

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2023	Instructor Name:	Dr. Michelle D. Graham
Course Title & #:	Cultural Anthropology 102	Email:	michelle.graham@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20267	Webpage (optional):	n/a
Classroom:	n/a	Office #:	n/a
Class Dates:	February 13 to June 9	Office Hours:	Monday to Thursday 5:00—6:00pm via ConferZoom (by appointment only)
Class Days:	Every day	Office Phone #:	n/a
Class Times:	Anytime	Emergency Contact:	Department Secretary (760) 355-6144
Units:	3	Class Format:	Online Asynchronous

Course Description

This course explores how anthropologists study and compare human culture. Cultural anthropologists seek to understand the broad arc of human experience focusing on a set of central issues: how people around the world make their living (subsistence patterns); how they organize themselves socially, politically, and economically; how they communicate; how they relate to each other through family and kinship ties; what they believe about the world (belief systems); how they express themselves creatively (expressive culture); how they make distinctions among themselves such as through applying gender, racial, and ethnic identity labels; how they have shaped and been shaped by social inequalities such as colonialism; and how they navigate culture change and processes of globalization that affect us all. Ethnographic case studies highlight these similarities and differences, and introduce students to how anthropologists do their work, employ professional anthropological research ethics, and apply their perspectives and skills to understand humans around the globe. (CSU, UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

- Define the main goals and aims of cultural anthropology. (ILO2, ILO5)
- Describe the holistic and comparative approach. (ILO2, ILO5)
- Explain the difference between ethnocentrism and cultural relativism. (ILO2, ILO5)
- Demonstrate an understanding of global cultural diversity. (ILO2, ILO5)
- Explain how Applied Anthropology is used in archaeology, medical anthropology, business, education, and economics. (ILO2, ILO5)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe the goals of anthropology and its emphasis on cultural diversity.
- Describe the comparative and holistic perspectives on studying culture as well as ethnocentrism and cultural relativism and the importance of ethnographic studies.

- Summarize the development of theories in cultural anthropology and the ethical issues anthropologists encounter, and professional ethical obligations that must be met, in the study of cultural groups different from their own.
- Demonstrate knowledge of economic subsistence strategies from forgers to agriculture and the interconnectedness of economic, political, and sociocultural forces of globalization amongst diverse cultural groups.
- Describe why the family is the core of society and how kinship affects gender roles.
- Describe the multifariousness of supernatural beliefs and its importance in human society globalization.
- Understand how language serves as a basis for communication and cognitive perception.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the antiquity and creative forces of art and cultural change in human history.
- Explain the difference between ethnicity and the concept of race as a cultural construct.
- Recognize how Applied Anthropology is used in CRM studies such as archaeology, as well as in medical anthropology, business, education, and economics.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Welsch, R. L., & Vivanco, L. A. (2020). *Cultural anthropology: Asking questions about humanity* (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0197522929. Available through the [IVC bookstore](#)

You may also use an older edition but be aware that the content will vary slightly, and the page numbers will be different from those listed in the chapter overviews on Canvas. A copy of the book is on reserve at the IVC library.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

The unit module for each week will be posted to Canvas on Mondays. **You will participate in a discussion every week from Monday to Thursday, have a quiz every Friday, and an assignment due every Saturday.** Please organize your time accordingly and read the chapter early in the week so you will have notes to contribute to the discussion, study for the quiz, and complete your assignment. **If you would like to complete all your work early in the week to free up your weekend, you can.** *Please be sure to always upload your work well ahead of the deadline.*

Over a 17-week period, we will cover the entire textbook. At the beginning of each semester, at least one student asks if it will be necessary to acquire the book, and the answer is **yes**. Especially for an online class, it is imperative to read the book and use it to complete the quizzes and assignments. *Please make sure to buy it, borrow it, or share it.*

There will be no class during Spring Break from April 10 to 16. From April 17 to 22, there will be no discussion or assignment, only review and the midterm exam, which will cover the content of chapters 1 through 7 and Chapter 9. From June 5 to 9, there will be no discussion or assignment, only review and the final exam, which will cover the content of chapters 10 through 15.

The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. *Because this is a three-credit course, students should expect to invest a minimum of nine hours per week.*

Guidelines for Formatting Written Assignments and Avoiding Plagiarism:

Please prepare and upload written assignments as **Word or PDF** files. As a rule, sentences should contain a maximum of 12 words and paragraphs should contain between 8 and 12 lines, no more and no less. Try to follow these recommendations because it will improve the overall quality and readability of your writing. Note: If more than three words are copied from a source, they must be cited in quotation marks, or it constitutes plagiarism. Citations containing 40 or more words must be separated from the text in a block quote *without* quotation marks. **All assignments are**



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automatically run through Turnitin plagiarism detecting software on Canvas. Please make sure copied content remains below 10% of the total. Follow the American Psychological Association ([APA style guide](#)) for citations and references and ask the professor for further instructions if necessary. IVC standards of student conduct, including the institutional policy on academic honesty and plagiarism, can be consulted at [Standards of Student Conduct](#).

