



## **ANTH-111-NAVAJO CULTURE 3 CREDITS** **SYLLABUS**

### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Prerequisites: ENGL 095

Semester Fall

Offered:

Introduces the basic values of Dine society, past and present, including the clan system, the philosophy of duality, rites and passages, and the Navajo creation story. Offered in collaboration with Dine College (NIS 111).

### ***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...

1. Demonstrate knowledge of Dine cosmology and world order and their relationship to the Dine way of life.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of Dine History using linguistic, oral narratives, and Athapaskan migration theories based on evidence from physical anthropology and archaeology.
3. Demonstrate analytical research skills in ethnography and folklore as they relate to Dine culture.



4. Develop an understanding of the need for protection and maintenance of natural resources, the environment, and traditional Dine sacred places.
5. Draw upon the values derived from Dine culture to function successfully as citizen of the Dine Community and of the world at large.

**SPECIFIC EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of Dine cosmology and world order and their relationship to the Dine way of life.
  - a) Discuss the concept of male-female duality.
  - b) Describe how all creations within the earth and sky are recognized according to the duality principle.
  - c) Explain the holistic nature of Dine philosophy; that is, discuss how Nits1h1kees, Nahat'1, lin1, and Sihasin are processes found in all aspects of nature.
  - d) Trace the history and cultural development of the Dine using the chronological order of the narratives that developed into ceremonies.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of Dine history using linguistics, oral narratives, and Athapaskan migration theories based on evidence from physical anthropology and archaeology.
  - a) Describe the meanings behind traditional ceremonies and the role these ceremonies play in modern society.
  - b) Describe the changes that have occurred through time in Dine ceremonies as a result of contact with other cultures.
  - c) Describe cultural differences and similarities between Athapaskan groups: Northern, Pacific, and Southern.
  - d) Describe conflicts and changes which have taken place in Dine society as a result of contact with Plain, Puebloan, and European cultures.
3. Demonstrate analytical research skills in ethnography and folklore as they relate to Din4 culture.
  - a) Conduct research on topic(s) relevant to objectives in the course
  - b) Submit academic quality research papers that are thoughtful and thorough in nature.
4. Develop an understanding of the need for protection and maintenance of natural resources, the environment, and traditional Dine sacred places.
  - a) Discuss the cultural meaning of Dine terms such as Mother Earth, Father Sky, Mountain Woman, Water Woman, Dawn Boy, and so on.
  - b) Explain how these terms are interconnected to human life, life processes, and the natural world.
  - c) Discuss what is meant by a sacred place.
  - d) Explain why sacred places should be reserved and protected.



5. Draw upon the values derived from Dine culture to function successfully as citizens of the Dine community and of the world at large.

- a) Describe the Dine clan system and explain how it is used as a means of social control within Dine society.
- b) Identify who they are and where they come from in terms of the Dine clan system.
- c) Identify their relationship to others within the Dine community and the world at large.