

**DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
SPRING 2009**

Dr. Donna Budani

Class Time: Tuesday & Thursday 11:00am – 12:15pm

Classroom: Kirkbride 004

Office: 138 Munroe Hall

Voice Mail: x1859

Email: budani@udel.edu

Web Page: <http://www.udel.edu/anthro/budani>

Office Hours: Wednesday 8:30am – 12:30pm & Wednesday from 2:00pm – 3:00pm by appointment 3:00pm – 4:30pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Most of you will enter this course with little if any prior experience with the subject of Anthropology. This course will introduce you to the study of cultural anthropology. The basic goal of Anthropology 101 is to provide a background in cultural anthropology, so that students will be able to approach their own work and other experiences with an anthropological point of view. This goal implies the development of a working knowledge of the concept of culture and an awareness of the significance of cultural variation in different social settings and situations. Culture can best be thought of as a system of knowledge by which members of a society interpret behavior and generate behavior that makes sense to themselves and to other members of that society. All people of every culture learn their culture.

Students should become aware of the relativity of human values, and the roles that culturally defined values play in affecting the actions of individuals and groups. Students should improve their capacities to think critically about their own values, ideas and assumptions, as well as these values, ideas, and assumptions that might underlie behavior norms of other cultures. The development of this critical approach is applicable to other academic and professional domains; particularly in an international, multicultural context. An anthropological perspective can be viewed as the ability to study other cultures objectively and to withhold pre-judgment until essential evidence is brought to bear in analyzing comparative economic, political and religious differences.

Course Objectives

- Create a greater degree of cross-cultural awareness by attempting to promote an understanding of and appreciation for richness and diversity of human cultures.
- Correct cultural biases and ethnocentric assumptions concerning the superiority of one's own culture, the alleged biological basis of race and the existence of so called "primitive" peoples.
- Instill a fundamental respect for peoples of other cultures, their ways of living and their ways of making sense of their own experiences

Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able:

- To define the concept of culture and understand how it applies to a variety of social domains and circumstances.
- To understand and discuss the idea of culture in shaping all relationships between human beings and their physical, biological and social environment
- To consider effective strategies of interaction with peoples from cultures different from our own
- To understand how cultural anthropologists conduct research demonstrating familiarity with the fieldwork and ethnographic method.
- To know the difference between cultural relativism and ethnocentrism and other key terms and concepts in cultural anthropology

Course Requirements

Books

Texts required by for this course are available at UDEL bookstore, bookstores on Main Street and on line at Amazon.com, and Barnes and Noble.com. You should also do a Google search for used book stores to find Nanda and Warms "**Cultural Anthropology 9th edition**" (if you buy the 8th edition that is fine) and the other required books. I encourage you to do an Internet search for used book stores besides amazon.com and Barnes & Noble. You will find many opportunities to buy your books for this class at great savings.

Required Texts

1. *Cultural Anthropology 9th Edition. Serna Nanda and Richard Warms, authors.*
2. *Broken Spears: the Aztec Account of the Conquest of Mexico Miguel Leon-Portilla, author*
3. *Things Fall Apart Chinua Achebe, author*
4. *Secrets from the field: An Ethnographer's Notes from North Western Pakistan. Benedicte Grima, author*

Are There Too Many Books Assigned for a 101 course?

At first glance, you might say that the readings assigned for this class are excessive and I might agree with you. However, I have selected books that are reader-friendly and most of the assigned readings from Nanda and Warms can be done in less than 45 minutes. The assigned texts will take longer to read but are very interesting. If you follow my reading guide found below, reading will be a pleasant experience and not a chore. Remember, you determine if reading is a chore or tedious. You are college students and my expectation is that you will do your best in all assignments. If you check the course syllabus, you will find that readings are spread throughout the semester and are realistic reading load for the average college student. More importantly, I picked books that are about interesting topics. Also, keep in mind that because a course is a 100 level course, doesn't mean that the course is not challenging!

