

KAPIOLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ANTHROPOLOGY 200
CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
Summer 2009 (online)

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Are you as interested as I am in knowing how, when, and where human life arose, what the first human societies and languages were like, why cultures have evolved along diverse but often remarkably convergent pathways, why distinctions of rank came into being, and how small bands and villages gave way to chiefdoms and chiefdoms to mighty states and empires?

--Marvin Harris, Our Kind

Anthropology is the study of humanity. Its main goal is to elucidate and explicate human biological and cultural variations across time and space. Thus, it encompasses both the biological and cultural realm of humanity's history. To achieve this goal, the discipline of anthropology is organized into four subfields: Physical/Biological Anthropology, Anthropological Archaeology, Linguistic Anthropology, and Cultural Anthropology.

This course deals with the Anthropological subfield that attempts to understand and explain contemporary culture and behavior – Cultural Anthropology. This is designed to give students a thorough introduction to the methods and theories of the subfield. We also explore the links between Cultural Anthropology and the rest of the sub-disciplines.

The goal of this course is to promote active learning and critical thinking that would help students appreciate human diversity. We discuss different issues such as the origins of life, the concept of race, and culture. We will also try to attempt to recognize the correct way of looking at the world (or other peoples) not only on our perspective but on others as well. I expect that everyone will participate in class discussions – ask questions or give your opinions.

Feel free to express yourself in class. Questions should be raised when you have a different opinion or need more explanation. Argue intelligently with the instructor and your classmates – most teachers love it when someone raises a question or starts a debate. Human knowledge is constantly evolving. If you have a different view or interpretation of events, bring it up!

COURSE COMPETENCIES: Upon successful completion of this course the student should be able to...

...Identify the major theoretical orientations in cultural anthropology and understand how these orientations shape the fieldwork experience.

...Explain how anthropologists study economic, kinship, political, religious systems, personality development and cultural change.

...Develop a concept of culture that will be useful in analyzing cross-cultural issues in Hawaii, the United States and the world.

...Differentiate cross-cultural differences and similarities in Hawaii's multi-cultural society.

...Understand patterns of culture in Asia and the Pacific Islands areas and be able to discuss culture, adaptation, language, political organization or society in Asian and Pacific Island regions.

...Use anthropological perspectives on work to explore career interests in health, human services, education and other fields.

...Identify cross-cultural issues and develop a research paper using literature sources and interviews.

...Express and discuss research results in writing.

COURSE FORMAT and REQUIREMENTS

Laulima: If you are registered in this course, you should familiarize yourself with Laulima interface. Most, if not all, of our interactions will be through this portal. If you encounter problems with the software, contact ITS by clicking the [Request Assistance](#) link. You should also familiarize yourself with the following Laulima tools:

Chat: This is our official discussion and interaction “venue”

Discussion and private Messages: Use this tool to participate in class discussion/answer posted discussion questions.

Drop Box: This is where you submit your papers/requirements

Assignments: Some of the assignments will be web-based. This is the site where you submit assignments online (if you are not submitting the .doc or .pdf files in dropbox tool)

Tests and Quizzes/Tasks, Tests, and Surveys: You guessed it, this is where you will take quizzes and exams.

There is an available laulima tutorial at: [Laulima Tutorial](#)

Folders: A “folder” containing weekly readings and assignments will be posted every Monday at 10am in **Laulima**. Weekly assignments contained in the packet will be due the following Friday at 10am. Readings consist of textbook, web resources, and materials available at Laulima.

Exams: Your final grade will be based on your responses to discussion board and critical thinking questions. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and essay questions as well as definition of terms. These will be taken either on the **Tests and Quizzes** or at the **Tasks, Tests, and Survey** tools.

Quizzes: Five quizzes will be spread throughout the term. These will be posted on the **Tests and Quizzes** or **Task, Tests, and Surveys** tools.

Weekly summaries: Five (5) weekly response papers are required in this class. These response essays should incorporate topics, discussions, and readings covered for a specific week. All required readings are posted on Lulima. The textbook for the course is ***Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, by James Peoples and Garrick Bailey (Wadsworth, 8E)***. Submit through **Drop Box**. (An example of a weekly response is available on Lulima).

Exercises: Exercises/assignments have been designed to help students grasp anthropological concepts. Submit through **Drop Box**.

Extra Credit: Extra credit will be awarded for finding websites or articles relevant to the material we are covering. Share these to the class. You will also receive extra credit for writing reviews of films related to class topics (you should consult me before proceeding to write a review essay). There will be a limit of 30 points on extra credit.

Participation: The online nature of the course emphasizes your participation in class discussions. You will receive points every time you participate/answer discussion board questions. Everyone is encouraged to be online Saturdays, 10am-11am for discussions with the instructor. This course component is worth 30% of your final grade.

