

OVERVIEW

This is a first course in anthropology—an introduction to the study of human origins and culture. There are three main objectives: (1) to understand how humans evolved into the only truly “cultural species” on this planet; (2) to provide a framework for the comparative study of human life ways; and (3) to help you see some problems of modern living in a more global and holistic perspective.

Generally speaking, we will cover topics in one or two class periods that fill entire semesters in upper-level courses. What we lose in detail and depth, we gain in enlarged perspective and sense of the inter-relatedness of issues. The rapid pace, however, makes it imperative that students not fall behind in the readings. Each chapter of the 597-page text is full of ideas, terminology, arguments, and supporting facts, and we usually have only one day per chapter. Similarly, the single ethnography is 180 pages, yet we’ll have very little time to discuss it directly. Thus, students will need to read assignments carefully BEFORE coming to lectures, as well as review the readings afterwards. I also encourage each of you to come see me whenever you have questions.

MATERIALS

Textbook:

Conrad Kottak (2013) *Anthropology: Appreciating Human Diversity, 15th Edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 978-0078035012.

Ethnography:

Sharon Gmelch & George Gmelch (2012) *The Parish Behind God's Back: The Changing Culture of Rural Barbados, 2nd Edition*. Waveland Press. ISBN: 978-1-57766-775-9.

REQUIREMENTS

Your grade in the course will be determined by the percentage of points you earn on four non-cumulative hour exams and one short paper assignment. Exams are mostly multiple-choice format, with some points allocated to short essay questions. The paper assignment will be distributed later. Each exam is worth 100 points, and the paper assignment is also 100 points; thus, there are a total of 500 possible points in the course. If you earn 90.0% or more of these possible points, your course grade will be some kind of A; 80.0% through 89.9% is some kind of B; and so forth.

GROUND RULES

COMMUNITY OF LEARNING. Lehigh University endorses The Principles of Our Equitable Community (<http://www4.lehigh.edu/diversity/principles>). We expect each member of this class to acknowledge and practice these Principles. Respect for each other and for differing viewpoints is a vital component of the learning environment inside and outside the classroom.

EXAM POLICY. You are responsible for taking all four exams during their scheduled times. Any exception must be approved by me (John Gatewood) ***IN ADVANCE*** of the exam. Please note that talking with a secretary, phoning and leaving a message, e-mailing, etc., is not sufficient — you must obtain **my** verbal permission **beforehand** to re-schedule an exam. Otherwise, failure to take an exam as scheduled will result in an automatic “F” in the course, irrespective of what grades you may have earned on other requirements.

ATTENDANCE POLICY. Attendance is required (there are no “free cuts”), and all electrical devices – cell phones, laptops, iPods, etc. – are to be turned off and not used while in the classroom. Also, you should arrive for class on time. Although I do not routinely take attendance, I think you will find that coming to class regularly is most helpful in understanding course materials. In addition, there will be occasional opportunities for students to earn bonus points during class time, but only those in attendance can benefit.

22. Mar 10 (M) A. Language and Communication
Readings: Kottak, chapter 14 (pp. 301-323)
B. FILM — *“Discovering the Human Language: Colorless Green Ideas”* (1995, 55 min.)
23. Mar 12 (W) ----- **SECOND EXAM** -----
[covering chapters 11, 12, 2, 15, and 14]
24. Mar 14 (F) Making a Living: Production
Readings: Kottak, chapter 16 (pp. 349-375)
[Gmelch & Gmelch, chapter 2]
25. Mar 17 (M) A. Making a Living: Reproduction
Readings: Kottak, chapter 16 (pp. 349-375)
B. Making a Living: Systems of Exchange
Readings: Kottak, chapter 16 (pp. 349-375)
[Gmelch & Gmelch, chapters 3 and 4]
26. Mar 19 (W) FILM — *“Land of the Long Day”* (1952, 38 min.)
27. Mar 21 (F) FILM — *“A Man Called ‘Bee’: Studying the Yanomamo”* (1974, 40 min.)
28. Mar 24 (M) A. Political Systems
Readings: Kottak, chapter 17 (pp. 377-401)
B. Political Systems
Readings: Kottak, chapter 17 (pp. 377-401)
29. Mar 26 (W) Families, Kinship, and Descent
Readings: Kottak, chapter 19 (pp. 427-447)
30. Mar 28 (F) Families, Kinship, and Descent
Readings: Kottak, chapter 19 (pp. 427-447)
31. Mar 31 (M) A. Marriage
Readings: Kottak, chapter 20 (pp. 449-469)
B. FILM — *“Masai Women”* (1974, 52 min.)
32. Apr 2 (W) Gender
Readings: Kottak, chapter 18 (pp. 403-425)
[Gmelch & Gmelch, chapter 5]
33. Apr 4 (F) Sexuality
Readings: none
34. Apr 7 (M) A. Religion
Readings: Kottak, chapter 21 (pp. 471-493)
[Gmelch & Gmelch, chapter 7]
B. FILM — *“Holy Ghost People”* (1983, 54 min.)
35. Apr 9 (W) ----- **THIRD EXAM** -----
[covering chapters 16, 17, 19, 20, and 18]

36. Apr 11 (F) Religion
Readings: Kottak, chapter 21 (pp. 471-493)
37. Apr 14 (M) A. Arts, Media, and Sports
Readings: Kottak, chapter 22 (pp. 495-521)
B. FILM — “*First Contact*” (1983, 54 min.)
38. Apr 16 (W) Psychological/Cognitive Anthropology
Readings: none

The Changing World

39. Apr 18 (F) The World System and Colonialism
Readings: Kottak, chapter 23 (pp. 523-547)
[Gmelch & Gmelch, chapter 6]
40. Apr 21 (M) A. The World System and Colonialism
Readings: Kottak, chapter 23 (pp. 523-547)
[Gmelch & Gmelch, chapter 8]
B. FILM — “*Life and Debt*” (2001, 86 min.)
41. Apr 23 (W) Anthropology’s Role in a Globalizing World
Readings: Kottak, chapter 24 (pp. 549-567)
[Gmelch & Gmelch, Final Thoughts]
42. Apr 25 (F) Course Summary and Student Evaluations
----- **PAPER ASSIGNMENT Due** -----

REMINDER: The **FOURTH HOUR EXAM** will be held during the first 60 minutes of the “final exam” period assigned us by the Registrar. The fourth exam is a non-cumulative exam covering only those topics covered in lectures and the Kottak text since the third exam, i.e., chapters 21, 22, 23, and 24.