Course Format

While lecture and power point presentations are the primary instructional tools, nearly all lectures will integrate other learning strategies that support more active learning activities. Such activities include exercises which are designed to assess student learning. For example, students will be given short writing exercises before and during lecture as well as after lecture is completed. Students will be asked to summarize the key points of lecture. Often, students will be asked to bring to class lists of thought, ideas and questions generated by their reading assignment. Class Discussion is encouraged. Just raise your hand and ask a question. Remember there are no stupid questions. Argue with me! Question what I have to say! Frequent assessment of your learning will be made by assigning a one minute paper and by beginning a class by asking you to comment on something specific from the reading assigned or asking you to identify the major point of the previous lectures.

Graded Student Performance Requirements

1. Class Participation 75 points toward final grade

Students are expected to come to class having read the assignment and are prepared to comment on the readings, if called upon. Students are responsible for all readings and exercises assigned for a particular day (see course syllabus) even if all reading material is not covered in class. Students should to come to class prepared to ask questions based on the readings, when called upon.

I encourage students to bring to class list of issues, concepts and ideas and terms generated from the assigned reading so that we may discuss some of these issues. Students will be asked to summarize points made in lecture from the previous lecture as well as at the end of the day's lecture. In addition, students will be asked to assess a lecture by writing a **One Minute Essay** in which students identify the clearest point made in lecture as well as the muddiest or unclear point made in lecture. Student work will be graded with a check mark or a minus mark. Full 100 points will be awarded to students who have nearly all check marks. A minus point means the subtraction of 2 points from the total 100 points

2. Three Book Reviews 300points toward final grade

Book Reviews of the assigned ethnographies are required for this course. Each book review is worth 100 points. Instructions for writing critical book reviews are placed on my webpage <http://www.udel.edu/anthro/budani> Book Reviews should be no longer than 5 pages double spaced. Go to my web page at <http://www.udel.edu/anthro/budani> and read my instructions for writing a book review. Search journals in anthropology and history for reviews on **"Broken Spears"**, **"Things Fall Apart"** and **"Secrets from the field"** and learn what other reviewers had to say about these books.

3. Short Answer Essay Exams 200 points (Each exam is worth 100 points)

There is no final exam given in this course. Two take home essay exams will be given during the course of the term, one exam during the middle of the term and one exam before the end of the term. Exams will consist of three to four essay questions. I usually give you a choice of 4 or 5 questions and ask that you answer three or four questions. Four pages is the minimum number of pages for an essay question answer. See course syllabus for specific dates scheduled for essay exams. Questions for these exams will be drawn from lecture and readings in Nanda & Warms, **Cultural Anthropology**, and power point presentations. I do not ask straight forward questions on essay exams. Instead, I ask that you apply the concepts and terms learned. Exams are worth 100 points each for a total of 200 points.

Film Review 125 points

Films are a major component of this course. For each film viewed, you will be asked to write a film review as you watch the film. Follow these instructions: **First**, write your name, the date and the title of the film in the upper left corner of the page. **Second** answer the following questions: What is your reaction to the film? What in particular surprised you about the film? What specific cultural beliefs, practices, and/or behaviors are different from your own culture? What do you think accounts for these differences? If the film is about American culture, what did the film make you aware of that you were not aware of before? Film reviews will be graded by either a check mark or a minus mark. A check mark means full credit and a minus means fewer 2 points from the total of 125 points. Credit is awarded based on the number of check and minus marks received.

***Please note that during the semester course changes may be made to assignments listed above. Also, I give you notice that I may add a graded exercise during the term or reduce the number of graded and non-graded assignments. Prior notice will be given for any deletions or additions**

Class Supplies

Bring to class a package of 4x6 index cards. You will also need a stapler and black ink printing cartridge.