What if I need to borrow technology or access to WiFi?

You can obtain a loaner laptop, MYFI device, or other electronic device, by submitting a request form to [Student Technology Support](#)

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

A total of 390 points can be earned as follows:

Discussions: 14 discussions worth 5 points each = 70 points

Quizzes: 14 quizzes worth 10 points each = 140 points

Assignments: 12 assignments worth 10 points each = 120 points

Essay: 20 points

Midterm Exam: 20 points

Final Exam: 20 points

Final grades will be based on the accumulation of points. Canvas automatically converts those points into a percentage grade that I will convert to a letter grade using the following criteria:

89-100 A

79-88 B

69-78 C

59-68 D

58 or below F

Course Policies

Drop/Participation Policy

Initial Engagement

Students who have not logged onto Canvas or participated in the first week of class and have not contacted me to express their intent to participate in the course will be dropped.

Due Dates for Unit 1

The first discussion will close on Thursday February 16, the first quiz on Friday February 17, and the first assignment on Saturday February 18.

Late Work Policy

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes and exams cannot be rescheduled unless it has been arranged between the student and professor **at least 24 hours in advance of the deadline.**

Assignments

Missed assignments can be completed with a 50% penalty. If you wish to make up an assignment, send me a Canvas message to tell me which one and I will re-assign it to you for an extra week. *Each assignment can only be extended once; please do not ask for the same extension twice.* If you have a documented reason for missing the assignment and/or need special consideration, the late penalty may be waived on a case-by-case basis. **I will not accept assignments by Canvas message or email attachment for any reason.**

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit [IVC Student Resources](#) or click the heart icon on Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Due Dates
Week 1 February 13-18 Unit 1	Syllabus, Introduction Chapter 1 Anthropology Discussion 1 Quiz 1 Assignment 1	<i>Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday</i>
Week 2 February 20-25 Unit 2	Chapter 2 Culture Discussion 2 Quiz 2 Assignment 2	<i>Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday</i>
Week 3 February 27-March 4 Unit 3	Chapter 3 Ethnography Discussion 3 Quiz 3 Assignment 3	<i>Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday</i>
Week 4 March 6-11 Unit 4	Chapter 4 Linguistic Anthropology Discussion 4 Quiz 4 Assignment 4	<i>Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday</i>
Week 5 March 13-18 Unit 5	Chapter 5 Globalization and Culture Discussion 5 Quiz 5 Assignment 5	<i>Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday</i>
Week 6 March 20-25 Unit 6	Chapter 6 Foodways Discussion 6 Quiz 6 Assignment 6	<i>Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday</i>
Week 7 March 27-April 1 Unit 7	Chapter 7 Environmental Anthropology Discussion 7 Quiz 7 Begin short essay	<i>Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday</i>
Week 8 April 3-8	Chapter 9 Politics Discussion 8	<i>Monday to Thursday</i>



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Due Dates
Unit 8	Quiz 8 Finish short essay	<i>Friday</i> <i>Saturday</i>
Week 9 April 10 to 15 Spring Break		
Week 10 (April 17 to 22) Review and Midterm Exam Chapters 1 through 7 and Chapter 9		
Week 11 April 24-29 Unit 9	Chapter 10 Race, Ethnicity, and Class Discussion 9 Quiz 9 Assignment 7	<i>Monday to Thursday</i> <i>Friday</i> <i>Saturday</i>
Week 12 May 1-6 Unit 10	Chapter 11 Gender, Sex, and Sexuality Discussion 10 Quiz 10 Assignment 8	<i>Monday to Thursday</i> <i>Friday</i> <i>Saturday</i>
Week 13 May 8-13 Unit 11	Chapter 12 Kinship, Marriage, and Family Discussion 11 Quiz 11 Assignment 9	<i>Monday to Thursday</i> <i>Friday</i> <i>Saturday</i>
Week 14 May 15-20 Unit 12	Chapter 13 Religion Discussion 12 Quiz 12 Assignment 10	<i>Monday to Thursday</i> <i>Friday</i> <i>Saturday</i>
Week 15 May 22-27 Unit 13	Chapter 14 The Body Discussion 13 Quiz 13 Assignment 11	<i>Monday to Thursday</i> <i>Friday</i> <i>Saturday</i>
Week 16 May 29-June 3 Unit 14	Chapter 15 Materiality Discussion 14 Quiz 14 Assignment 12	<i>Monday to Thursday</i> <i>Friday</i> <i>Saturday</i>
Week 17 (December 5 to 10) Review and Final Exam Chapters 10 through 15		

Subject to change without prior notice