San José State University Department of Anthropology
ANTH 11 - Cultural Anthropology
Section 02 (41163), Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information:

Instructor(s):	Prof. Danae G. Khorasani
Office Location:	Online
Email:	danae.khorasani@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Online Mondays from 1:00-2:45pm, and/or by appointment via Zoom http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/zoom/
Class Days/Time:	Asynchronous
Classroom:	Online: http://sjsu.instructure.com
Prerequisites:	None
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	Area D1: Human Behavior
Scheduled Final Exam:	Thursday, December 10th available from 9:00am to 11:59pm PT

Canvas and MYSJSU Messaging:
Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on **Canvas Learning Management System** course website at: http://sjsu.instructure.com. As a student, you are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas (or other communication system as indicated by the professor) to learn of any updates.

Course Description:
Welcome to ANTH 11! This course is designed to familiarize students with a basic understanding of anthropology from a cultural prospective in order to understand how and why people practice their daily lives in unique and yet familiar ways. Applying an anthropological perspective to topics such as human diversity, language, social identity, gender, economic systems, kinship, stereotypes, politics, power, violence, religion and artistic expression help to create a fully-formed, cross-cultural understanding of what means to be human. Students will leave this course with a better understanding of anthropology as a discipline and with a greater awareness of the cultural and social diversity that exists in the world.

SJSU Course Catalog Description:
Basic concepts, theories and methods used in the comparative study of socio-cultural systems. Includes cultural ecology and change; political, economic and kinship systems; language, art and religion; cultural perspectives on contemporary issues.

Course Format:
This is a technology intensive, fully online asynchronous course. Internet connectivity and access to a laptop or computer are required in order to participate in the classroom activities and/or submit assignments. All assignments must be uploaded to Canvas in .doc or .docx formats to be graded due to the limitations of the grading software in Canvas. Please save or export documents created in other formats to MS Word before submitting the assignment. Please be aware that the mobile Canvas App does not include the full functionality of Canvas as seen on a computer and you will not be able to fully participate

in the class if using the app only. *See University Policy F13-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf for more details.*

ANTH 11 Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives:
Instructor specific student learning goals for this course are as follows:
- Form a basic understanding of anthropology.
- Be introduced to the culture concept and define cultural approaches to understanding human behavior.
- Evaluate the nature of cross-cultural differences both critically and reflectively.
- Improve writing skills, grammar and critical evaluation.
- Apply anthropology principles to enhance an understanding of other academic topics.
- Apply anthropological thinking to careers such as medicine, business, urban planning and development initiatives, as well as other fields.

GE/SJSU Studies Learning Objectives:
As an Area D1 (Human Behavior) course, the content and activities are designed to enable you to achieve the following learning outcomes upon successfully completing this course:
- GELO 1. Students will be able to place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.
- GELO 2. Students will identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them.
- GELO3. Students will evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.

SJSU Anthropology Department Objectives:
The goals of the anthropology department include helping students to:
- PLO1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution.
- PLO2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity.
- PLO3. Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline.
- PLO4. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history
- PLO5. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomenon shaping global society.
- PLO6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
  Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary
- PLO7. society,
  and the ability to apply it to social issues.
- PLO8. Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and the ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline.
- PLO9. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.

Required Texts/Readings:
In an effort to reduce the financial strain on students, this course will be using a free, open-sourced anthropology textbook produced by the American Anthropological Association.

Textbook: Brown, N., McIlwraith, T., & de González, L. T. 2019. *Perspectives: An Open Introduction To Cultural Anthropology*. 2nd Edition. American Anthropological Association. ISBN-10: 1931303673

This text is available online for FREE download as a .pdf or e-Book here:
http://perspectives.americananthro.org

Purchase a printed copy here: https://www.amazon.com/Perspectives-Open-Invitation-Cultural-Anthropology/dp/193130355X

Additional Readings:
Additional readings are available on Canvas as free .pdf downloads. Readings from the textbook and supplementary materials will be assigned on a weekly basis and should be completed before the class session for which they are assigned. When reading, make sure to highlight important sections, take notes and write down your questions to share with the class.

