

ANTH-1140 INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY 3 CREDITS

SYLLABUS

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course that provides an overview of cultural anthropology as a subfield within the broader discipline of anthropology and as a research approach within the social sciences more generally. The course presents core concepts and methods of cultural anthropology that are used to understand the ways in which human beings organize and experience their lives through distinctive cultural practices. More specifically, this course explores social and cultural differences and similarities around the world through a variety of topics such as: language and communication, economics, ways of making a living, marriage and family, kinship and descent, race, ethnicity, political organization, supernatural beliefs, sex and gender, and globalization. This course ultimately aims to present a broad range of perspectives and practices of various cultural groups from across the globe.

Formerly ANTH-210

Prerequisites: ENGL-1110 and RDNG-099 or appropriate Accuplacer English and Reading scores.

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring

COMMON STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of San Juan College programs and degrees, the student will demonstrate competency in...

BROAD AND SPECIALIZED LEARNING

Students will actively and independently acquire, apply, and adapt skills and knowledge with an awareness of global contexts.

CRITICAL THINKING

Students will think analytically and creatively to explore ideas, make connections, draw conclusions and solve problems.

CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Students will act purposefully, reflectively, and ethically in diverse and complex environments.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Students will exchange ideas and information with clarity in multiple contexts.

INFORMATION LITERACY

Students will be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use it effectively.

INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGIES

Students will demonstrate fluency in the application and use of technologies in multiple contexts.

Student work from this class may be randomly selected and used anonymously for assessment of course, program, and/or institutional learning outcomes. For more information, please refer to the Dean of the appropriate School.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to...

Students will accomplish at least 4 of the Common Student Learning Outcomes set forth by San Juan College. The CSLOs covered in this class include Broad and Specialized Learning, Critical Thinking, Effective Communication, and Cultural and Civic Engagement.

- 1) **BROAD AND SPECIALIZED LEARNING:** Students will actively and independently acquire, apply, and adapt skills and knowledge with an awareness of global contexts.
 - a. Through course readings and lectures, students will acquire basic knowledge of the concepts and terminology in cultural anthropology.
 - b. Students will gain an understanding of cultural relativism and learn how cultures vary as well as how they are similar.
 - c. Students will also read 2 complete ethnographies and excerpts of 2 other ethnographies providing detailed knowledge of specific cultures.

- 2) **CRITICAL THINKING:** Students will think analytically and creatively to explore ideas, make connections, draw conclusions and solve problems.
 - a. Through reflective thought, class projects, and class discussions, students will use the basic concepts of cultural anthropology and apply them in different contexts.
 - b. Many areas of anthropology provide no right and wrong answers, and students will learn to evaluate concepts and draw conclusions based on their own reasoning.
 - c. Students will gain a deeper understanding of their own culture and be able to make connections between what they know and what other cultures experience.

- 3) **EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION:** Students will exchange ideas and information with clarity in multiple contexts.
 - a. Students will research a topic of their choosing for their final paper.
 - b. Students will explore different cultures and present their findings to the class using visual aids.
 - c. Students will also participate in class discussions that require use of class concepts and their own ideas.

- 4) **CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:** Students will act purposefully, reflectively, and ethically in diverse and complex environments.
 - a. Students will read two ethnographies about vastly different cultures and are expected to be reflective on the experience.
 - b. Students will be asked to consider the ethics involved when working with human groups.
 - c. Students will learn about the American Anthropological Association code of ethics.