinduism and Islam in S. Asia" Guests of the Sheikh, Chapter 4 - 6

Week 10 (Mar. 26 - 28)

Bodley, Chapter 10, "The Breakdown of States" Guests of the Sheikh, Chapter 7 - 10

- Test #2 handed out (Mar. 26)
- Research Paper annotation due (Mar. 26)

Week 11 (Apr. 2 - 4)

Guests of the Sheikh. Finish

Test #2 Due (Apr. 2)

Week 12 (Apr. 9 - 11)

Bodley, Chapter 11, "Europe and the Commercial World" Film: Life and Debt

Week 13 (Apr. 16 - 18)

Bodley, Chapter 12, "Capitalism in the US"

Research Paper Due (Apr. 16)

Week 14 (Apr. 23 - 25)

Bodley, Chapter 13, "The Impoverished World" Film: Global Slavery

Week 15 (Apr. 30 - May 2)

Bodley, Chapter 14, "Indigenous Peoples"

Test #3 handed out

Week 16 (May 7)

Test #3 Due

Classroom Policies

Attendance

Attendance is expected and will be counted as part of your grade. Because of the importance of classroom discussion and the difficulty of some of the material, you should make an effort to be in class and take part in classroom discussion. All material covered in the class, whether in the books or in lecture, is considered "fair game" for exams. However, as college students and adults you have the right to determine what and how much you want to gain from your classes. You will have to decide if the missed lecture and discussion, and the point or half-point that skipping class will cost you, are a fair trade. If you know that you will be absent, arriving late, or coming early, for whatever reason, please let me know ahead of time, for courtesy's sake and so we can make arrangements regarding missed material and/or assignments.

Late Assignments

Given the pace of this class, late assignments cannot and will not be accepted except in direst emergency. If you know you will be unable to meet one of the due dates for a good reason (surgical recovery is a good reason, taking a vacation is not), talk to me as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements to hand the assignment in early. The one exception is with presentations – some students might feel more comfortable giving their presentation and then writing it up, while others will feel more comfortable presenting a finished product. These I will take on the day of the presentation or up to a week later.

In-Class Behaviour

I take it as a given that students will behave appropriately in the classroom. Disruptive behaviour, including but not restricted to abusive argumentation (with me or your fellow students), creating a disturbance in class, repeated tardiness or early departure, practical jokes, excessive use of cell phones or pagers, or any other disturbance will be in conjunction with CCSN regulations. If you know that there is a possibility of creating a disturbance for a good reason (for instance, leaving a cell phone on to receive updates on a sick relative), please inform me before class begins.

<u>Academic Honesty</u>

The work you hand in for any assignment must be your own. Any ideas or language used in any assignment that are not your own — including paraphrased passages as well as direct quotes — must be attributed to the original author with a proper citation. Any work that is not properly cited and is appropriated as your own work — including work copied from another student, papers downloaded from the Internet, passages copied or paraphrased from books or articles without citation, and so on — is plagiarism and if discovered will result in a grade of "0" for the assignment, and repeated instances may result in an "F" in the class and potentially expulsion. Cheating on an exam in any way will also result in a grade of "0" for the exam. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please come see me.

References

References in your assignments should be in the American Anthropologist style. Follow a quote or paraphrase with a parenthetical citation, including the author's last name and year of publication if you cite more than one work by that author in your paper, followed by the page number on which the referenced passage appears, separated by a colon (e.g. Wax 2003: 144). After the paper, include a "Work Cited" page. Please see the "AA Format" handout for instructions on formatting references.

Withdrawal

If you wish to drop the class for any reason, you must officially withdraw from the class or you will receive an "F" on your transcript. I will not give administrative withdrawals at the end of the semester unless there are compelling and extraordinary circumstances (e.g. you were unexpectedly dead for 3 weeks) to do so. The responsibility for withdrawing correctly is the student's, not the professor's.

Students with Disabilities

I will make any reasonable effort to make sure my classroom is accessible and comfortable for students with disabilities — please see me with any problems or suggestions. If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, make sure you contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) for coordination of any necessary academic accommodations. The DRC is located in the Student Services area of each campus.

Students who would like to perform community service or possibly earn some extra cash can stop by the DRC and fill out an interest card. The DRC hires students as note-takers, proctors, scribes, and research assistants as needed.

Grading Standards

Assignments will be graded on a combination of two factors: your understanding of the material covered in class and your ability to express that understanding clearly. Unless it becomes an impediment to understanding what you are trying to say, a spelling or grammar error here and there will not negatively affect your grade (but, please do spellcheck and proof-read your work before handing it in). Excessive and distracting errors, however, cannot help but get in the way of your ideas, and most likely will negatively affect your grade. I strongly urge all students to at least pay a visit to the writing center in Building "C" to see what resources are available to make you a better writer.

Assignment Format

All assignments except work done in class should be typed and clearly printed on normal 8 1/2" X 11" paper. Essays should be double-spaced in 12-point type in some standard font (Times, Arial, Garamond, Helvetica, etc.--nothing ornate or oversized, in other words), and should have 1" margins all around. All assignments must be typed.