

Dear Members of the Core Curriculum Committee,
Although this syllabus represents the specific organization that Cynthia Van Gilder brings to Anth 001, there are core elements every section of Anth 001 has in common. All instructors use the same textbook (*Culture Counts*), as well as, one shared ethnography (*In Search of Respect*). We all require an outside event analysis, a critical article review of a peer-review journal article, and the genealogical methods piece. We have also decided to add a standardized anthropological terms literacy test which will likely not form part of a student's grade in the class, but will help the department in norming content across sections and setting expectations for assumed knowledge in our upper division courses. - *Members of the SMC Anthropology Department*

ANTH 001: Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology

Dr. Cynthia Van Gilder Office: 301 Garaventa cvangild@stmarys-ca.edu

Two tests = 30%

Final Exam = 25%

Paper #1 TURNITIN.COM REQUIRED = 10%

Paper #2 TURNITIN.COM REQUIRED = 10%

Methods Project = 5%

Outside Event Report = 5%

Homework and Quizzes = 5%

Attendance (no more than 4 absences – or receive an F), Preparation, and Participation = 10%

Textbooks:

Culture Counts: A Concise Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, by Serena Nanda and Richard Warms (CC)

Unity of Heart: Culture and Change in a Polynesian Atoll Society, by Anne and Keith Chambers (UH)

Writing Women's Worlds, by Lila Abu-Lughod (WWW)

In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio, by Philippe Bourgois (ISR)

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to...

- Understand the role of social and cultural anthropology in the holistic approach of the four fields of American anthropology
- Define culture, and articulate its historical relationship to the concepts of biological and social identity
- Demonstrate mastery of basic socio-cultural anthropology vocabulary words and the analytical ideas that underlie their usage
- Apply anthropological methods of inquiry to cultural data while engaging in cultural relativism
- Contextually recall case studies from around the world to demonstrate the range of human variability in the arenas of traditional anthropological inquiry (e.g., kinship, economics, politics, religion, linguistics)
- Display familiarity with a variety of anthropologists and their contributions to the discipline
- Read and summarize a peer-review journal article from an appropriate anthropological journal, using anthropological writing and citation styles
- Articulate the contribution made by applied anthropology to understanding the contemporary world, including the legacy of colonial world systems, imperialism, and globalization in culture change and extinction
- Become familiar with a variety of theoretical perspectives that have been used in anthropology to illuminate micro- and macro-scale social and cultural processes over time and space

Student Responsibilities: Class attendance, completion of reading assignments, and participation in discussions are all mandatory, and will affect your grade (see above). **If you are unable to attend class, please email me with the subject line Anth 1: Absence.** Passive presence is

NOT considered participation (see instructor for clarification, if necessary). I may on occasion give "spot check quizzes" which will affect the homework and quizzes portion of your grade. Late papers will be penalized 1/3rd of a letter grade per 24-hour period including weekends, and missed tests can not be made up. Grades are based on scholastic achievement and mastery of the material, not just effort. Tests will be a combination of short and long essays, definitions, multiple choice, etc.. If you receive a failing grade on a test or other assignment, it is highly recommended that you come to see me privately immediately: do not wait until the end of the semester! My office hours are intended to give you an opportunity to talk with me about any aspect of the course you find interesting or confusing, so please take advantage of them. Above all, get involved and have fun!

Academic Integrity: As you know, Saint Mary's College has a modified honor code. I strongly support this policy and will be asking students to affirm their commitment to the code on each assignment submitted for a grade in this class. If you are unwilling to abide by the code, please do not take this class. If at any time you have questions about the honor code, plagiarism, citations, or inappropriate collaboration, please do not hesitate to ask.

Student Disability Services: Student Disability Services extends reasonable and appropriate accommodations that take into account the context of the course and its essential elements for individuals with qualifying disabilities. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Student Disability Services Office at (925) 631-4358 to set up a confidential appointment to discuss accommodation, policies, guidelines and available services. Additional information regarding the services available may be found at the following address on the Saint Mary's website: <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/academics/academic-advising-and-achievement/student-disability-services.html>

8/29 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology & the Four Fields of American Anthropology

8/31 CC: Chapter 1 (What is Anthropology and Why Should I Care?)

