



ANTH 1140 G-Intro to Cultural Anthropology Section Name Section Credit Hours Credits Syllabus

Course Information

Meeting times and location: section meeting_times section location

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.

Prerequisites: ENGL-1110(ENGL-111) and RDNG-099

Terms offered: Fall and Spring

Section-specific Course Description:

Course Level Objectives

One of the most interesting subfields in anthropology is cultural anthropology. Cultural anthropology studies living human populations and their ways of life. The study of different cultures provides students a perspective into the human experience and illustrates the great cultural variety exhibited by humans. Cultural anthropology also clearly shows how much humans share no matter how different we seem. We will explore cultural anthropological methodology and the concept of Culture. We will also learn about several cultures and how those cultures compare with each other. The course will cover concepts such as language, subsistence strategies, settlement patterns, kinship, relationships between women and men, religion, and art. We will also discuss current debates surrounding race

and gender. Ultimately, cultural anthropology can open our eyes to other cultures, while at the same time uniting all humans. One of the central tenets of anthropology is cultural relativism, which teaches value and respect for all cultures and ways of life. This concept becomes more and more important in the modern world with globalization and a constant interaction of different peoples around the world.

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.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

This course meets the requirements set forth by the state of New Mexico for a general education course that is transferable to any public institution of higher education in New Mexico. Each general education course addresses three essential skills as outlined in the table below.

General Education Content Area	Essential Skills Associated with the Content Area
Communication	Communication, Critical Thinking, Information & Digital Literacy
Creative and Fine Arts	Communication, Critical Thinking, Personal & Social Responsibility
Humanities	Critical Thinking, Information & Digital Literacy, Personal & Social Responsibility
Mathematics	Communication, Critical Thinking, Quantitative Reasoning
Science	Critical Thinking, Personal & Social Responsibility, Quantitative Reasoning
Social & Behavioral Sciences	Communication, Critical Thinking, Personal & Social Responsibility

For further information on the Essential Skills, visit the [General Education Essential Skills](#) page.

Required Technology and Software

- Canvas
- Chrome, Safari, or Firefox

Canvas Participation and Expectations

Use of Canvas is required.

Key Dates to Remember

[Full Academic Calendar](#)

Course Schedule

See Introduction module in Canvas.

Program Handbook

N/A

Technical Support

Technical support is available through the San Juan College Help Desk 24/7/365. The help desk can be reached at 505-566-3266 or by creating a ticket at [San Juan College Help Desk](#).

For password reset and and Canvas support, visit the [Student Technology Guide](#) website.

Accessibility/Privacy Policies for all Technology Tools Used

[Accessibility/Privacy Policies for all Technology Tools Used](#)

Student Support

At San Juan College, we are committed to supporting your academic success and overall well-being. We recognize that college life can be challenging and stressful, impacting both learning and personal health. We are here to help you succeed.

Academic Support and Resources

We provide a range of academic support services to help you stay on track on your educational journey. Free resources include tutoring, computer loans, life skills workshops, and so much more. Visit the [Academic Support and Resources](#) webpage to learn more about support and resources

available through Academic Advising, the Tutoring Center, the Student Resource Center (formerly Student Achievement Center) and the Testing Center.

Student Support and Resources

If you or someone you know could benefit from counseling, accessibility services, career exploration, veteran transitional assistance, or any of our other support services, visit the [Student Support and Resources](#) webpage where you'll find detailed information about various resources available to you as an SJC student.

We encourage you to take advantage of these free resources to enhance your college experience and ensure your success.

College Policies and Resources for Current Students

The [Student Handbook](#) provides information on student support, student organizations, and student conduct policies at San Juan College.

The San Juan College catalog outlines the [Academic Policies](#) students need to know.

Healthy and Safe Practices for Being on Campus

We want a healthy and safe campus for students, faculty, staff, and guests.

Contagious diseases and your responsibility:

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, fever, flu or even the common cold, you should stay home. Do not come to campus if you are feeling sick. Contact your instructor about missing class (and review your instructor's policies on missed or late work). Being sick does not necessarily excuse you from completing your work on time.

Safety on campus and your responsibility:

If you are on campus and experience or witness an emergency, call 9-1-1 first and then the Department of Public Safety at 505-566-3333 (or just 3333 if calling from a campus phone).

When you are on campus, be aware of your surroundings. If you need an escort to your vehicle, call 505-566-4444 (DPS non-emergency line) or 505-215-3091 (officer on duty line).

The College will send information for campus emergencies through SJC AlertAware, email and the webpage. Stay informed and stay safe.

Inclement Weather Information

Students will receive notification of class delays and cancellations due to inclement weather via the SJC AlertAware and SJC student email. Face-to-face classes will not meet in person; however, students are advised to check with instructors about alternative meeting options, as some may choose to meet via zoom. Hybrid classes will meet as scheduled via zoom. For questions regarding your class delay or cancelation, please contact your instructor.

Online Course Fee

Online Courses - San Juan College requires all online courses to include some form of assessment to demonstrate the mastery of course objectives. This could include exams, capstone projects, e-portfolios, presentations, final papers or other appropriate assessments. The use of a proctoring platform, plagiarism detection software or other method to ensure that assessments are completed by the enrolled student is required.

A course fee of \$5.00 is assessed for all online courses at San Juan College to cover the cost of the above services. Students who are required to take a proctored exam and choose to use a physical testing center outside the SJC Testing Center or SJC Disability Services will be responsible for the cost of using that center.