Independent Field Study/Ethnography

One of the most valuable and interesting projects in this course is the **Independent Field Study Project**. This term-paper is a mini-ethnography that should be between 5-10 pages long. **Begin this project right away**, I will provide you with an example (available through Lulima) and assist you in choosing your research topic. THE FIELD PROJECT IS A **REQUIRED** PART OF YOUR GRADE AND **COUNTS AS 20% OF YOUR FINAL GRADE**.

GRADES

Grades will be determined from class attendance, participation, video and reading summaries, class assignments, field study project, and examination. Final course grades will be based on a percentage of possible points: A=90 and above, B=80-89, C=70-79, and D=60-69. Please note that grades reflect the following levels of achievement: A = Excellent, B = Good, C = Fair, D = Poor, and F = No Pass.

Grade Breakdown

Participation	100 points	20%
Reading summaries	50 points	10%
Independent Field Study Project	100 points	20%
Exercises (25 points x 4)	100 points	20%
Quizzes (10 points x 5)	50 points	10%
Long Examination	<u>100 points</u>	<u>20%</u>
	500 points	100%

Late Assignment Policy: Assignments/worksheets/exams that are submitted late will result in a 10% deduction per day from the overall grade of the assignment. You have a maximum of one week to turn in late assignments/worksheets/exams. For exceptional circumstances that prevent you from completing the coursework, contact me immediately.

Academic Dishonesty: As members of the University of Hawai'i academic community, we must uphold certain standards of conduct. The student code of conduct provides conduct guidelines (www.hawaii.edu/student/conduct/), as well as rights and responsibilities of students. Please familiarize yourself with this code, including Part I, section H, "Academic Dishonesty." Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and may result in a failing grade for the course as described in Part III, section E of the code.

Online Course and Distance Learning Resources

Several resources at UH are designed to help students at the beginning of their college careers:

1. Disability Student Services Office (DSSO): Kapiolani Community College (KCC) is committed to a barrier-free campus and provides accommodations to ensure students with disabilities equal access to education. Contact DSSO at Kapiolani Community College, Ilima Building, Room 103, 4303, Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816-4421; Phone/TTY: 808.734.9552, Fax: 808.734.9456; Jennifer Pagala, Disability Support Services Counselor MJ Haverly, Disability Services Coordinator EMAIL: kapdss@hawaii.edu; <http://www.kapiolani.hawaii.edu/object/ssso.html>

2. UH ITS Support Services: UH ITS Help Desk provides the UH System with in-person and email support. This site provides the following: ♦ Hours of Operation and Contact Information ♦ Access to the ITS Knowledge Base ♦ Important Technology News, Announcements & Information Contact:

Joy Shirokane, Information Media Technology Services, Kapiolani Community College, Naio Building, Room 214, 4303 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816-4421; Phone: 808.734.9857, Fax: 808.734.9287; Email: joy@hawaii.edu

Course Schedule and Readings

(This schedule is subject to change and it is the student's responsibility to keep up with schedule changes)

Module (Week)	Topic	Readings	Assignments and Web Resources
#1 Week 1 07/06-07/11	Course Goals/Requirements/Syllabus/Books What is anthropology? Why study anthropology? Anthropology as a science; Social structure; Culture; Evolution; Universalism; Holism; Emic; Etic; Adaptation; Variation; Change; Centrism; Cultural Relativism	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 1 Lee, R.B. 1969. Eating Christmas in the Kalahari	Web resource: What is Ethnocentrism? The Nacirema
#2 Week 1 07/06-07/11	Four-field Anthropology Physical Anthropology, Anthropological Archaeology, Linguistic Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology Anthropological Approaches to the study of human history	Peoples and Bailey (Textbook): Chapter 1 Salzman, P. and P. Rice. 2004. What anthropologists look for: Patterns Salzman, P. 2004. Thinking holistically	Web resource: What is Culture?
#3 Week 1 07/06-07/11	Science and scientific reasoning What is evolution? The Development of Evolutionary Theory; The Darwinian Evolution; Forces of Biological Evolution; Darwinism vs. Punctuated equilibrium; Scientific Creationism and Evolution	Root-Bernstein, R. and D.L. McEachron. 1982. Teaching Theories: the Evolution-Creation Controversy. Diamond, J. 1990. A Pox Upon our Genes	Web resource: Synthetic theory of evolution Evolution of modern humans Due: Weekly summaries (1) (07/11)
#4 Week 2 07/12-07/18	The Biological Basis of Life Principles of Inheritance Variation and Adaptation Population Genetics and Mechanism of Genetic Evolution	Coyne, J. 2009. What is evolution? In <i>Why evolution is true</i> (Chapter 1)	Web resource: Human adaptation Principles of Genetics
#5 Week 2 07/12-07/18	What is Culture The Concept of Race Racial Schemes Racism	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 2 Rensberer, B. 1981. Racial Odyssey Spradley, J. 2009. Ethnography and Culture	Exercise 1: Culture poll (Due 07/13) Exercise 2: Food Preferences and Cultural