My Policies**Mutual Respect**

Once class begins we become a community that meets at regular times. The purpose of our gathering is learning not entertainment, though there is no reason why learning can't be fun. You can expect me to be prepared, to be organized, and to do my very best to communicate my passion for anthropology. You can also expect me to cover the basics of anthropology so when you leave the class you can speak intelligently about cultural anthropology. I am fair in my grading and I do my utmost to ensure that students who make an effort to learn will do well in this business.

I expect that you will come to class prepared so if called upon you can answer a question about the reading assignments. I expect that you will give me your attention and show me proper respect. I expect that you will follow the rules of Class Etiquette (see below). If there should be an occasion when you are bothered by something I said, did or did not do, I expect you to bring this to my attention immediately. As well, if you have suggestions as to how I may improve the class period, I expect that you will give me your suggestion in a timely fashion.

Assignment Due Dates

I do not accept assignments after the due date. If your assignment is not completed by class time, you have until 4pm of that day to hand in your assignment. Students who are seriously ill (have seen a doctor and have a prescription, students who observe religious holidays and student who are athletes) may turn in all assignments on the day when they return to class, In addition, students in the formerly identified categories may hand in film reviews on the Friday following their absence No other student is excused from this

policy unless I give my permission. To repeat, I do not accept assignments after the due date unless there are very special circumstances.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's work, information, or ideas *without giving that person credit*. Plagiarism is fraud, since the plagiarist gets credit for someone else's work. The work may be ideas or the particular way they are expressed. Plagiarism is dishonest and it is equivalent to stealing. If I detect what I consider to be intentional plagiarism in any assignment, the assignment will receive zero credit. Repeated offenses of plagiarism will result in an F in the course. Plagiarism includes copying words, information, ideas from books, course readings, web pages, prepared lecture notes, another student's work, and the internet web pages and so on *without giving credit to the source*. **Please note that even if the wording in a paper is completely original, if it contains information that is not common knowledge and not something that the author knows from personal experience and the source is not given, it is plagiarism**

Course Attendance Policy

Consistent consecutive attendance is required. Class starts on time and excessive tardiness will result in a loss of points toward your final grade. Attendance will be taken regularly at each class session and recorded per student for the class session. Students are allowed two excused absences. Attendance will also be taken on those days I collect and return student work. I assume that if a student has not either turned in their work or picked up their work then they are absent. The material presented in lecture is not easily learned from someone else's notes. To do well in this course, you will need to attend class regularly. If class is missed due to illness, then you must show me a note from an MD, or a copy of a prescription. Absences due to religious observances are excused. If, due to family problems or family illness, you are not able to attend class, you must notify me immediately and obtain my permission for your absence. Other excused absences are those related to university business or sports events. Athletes are excused for traveling to and from a game. In general, for an absence to be excused, students must inform me of the absence and obtain my permission for the absence.

All un-excused absences will count toward a deficit in points towards your final grade. **Each un-excused absence will result in a minus of 3 points.** Reasons for excused absence include religious observance; illness (a medical doctor's note or copy of prescriptions must be given to me); family emergency that are verifiable; required absence due to university participation, i.e., conferences, actual sports events but not practice and court appearances (lawyer's note or legal documentation is required) cars breaking down, children get sick but a roommate's illness is not an excuse. Good attendance will be rewarded with credits added to your total points for final grade

Email

I use email often for a variety of reasons including but not limited to, sending information about changes in the weeks agenda, notifying students about an exercise on the Internet, maintaining contact with students (I encourage students to use email if they want more information about something mentioned in lecture, if they have a question about lecture material and assignments or if they have something to say about the day's lecture or film). I respond quickly to your emails. ***I will use only UD designated email. If you have another email account, it is your responsibility to see to it that the mail in your other mailbox is forward to your UD mailbox. Instructions for forwarding email are posted on the UD***

Network Page [www.udel.edu/network I suggest you check your email mailbox at least three times a week.