Library Liaison:
The Anthropology Library Liaison is Silke Higgins, Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu. Or visit the SJSU library website here: https://libguides.sjsu.edu/anthropology.

Course Requirements and Assignments:
The assignments for this course are designed to meet learning objectives and familiarize students with the culture concept and cultural approaches to understanding human behavior in anthropology. Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities. Your final grade will be determined by your performance on two exams (Midterm and Final), an ethnographic interview, bi-weekly quizzes and discussion posts, and an alternative final project. All of the assignments together **total to 300 points.**

Overview of Course Assignments and Total Points:
Eight (8) Quizzes (bi-weekly, every other week), 8 x 6 = 48 points
Eight (8) Discussion Posts & Comment (bi-weekly, every other week), 8 x 12 = 96 points
One (1) Ethnographic Interview, 20 points
One (1) Alternative Final Project, 40 points
Two (2) Exams - Midterm and Final:
  Midterm: Online on 10/09/20 (Week 8) available between 9:00am to 11:59pm PT, 40 points
  Final Exam: Online on 12/10/20 (Week 17) available between 9:00am to 11:59pm PT, 56 points
Total: 300 points

1. Bi-Weekly Quizzes: The eight (8) bi-weekly quizzes (every other week, alternating weeks) will be available online through Canvas and based on the assigned lectures & readings. The quizzes are brief and will be **no more than 5 questions each quiz**. A single quiz question is worth between 1 to 2 points, depending on difficulty. These quizzes are designed to check that you've actually reviewed the materials and will be available on Canvas for the entire assigned week. The only exception is that there will be no quizzes during Thanksgiving holiday break, or during the mid-term and final exam weeks. The quizzes are graded and **worth 6 points each** and 48 points total.
- Quizzes are **due by 11:59pm PT on the Friday of the week it is assigned**.

2. Bi-Weekly Discussion Posts & Thoughtful Comment: Every other week students are expected to participate and post in a discussion forum online via the Canvas course discussion boards. Your post should be **between 150-200 words** in response to a prompt based on the readings, lecture topic and

additional video or audio media. Discussion post questions, rubric and requirements can be found in course modules. Please do not exceed 300 words per post.

- These discussion posts should be **well-crafted, miniature essays that directly responds to the prompt**. To receive full credit for your discussion, the posts must meet the minimum word requirements, demonstrate critical evaluation of the topic and be relevant to the prompt questions. There will also be a final "reflection" discussion post at the end of the course.
- As part of this assignment, you are also expected to post **at least one (1) thoughtful response** (no word count) to discussion posts made by another classmate during the week that discussion posts are due. Your response is part of the discussion post grade. Students are encouraged to post as many times as they would like, but additional responses beyond the first post will not count towards your grade.
- This assignment is graded and **worth 12 points each** and 96 points total.
- **Discussion posts** should be posted by **11:59pm PT on the Thursday of the week it is due** unless otherwise stated.
  - ◊ **Responses to posts** should be made the following day, by **11:59pm PT on the Friday of the week it is due**.

3. Ethnographic Interview: For this assignment, you will practice ethnographic interviewing techniques with a partner or family member online/over the phone (please maintain social distancing!) with a set format. Your notes from the interview should be typed, spell-checked, and submitted in an essay format. The interview should **not exceed 30-40 mins** and your typed notes and observations from the interview should be between **2-3 pages double-spaced in 12-point font or approximately 500 words**. Additional details and rubric for this assignment can be found in course modules. This assignment is graded and worth **20 points total**.