			Identities (Due: 07/19) Web resource: Race: Are we different? Comments on the concepts of ethnicity and race
#6 Week 2 07/12-07/18	Language, Communication and Society The Evolution of Language The Structure of Language Language, Thoughts, and Culture Nonverbal Communication	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 3 Diamond, J. 1996. Empire of Uniformity. Tannen, D. 2000. Conversation Style: Talking on the job	Web Resource: Language and Culture Due: Weekly summaries (2) (07/18)
#7 Week 3 07/19-07/25	The Development of Anthropological Thought Evolutionism; Diffusionism; Historical Particularism; Culture and Personality; Functionalism; Structuralism; Cultural Materialism; Marxist Anthropology; Symbolic Anthropology; Postmodernism; Feminist Anthropology	Diamond, J. 1997. Continental Divides. Rachels, J. 1993. The Challenge of Cultural Relativism Salzman, P. 2004. Thinking Theoretically	Web resource: Anthropological theories
#8 Week 3 07/19-07/25	Ethnographic Field Research Participant Observation Interviews, Genealogy Life History Survey Research	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 5 Bohannon, L. 1966. Shakespeare in the Bush.	Exercise 3: Observation Project: Kinesics (Body Language) Study: Line Forming Behavior (Due: 07/18)
	Long Examination 1		
#9 Week 3 07/19-07/25	Adaptive Strategies and Economic Systems Foraging, Pastoralism, Cultivation Modes of Production Economizing and Maximization Distribution and Exchange Adaptation: Foraging to Domestication Foragers	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 6 and 7 Cronk, L. 2008. Reciprocity and the Power of Giving. Diamond, J. 2008. Easter's End	Web Resource: Subsistence patterns Economic systems Due: Weekly summaries (3) (07/25)

	Swiddeners Intensive and Extensive Cultivators		
#10 Week 4 07/26- 08/1	Political Systems Types and Trends Foraging Bands Tribal Cultivators Chiefdoms and States Warfare, Feuds, Raiding Law and Social Control	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 12 Harris, M. 2008. Life without Chiefs	Web resource: Political Organization Social Control
#11 Week 4 07/26- 08/1	Kinship and Descent Social Structure and Function Kin Groups Kinship Calculation Tribal Organization Kinship Terminology	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 9 Goldstein, M.C. 2008. When Brothers Take a Wife. Scheper-Hughes. 2008. Death Without Weeping	Exercise 4: Marriage and Kinship Patterns (Due: 07/24) Web resource: Kinship symbols
#12 Week 4 07/26- 08/1	Marriage and Family Marriage Process Incest Taboo Endogamy, Exogamy Plural Marriages	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 8 Estioko-Griffin, A. 1986. Daughters of the Forest.	Web resource: Sex and Marriage
#13 Week 4 07/26- 08/1	Rites of Passage Enculturation Initiation Rites Life Stages and Cultural Constructions	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 10	Web resource: African-Centered Rites of Passage Due: Weekly summaries (4) (08/01)
#14 Week 5 08/2- 08/08	Gender and Gender Issues Sex and Gender	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 11 Shandy, D. and K. Moe. 2008. Heading Home: Women, Work, and Identity	
#15 Week 5 08/2- 08/08	Religion and Magic Origins, Function, and Expression of Religion Religion, Culture, Change, and Cultural Ecology	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 14 Gmelch, G. 2008. Baseball Magic	Web Resource: Anthropology of Religion

		Miner, H. 2008. Body Ritual Among the Nacirema	
#16 Week 5 08/2- 08/08	Art and Music Verbal Arts The Art of Music Visual Arts	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 16 and 17	Due: Weekly summaries (5) (08/08)
#17 Week 6 08/09- 08/14	World System, Industrialism, and Stratification The Emergence of World Systems Industrialization Stratification	Shandy, D. 2008. The Road to Refugee Settlement Gmelch, S. 2008. Why Tourism Matters	Web resource: Culture Change
#18 Week 6 08/09- 08/14	Applied Anthropology Theory and Practice Anthropology and Education Urban Anthropology Ethics Careers in Anthropology	Peoples and Bailey, Chapter 18 McCurdy, D. 2008. Using Anthropology Omohundro, J. 2008. Career Advice for Anthropology Undergraduates	
08/09- 08/14	Long Examination		Independent Field Study Projects Due