

## SYLLABUS

**COURSE # AND TITLE:** ANTH 210, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology  
**# OF CREDITS:** 3

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** The basic concepts of cultural anthropology are discussed using the social, economic, political, family, and/or religious systems of diverse cultures from around the world to illustrate the range of cultural variation. Emphasis is placed on culture as an adaptive system. Active learning projects are incorporated into the course requirements.

Semester Offered: Fall and Spring

Prerequisites: APRD 80+ or RDNG 113; APEN 84+ or ENGL 111

### *Common Student Learning Outcomes*

*Upon successful completion of San Juan College programs and degrees, the student will....*

<i>Learn</i>	<i>Students will actively and independently acquire, apply and adapt skills and knowledge to develop expertise and a broader understanding of the world as lifelong learners.</i>
<i>Think</i>	<i>Students will think analytically and creatively to explore ideas, make connections, draw conclusions, and solve problems.</i>
<i>Communicate</i>	<i>Students will exchange ideas and information with clarity and originality in multiple contexts.</i>
<i>Integrate</i>	<i>Students will demonstrate proficiency in the use of technologies in the broadest sense related to their field of study.</i>
<i>Act</i>	<i>Students will act purposefully, reflectively, and respectfully in diverse and complex environments.</i>

### **GENERAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

1. Understand the basic vocabulary used by anthropologists to describe and discuss cultures
2. Understand the range of variation within human groups around the world, appreciate the value of such diversity, understand that many of these cultures are endangered, and recognize the need to preserve and protect cultures so that the unique characteristics and cultural knowledge of such peoples is not lost to humanity
3. Understand how anthropology is different from the work of other disciplines that study human groups and apply the holistic approach of anthropology to academic research
4. Recognize how the field of anthropology has changed over time and continues to change with each new generation of anthropologists
5. Recognize how knowledge and skills gained from hands-on experience with a variety of ethnographic field methods could be used effectively in fields other than anthropology

### **SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

1. Understand the basic vocabulary used by anthropologists to describe and discuss cultures
  - a. Use anthropological terminology accurately and appropriately in discussions, examinations, and written work
2. Understand the range of variation within human groups around the world, appreciate the value of

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such diversity, understand that many of these cultures are endangered, and recognize the need to preserve and protect cultures so that the unique characteristics and cultural knowledge of such peoples is not lost to humanity

- a. Explain the differences between modes of subsistence (e.g., foraging/hunter-gatherer; pastoral, horticultural, intensive agriculture, industrialized) and how these are related to the kind of environments in which these forms of subsistence activity are typically observed.
  - b. Identify at least four forms of political organization among cultures of the world (e.g., band, tribe, chiefdom, nation-state), describe the key characteristics of each, and discuss how forms of government relate to modes of subsistence and to the environments in which these are typically observed.
  - c. Describe at least one culture in depth, either as part of an oral discussion or presentation or in written formats, such as a research paper.
3. Understand how anthropology is different from the work of other disciplines that study human groups
- a. Conduct small scale anthropological fieldwork projects using anthropological methods (such as participant-observation), maintain field notes and journals related to the field activities, and produce ethnographic reports that demonstrate
    - i. understanding of appropriate fieldwork methodology
    - ii. ability to describe the culture from the insider's (or emic) point of view
    - iii. appropriate use of anthropological terminology and concepts
    - iv. use of an holistic approach in fieldwork and writings
  - b. Apply the holistic approach of anthropology to academic research on a culture or topic or issue
4. Recognize how the field of anthropology has changed over time and continues to change with each new generation of anthropologists
- a. Identify one or more scholars who have contributed ideas, knowledge and new field and analysis techniques to the field of anthropology
  - b. Appropriately use the research of earlier anthropologists as a basis for one's own work and identify (e.g., through identification and use of appropriate sources) the contributions and limitations of that work in the context of current approaches to the discipline (e.g., through analysis and critique of the work being cited).
5. Recognize how knowledge and skills gained from hands-on experience with a variety of ethnographic field methods could be used effectively in fields other than anthropology
- a. Develop a proposal for (and, if possible, carry out) a service learning project that would meet an identified need of a culturally-defined group or subgroup in the local area served by the college.

Syllabus developed by Dr. Karen Benally Date: August 2004

Syllabus reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A current syllabus must be on file in the dean's office for every course being taught during a given semester.