4. Alternative Final Project: For this final assignment, students are given the option to choose one of three (3) different "alternative" final projects. Additional details and rubric for this assignment can be found in course modules. This assignment is graded and **worth 40 points**.
The options are as follows (remember, **only pick one!**):

> **Option 1. Comic Strip Series** - Students will write a fictional story creating a conflict and resolution, applying sequential writing, using action verbs, descriptive language, in a comic book format with original artwork and/or technology related to a topic in cultural anthropology. Students may choose the dimensions of the size of their pictures, but in general each page should have **at least** four to six panels with related captions. The comic book or series should be approximately **2 pages** of educational and entertaining material, while applying key terms and themes learned during coursework. For this assignment, you must also include a descriptive paragraph with citations explaining the anthropological merit and principles used in your comic.
> - **Example:** https://www.imagineforest.com/blog/how-to-create-a-comic-strip/

> **Option 2. Podcast** - Students create a podcast episode based on a topic in cultural anthropology. This podcast should be a short (about 5 mins) exploration of a topic in anthropology that examines the chosen theme through the use of narrative, storytelling and auditory effects. The podcast should address the topic from an educational standpoint, but also detail the possible conversations or controversy around it while applying key terms learned during coursework.
> - **Example:** https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/19/learning/lesson-plans/project-audio-teaching-students-how-to-produce-their-own-podcasts.html
> - **Example:** https://www.scienceprofonline.com/instructors-corner/science-homework-assignments-based-on-radiolab-npr-show-podcast.html

Option 3. Infographic Poster Series - Students create **1-2 digital infographic** or dioramic representations (depending on level of detail and complexity) of a topic in cultural anthropology. Students are expected to create a visual representation of their research topic that is clever, engaging, presents a claim and is educational for the audience while communicating a topic important to anthropology. This may be direct, for example, a domain in which anthropology is applied or practiced, or indirect, for example as a PSA poster that utilizes anthropological principles and key terms to communicate an important idea to the public (like wearing a mask during a pandemic?). A good infographic is easy to grasp visually and doesn't overwhelm the reader with text and graphics. For this assignment, you must also include a descriptive paragraph with citations explaining the anthropological merit and principles used in your infographic.

- **Example:** https://mkorostoff.github.io/1-pixel-wealth/

5. Final Examination - Midterm and Final:

The Midterm and Final exams will utilize multiple choice, short answer and true/false questions to assess your ability to meet Area D1 Learning Objectives and your mastery of key topics in cultural anthropology. The exams will be based on the readings, materials and lectures from the course. Both exams will be administered online through Canvas.

- The Midterm is graded and worth 40 points.
- The Final is graded and worth 56 points.
- *See University Policy S06-4 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S06-4.pdf) states that "There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless the course is on the official List of Courses in which a final is optional."*

Determination of Grades:

As stated earlier, this course is graded out of 300 points, which will be converted to a traditional grading scale with associated letter grades (e.g. roughly 70-72 = C-, 73-76 = C, and 77-79 = C+), please see table below and *University Grading System Policy F18-5 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F18-5.pdf)*.

A	B	C	D	F
97-100% = A plus 93-96% = A 90-92% = A minus	87-89% = B plus 83-86% = B 80-82% = B minus	77-79% = C plus 73-76% = C 70-72% = C minus	67-69% = D plus 63-66% = D 60-62% = D minus	Below 60% = F

Late Assignments and Papers:

Late assignments/papers will only be accepted with **grade penalty** up to 2 days past the assignment due date, unless a genuine emergency arrives with documentation or you have received an extension from the instructor in advance. If you are having trouble getting assignments submitted on time, you should discuss your situation with the instructor.

Incompletes:

Incompletes will be granted only if the professor has been notified in a timely manner and has approved. Students with missing major assignments (over 50 points) will receive a WU (unauthorized withdrawal). **No work will be accepted after the final.**

Extra Credit:

Extra credit may be offered at the instructor's discretion.