Web Page

Enter my web page address in your list of favorite. My web page address is

[Http://www.udel.edu/anthro/budani](http://www.udel.edu/anthro/budani)

Besides lecture notes and Power Point Presentations, I also place. on my web page, useful Reading and writing guides you will need for film and book reviews and for writing essay exams.

TECHNIQUES OF CRITICAL READING

Most students complain that assigned readings are really boring and the reading load is excessive. It seems that way because you are reading incorrectly. Most students begin at the beginning of the text, work their way through the text, reading every word—or trying to.

Critical reading is a technique that stresses the following: pre-reading questions, such as “What do I already know about this topic or subject? Why is this book assigned for this course? What do I know about the authors? Next, read a few book reviews of the assigned book. Then read the beginnings and conclusions of each chapter. Now make a list of things you expect to read about and a list of subjects/topics that you will come across while reading. Now you are prepared to actively read the book. Start once again with reading a few paragraphs at the beginning and end of chapters. Then go back and read the chapter making annotations in the book’s margin. At this point you already know what to expect and what is important to know.

Do not highlight the text. Highlighting just makes your book look colorful. Write notes in the margins of the book, that is annotate the book. Remember that the best notes are questions, which you should go back and answer after you read the chapter. If you are unsure of an answer, tell me about it, send me an email or better yet bring it up in class for others in the class will have the same question. Once you finish the book write a one to two paragraph summary of the key points and ideas in the book.

In general, here are a few hints for reading Nanda & Warm, *Cultural Anthropology* **First**, turn all headings in bold script and terms in the text into questions. Make a list of these questions **Second**, the very first part of the chapter you should read is the summary of the chapter and the listed key terms. List, define and study the key terms. Know how to define the terms, explain them, give an example and know how the term is used in the context of the chapter. **Third**, go to the beginning of the chapter and Skim read the chapter. Pay special attention to the introduction of the chapter and any questions posed by the authors for that specific chapter. **Fourth**, take your lists of questions and answer them paying particular attention to cultural examples used for the term or concept. **Fifth**, write short summarized of material contained in boxes or otherwise set off from the chapter’s text. **Sixth**, re-read the summaries and check your notes to ensure you have covered the summary point.

Mechanics of Reading and Note Taking

Read the text and make marginal notes (on post-its or separate piece of paper) indicating what seemed like the strongest parts of the text. *When you read, think of it as a conversation between you and the author. What is the author saying? Is it important? Why? Is this something I should know?*

Write on the margins of the page. Underlying and highlighting a text is a passive activity. All you accomplish is coloring the page. Before you reach for a highlight pen ask yourself: Is this section important? Why? Then write about it in the margins. As with any conversation, you will interrupt with questions and want explanations. Write these kinds of things in the margins and make them the basis of your questions.

When you have completed reading once through the text, go back and take notes in outline form, by paraphrasing sentences or paragraphs until you have reduced the many pages of text to a few pages. (Make sure to keep an accurate citation to the work so that any future use of these notes and paraphrases can be appropriately cited. You do not want to find yourself engaged in plagiarism.) **Do not rely on underlining.** This is insufficient. In order to "know" a text, you need to convert it into your own words, or your own organization of the text. The text needs to be processed in several different ways in your brain. Underlining is passive and does not help you learn the material.

Class Etiquette

The University is a place for adults. I expect that students will act accordingly.