The Goddess and the Computer (holism & applied anthropology)

9/2 CC: Chapter 2 (Culture Counts)

9/5 NO CLASS

9/7 CC: Chapter 3 (Doing Cultural Anthropology)

Latah (culture-specific disease complexes & biology/culture)

9/9 CC: Chapter 4 (Communication)

9/12 CC: Chapter 11 (Religion)

9/14 Review

9/16 Test #1

9/19 UH: Chapter 1 (*Encountering Nanumea*)

9/21 UH: Chapter 2 ("*Of the Island*")

9/23 UH: Chapter 3 (*Tefolaha in the Cookhouse*)

9/26 UH: Chapter 4 (*Emerging from the "Days of Darkness"*)

9/28 CC: Chapter 5 (Making a Living)

9/30 UH: Chapter 5 (*Coral and Sand*)

10/03 CC: Chapter 6 (Economics)

10/05 UH: Chapter 6 (*Something for All*)
10/07 CC: Chapter 7 (Marriage, Family, and Kinship)

10/10 UH: Chapter 7 (*Family Matters*)
10/12 CC: Chapter 8 (Sex and Gender)

10/14 NO CLASS

10/17 Introduction to *Writing Women's Worlds* (WWW)
10/19 WWW: Problematizing Culture – Theory in Contemporary Anthropology
10/21 CC: Chapter 9 (Political Organization)

10/24 UH: Chapter 8 (*Community*)
10/26 Review

10/28 Test #2

10/31 CC: Chapter 12 (Power, Conquest, and a World System)
Extended Case study: Hawai'i
11/2 CC: Chapter 13 (Globalization and Change)
Extended Case study: McDonald's in East Asia
11/4 UH: Chapters 9 & 10 (*Challenges of the Twenty-First Century & Unity of Heart*)

11/7 Paper #1 Due

11/9 CC: Chapter 14 (Anthropology Makes a Difference)
Applied Anthropology and Careers
11/11 Introduction to the Genealogical Method Project

11/14 CC: Chapter 10 (Stratification: Class, Race, Ethnicity, and Caste)
11/16 Movie: *Skin Deep: The Science of Race*
11/18 **Methods Project Due**

11/21 ISR: Chapters 1 & 2 (Violating Apartheid in the United States & A Street History of El Barrio)
11/23 ISR: Chapter 3 (Crackhouse Management: Addiction, Discipline, and Dignity)
11/25 NO CLASS

11/28 ISR: Chapters 4 (“Goin’ Legit”): Disrespect and Resistance at Work)
11/30 ISR: Chapter 5 (School Days: Learning to Be a Better Criminal)
12/2 ISR: Chapter 6 (Redrawing the Gender Line on the Street)

12/5 ISR: Chapter 7 (Families and Children in Pain)
12/7 ISR: Chapter 8 (Vulnerable Fathers)
12/9 ISR: Chapter 9 (Conclusion) & **Paper #2 Due**

Final Exam to be held on Wednesday, December 14, 11:30 – 1:30.

Study Skills Advice

- Do not wait until the night before a test to study. Treat every homework assignment as studying and learn the material!
- Passing your eyes over every word in the chapter does not count as reading in college! You must engage with the material and be sure you understand it.
- There is a reason reading is assigned before the class during which it is discussed. You are supposed to be processing the text on your own and coming into class with questions/comments. Every important idea in the reading will not be the subject of a lecture. You need to be learning the material in the readings and

then I will be supplementing that learning with the class material.

- d. Take responsibility for knowing what you don't understand. You see me three times per week (plus office hours are available), so ask me if you need help!

How to think like a social scientist: When you are studying specifics, ask yourself, "what general principle or larger topic can this be related to?" When you are studying more general theories or concepts, ask yourself, "what specific examples can I give of this?"

Outside Event Instructions

For this class you are required to submit an outside event report. That means you need to attend an events outside of the classroom (on your own time) that is related to the class material. Possibilities include (but are not limited to) a visit to a local museum exhibit, a lecture or movie on campus, and lectures at other universities. Occasionally, during class I will announce an event that will fit this assignment. If you wish to do something that I have not specifically mentioned in class, please clear it with me before you attend. (Please note: not all events sponsored by the Anthropology Department are appropriate for this assignment.)

Your assignment after having attended your event is to write 1-2 pages double-spaced about how the event gave you insight into ideas from the class and/or how the ideas from the class gave you insight into the event.

Be specific and use references from class texts and discussion. **This assignment can be turned in at any time (I recommend doing it early in the semester) but is due by the beginning of the final exam.**