Classroom Protocol:

Because this is an asynchronous, online course, attendance is not required. Participation is also not graded, except for your participation in the online forums as part of your discussion post grade. When

participating online, make sure to practice netiquette when replying to others, purposefully inflammatory, hateful, racist and anti-black statements will not be tolerated. Group study before the midterm and final is permitted. Weekly lecture videos with slides will be available for viewing asynchronously through the Canvas course modules.

Covid-19:
In the event that you or a close family member contracts Covid-19, please notify the instructor **as soon as possible** and accommodations will be made for your situation.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material:
University Policy S12-7 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), requires students to obtain instructor's permission to electronically or digitally record the course:
"Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

University Policies:
Per University Policy S16-9 (*http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf*), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/.

ANTH 11 / Cultural Anthropology, Fall 2020 Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice and notifications will be made online through Canvas announcements.

Course Schedule:

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	08/19 - 08/21/20	Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY In *Perspectives: An Open Introduction To Cultural Anthropology* by Brown et al. DUE: Introductory Discussion Post and Week 1 Quiz on the Syllabus
2	08/24- 08/28	Ch 2. THE CULTURE CONCEPT Raybeck, "The Dawn of Interest"
3	08/31 - 09/04	Ch 3. DOING FIELDWORK: METHODS IN CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY Abu-Lughod, "Fieldwork of a Dutiful Daughter" DUE: Discussion Post and Week 3 Quiz
4	09/07 - 09/11	Ch 4. LANGUAGE Saussure, "Nature of the Linguistic Sign" *No class Monday, September 7th for Labor Day*
5	09/14 – 09/18	Ch 5. SUBSISTENCE Scott, Ch 2. In *The moral economy of the peasant: rebellion and subsistence in Southeast Asia* DUE: Discussion Post and Week 5 Quiz
6	09/21- 09/25	Ch 6. ECONOMICS Graeber, "Beads and Money: Notes toward a Theory of Wealth and Power" Film(s): *The Real Piggy Bank – Vanuatu* (2012) DUE: Ethnographic Interview
7	09/28 - 10/02	Ch 7. POLITICAL ANTHROPOLOGY: A CROSS-CULTURAL COMPARISON Film(s): *Nai! Story of a Kung Woman* (1980) DUE: Discussion Post and Week 7 Quiz
8	10/05 - 10/09	Ch 8. FAMILY AND MARRIAGE Goldstein, M. C., "When Brothers Share a Wife" Film(s): *The Land Where Women Rule: Inside China's Last Matriarchy* (2016) DUE: Midterm Exam
9	10/12 - 10/16	Ch 9. RACE AND ETHNICITY Bernier, "A New Division of Earth" Film(s): *Race, Power of an Illusion* (2003) DUE: Discussion Post and Week 9 Quiz
10	10/19 - 10/23	Ch 10. GENDER AND SEXUALITY Oyěwùmí, "The Invention of Women"
11	10/26 - 10/30	Ch 11. RELIGION Douglas, "The Abomination of Leviticus" DUE: Discussion Post and Week 11 Quiz
12	11/02 – 11/06	Ch 12. GLOBALIZATION Bestor, T. C., "How Sushi Went Global" Film(s): *Life and Debt* (2001)
13	11/09 - 11/13	Ch 13. THE HISTORY OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL IDEAS Corbey, R., "Ethnographic Showcases, 1870-1930"

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		DUE: Discussion Post and Week 13 Quiz DUE: Draft Alternative Final Project Proposal *No class Wednesday, November 11th for Veterans Day*
14	11/16 - 11/20	Ch 15. PERFORMANCE Miller, "Why Clothing Is Not Superficial"
15	11/23 - 11/27	**No class due to Thanksgiving Holiday! Work on Final Project **
16	11/30 - 12/04	**No readings** Review for Final Exam and prepare Final Project DUE: Alternative Final Project DUE: Reflection Discussion Post and Week 16 Review Quiz
Final Exam 17	12/7 - 12/11	**No readings** DUE: Final Exam Thursday, December 10th