1. The lecture setting is design for learning and not for socializing. Once I begin class, I expect all socializing to stop and your attention turn to the business of the day's work.
2. Turn off Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices before Class begins. If a phone rings during class, I will confiscate the phone
3. Sitting in class doing work for another class or being otherwise engaged [sending or receiving text messages] will result in the loss of 10 points toward your final grade for each time one is doing work that is not related to this course.
4. Once the class has started, I expect quiet and your attention. You may think you are whispering but your whispering is loud and I can hear you. It is distracting.
5. I expect that once you enter class you intend to stay. If you think you really do not want to be in class or that you could use the time for studying for an upcoming exam or any other excuse, **DO NOT COME TO CLASS.**
6. **If you leave class while I am lecturing, I will identify you and deduct 15 points from your final grade. It is rude to leave class while I am lecturing and it is sneaky and immature to leave class when my back is turned.** Obviously you can leave the classroom to heed a call of nature. If for good reasons you must leave class early, please notify me before the beginning of class. When you return to class, please do so as quietly as possible. If you must leave while class is in session, before class begins tell me that you will be leaving early and why. Please sit near the door, and when you get up to leave, please take care so that you do so quietly and make sure the door does not slam.
7. Important matters, such as missing classes, or missed assignments must be discussed with me in person, during my office hours **NOT VIA EMAIL OR PHONE**

Active Learning

I follow the teaching philosophy that makes learning students' responsibility. I am responsible for providing quality teaching that facilitates your learning. **It is your responsibility as much as mine to make this course stimulating, and that requires your attendance and active participation.** If, during lecture, you have a question, need clarification or just do not understand what I say in lecture, please interrupt me and ask a question and/or make comments. Anthropology is an engaging subject. I look forward to your comments and questions concerning lectures and reading materials.

Total Available Course Points

Class Participation	100 points
Ethnographic Book Review	300points
Two Essay Exams	200 points
Film Review	125 points
Total Points	725 points

Grade Scale

93% or higher of 725 points = A

92% - 89% = A-

88% - 86% = B+

85% - 83% = B

82% - 80% = B-

79% - 76% = C+

75% - 73% = C

72% - 70% = C-

69% - 66% = D+

65% - 63% = D

62% - 60% = D-

59% and below= failure

**Department of Anthropology
Introduction to Social Cultural Anthropology
**Course Schedule and Reading Assignments
Anthropology 101-010
Spring 2009**

*****Please Note: This schedule is approximate. Discussion of some topics may take longer than planned. Assignments may change. Changes will be announced in class and sent to students via Email. In some cases a film may replace a lecture. However, students are still responsible for assignment specified for class session even if the material is not covered in class. Keep up on these changes! Assignments from the Internet will be sent via Email.***

Tuesday, February 10

Introduction to Course
Syllabus Review
First Day Assessment

Thursday, February 12

Ethnocentrism and Colonialism
Begin Reading "Secrets from the Field"
Film: First Contact VHS 4821

Tuesday, February 17

Lecture Topic: Basics of Anthropology
Reading Assignment:
In Nanda and Warm, Chapter 1 Anthropology and Human Diversity
Power Point Presentation

Thursday, February 19

Lecture Topic: Human Evolution
Reading Assignment:
In Nanda and Warm, Chapter 2 Human Evolution
Film: Hominid Evolution VHS 8546

Tuesday, February 24

Lecture Topic: Cultural Meaning and Doing Fieldwork
Reading Assignment:
In Nanda and Warm, Chapter 3 Doing Cultural Anthropology
Discuss "Secrets from the Field"

Thursday, February 26

Lecture Topic: “Secrets from the Field”

Book Review of “Secrets from the Field” due in class Tuesday, March 3rd

Tuesday, March 3

Reading Assignment:

Begin reading “Broken Spears”

Film: The Rise and Fall of the Aztec Empire VHS 3531

Tuesday, March 3

Lecture Topic: “Broken Spears”

Diaz Handout and Cortez handout

Thursday, March 5

Colonialism in the Americas: The Fate of Native Americans under Spanish Rule

Film: The Mission DVD 4271

Tuesday, March 10

Colonialism in the Americas: The Fate of Native Americans under Spanish Rule

Film: The Mission DVD 4271

Book Review of “Broken Spears” due in class today

Thursday, March 12

Key Concept in Anthropology: Culture

Reading Assignment:

In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 4. The Idea of Culture

Power Point Presentation

Tuesday, March 17

Topic: Social Construction of Reality

In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 5 Language.

Chapter 5 Language will not be covered in class. However you are still responsible for information in the chapter

Film: Homeland: One reservation, four families, three years DVD 2702

Or Film: Muslims in America VHS 9002/ VHS 8958

Poverty

Thursday, March 19**Topic: Women, Children and Poverty****Reading Assignment****Home Work Assignment to be completed for today's class**

Do a search in the Census Bureau or place the title of the following reports in your search engine and see if you can find the report. Skim read three reports that seem interesting to you. Take notes.

Note: Most of these files are in PDF format

1. Participation of Mothers in Government Assistance Programs
2. Children with single parents—How they Fare?
3. Participation of Mothers in Government Assistance Programs:2004
4. Reducing the Welfare Dependence of Single Mother Families: Health Related Employment Barriers and Policy Responses
5. Women, Welfare and Work: The Effects of Universal Pre-Kindergarten on Mothers

Receive First Take Home Exam today

Film: Waging and Working DVD 1953

Film: The Line VHS 8965

Tuesday, March 24**Topic: Middle Class under Siege****Film: Maxed Out DVD 3831**

Take Home Exam 1 Due in Class today. Hand written exams will not be accepted. Unless you have my permission, no exam will be accepted after today's due date.

Thursday, March 26**Lecture Topic: Patterns of Subsistence and Economics****Reading Assignment:****In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 6 Making a Living and Chapter 7 Economics****Spring Break****Tuesday, April 7**

Lecture Topic: Pattern of Subsistence—Hunter/Gatherer

Reading Assignment:**In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 6 Making a Living and Chapter 8 Economics****Film: Korubo: A fight till the end 58 minutes DVD2608**

Thursday, April 9

Lecture Topic: Marriage, Family and Domestic Group

Reading Assignment:

In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 8 Marriage, Family and Domestic Groups

Tuesday, April 14

Lecture Topic: Race, Racism and Racialism.

Film: *Understanding Race DVD1803*

Thursday, April 16

Lecture Topic: Culture, Kinship and Gender

Reading Assignment:

In Nanda and Warms, read Chapter 10 Gender

Film: *Small Happiness: Women of a Chinese Village VHS1124*

Film: *Man of Men DVD 1329/Dinka of the Sudan/Tribes Facing Extinction*

Tuesday, April 21

Lecture Topic: Kinship

Reading Assignment

In Nanda and Warms, read Chapter 9 Kinship

Internet Tutorial on Kinship

Film: *Dadi's Family*

Begin reading "Things Fall Apart"

Thursday, April 23

Lecture Topic: Progress? Development?

Reading Assignment:

Film on Globalization *Slums and Ordinary Lives DVD4520*

Film on Globalization: *The Philadelphia Story*

Film on Poverty in USA: *The Line VHS8965*

Tuesday, April 28

Lecture Topic: *Things Fall Apart and About Chinu Achebe*

Thursday, April 30

Lecture Topic *Things Fall Apart*

Tuesday, May 5

Lecture Topic: Class and Caste: Social Hierarchies

Reading Assignment:

In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 12 Stratification.

Film: Class Dismissed VHS 4345

Book Review "Things Fall Apart" is due in class today

Thursday, May 7

Lecture Topic: Culture and Religion

Reading Assignment

In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 14

Film: IK tribe of Uganda DVD 3070 and the Pulong DVD 3073

Take Home Exam II is Distributed in Class today

Tuesday, May 12

Lecture: Culture Change/Globalization

Reading Assignment:

In Nanda and Warms, Chapter 16

Third Film on Globalization: 1-800-India DVD 3002

Thursday, May 14

Lecture Topic: Human Rights and Forensic Anthropology

Film: *Following Antigone* DVD 2476

Take Home Exam 2 is due in class today

Tuesday, May 19