



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2025	Instructor Name:	Yuumi Danner
Course Title & #:	ANTH102—Cultural Anthropology	Email:	yuumi.danner@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20267	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	Online	Office #:	Online
Class Dates:	02/10/2025 to 06/06/2025	Office Hours:	Thursday 8:30-9:30 a.m.
Class Days:	Asynchronous (anytime, assignments due dates according to Canvas calendar)	Office Phone #:	Direct contact via email, Canvas Inbox, or Zoom or (760) 355-6144 [Department of Behavioral and Social Science Support Office]
Class Times:	Asynchronous (anytime)	Emergency Contact:	(760) 355-6144 [Department of Behavioral and Social Science Support Office]
Units:	3.00	Class Format/Modality:	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. (C-ID: ANTH 120) (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:

1. Define the main goals and aims of cultural anthropology.
2. Describe the holistic and comparative approach.
3. Explain the difference between ethnocentrism and cultural relativism demonstrating how cultural anthropology approach global cultural diversity.

Course Objectives

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

1. Describe the goals of anthropology and its emphasis on cultural diversity.
2. Describe the comparative and holistic perspectives in studying culture as well as ethnocentrism and cultural relativism and the importance of ethnographic studies.
3. 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 and application in cultural groups different from their own.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of economic subsistence strategies from foragers to agriculture and the interconnectedness of economic, political, and sociocultural forces of globalization amongst diverse cultural groups.
5. Describe why the family is the core of society and how kinship affects gender roles.
6. Describe the multifariousness of supernatural beliefs and their importance in human society globalization.
7. Understand how language serves as a basis for communication and cognitive perception.
8. Demonstrate an awareness of the antiquity and creative forces of art and cultural change in human history.
9. Explain the difference between ethnicity and the concept of race as a cultural construct.
10. 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

Nina Brown, Thomas McIlwraith, and Laura Tubelle de González

2020 Perspectives: An Open Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. 2nd ed. American Anthropological Association, Arlington, VA.

ISBN Print: 978-1-931303-67-5

ISBN Digital: 978-1-931303-66-8

This is a ZTC class. This textbook can be downloaded for free. The link is provided in the Course Materials and Software page in its Canvas course.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Course Requirements

Out-of-class

- Research Proposal

There are three written assignments associated with the Research Proposal throughout the semester, which may include one to five pages on topics closely related to current cultural practices and socio-cultural issues. These three assignments will develop a research proposal step by step: (1) a topic selection, (2) scholarly article reviews and citations, and (3) research proposal writing. Through

carefully choosing an appropriate topic, conducting background research, and planning a participant observation project, this assignment will demonstrate students' understanding of the concepts and methods of cultural anthropology as well as their research skills, critical thinking, and anthropological lens.

- Reading and Writing

Each module assigns textbook reading. Several writing assignments require further research using various sources, including the Internet, newspapers, and library sources. Word counts, format, other requirements, and grading rubrics are specified on each assignment page within the modules.

In-Class

- Course Participation

Students are expected to participate and interact with the instructor and with classmates. Your participation will be assessed through discussions and quizzes.

- Participation Expectations (with classmates and the instructor):
 - Be actively involved in your own learning.
 - Pay attention to emails and announcements in the course. Sign in to your course a few times a week so
 - you don't miss anything.
 - You are responsible for knowing when assignments are due and for handing them in on time.
 - Check your institutional email frequently.
 - Notify me immediately with any concerns or issues you may have; don't leave it until too late.
 - Be active with classmates' discussions and interactions.

My contact information, Office Hours, and contact policies are provided in the syllabus and Module 00. I will respond to your emails and questions in a timely fashion, two business days at the most. Any additional course information or updates will be provided through announcements. Feedback on assignments and exams will be provided through the grade book. I will monitor the course activities by acknowledging student contributions and answering questions.

- Participation Expectations (Assignments):

- A. Interact with Respect

- Introduce relevant, facilitating information, ideas, and opinions to enrich the discussion.
- Respond with relevant information or opinions to questions asked.
- Ask clarifying questions.
- Synthesize information, ideas, and opinions to determine relevancy.
- Acknowledge the contributions of others.
- Adjust tone to encourage equitable and respectful discussions.

- B. Preparation

- Read thoroughly.

- Take notes.
 - Do assignments on time.
 - Be prepared for class (readings, assignments, materials).
 - Set aside your cultural values (use your cultural relativism lens).
- C. Engagement
- Participate in small and large group discussions.
 - Utilize Canvas tools to communicate with classmates and the instructor.
 - Practice cultural anthropology in your daily life.

Instructional Methods

- Audio Visual
- Lecture
- Discussion
- Quiz
- Reading assignments
- Writing assignments
- Mid-term and Final Exams
- Two (2) hours of independent work done out of class per hour of lecture/class work, or 3 hours of lab, practicum, or the equivalent per unit is expected.
- Distance Learning

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading Scheme

A ≥ 90.0% (450-500 points)

B ≥ 80.0% (400-449 points)

C ≥ 70.0% (350-399 points)

D ≥ 59.0% (295-349 points)

F ≤ 58.9% (0-294 points)

Assignments	Maximum Points	% Total Grade
Discussions/Writing Assignments	50	10%
Quizzes	50	10%
Mid-Term Exam	100	20%
Final Exam	150	30%
Research Proposal Assignments	150 (20, 30, 100)	30%
Total Available Points	500	100%



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- Each module has a discussion forum or two or writing assignments. Students are required to make one to three discussion posts depending on the forum. In some modules, discussions are replaced by writing assignments.
- Each module has quizzes. Each quiz allows two attempts, and the better result is taken.
- The Research Proposal Assignment will have three submissions. Instructions and grading rubrics will be given separately.
- The Mid-term exam will cover everything learned during the first half of the semester.
- The final exam will cover everything learned during this semester.
- Mid-term and final exams have two attempts, but the second attempt is not considered a retake. The second attempt is there for situations like accidental submission before finishing all the questions.

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Course Policies

Attendance

A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class.

Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, **students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.** Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Netiquette

- "Netiquette" refers to the rules of behaving well online. It can be more difficult to discern meaning in written text than in spoken conversation, so pay particular attention to your words.
- Keep your language clear and concise; ensure posts are on-topic; use correct spelling, grammar, and capitalization (all caps = yelling); and contribute productively to conversations.

Academic Honesty



Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Other Course Information

N/A

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 <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Assignments
Week 1 Feb. 10-15	Syllabus & Introduction Chapter 1 Introduction to Anthropology	M01 Quizzes and Discussion
Week 2 Feb. 18-22	Chapter 2 The Culture Concept Chapter 3 Doing Fieldwork: Methods in Cultural Anthropology	M02 Quiz and Discussions

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Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Assignments
Week 3 Feb. 24-Mar. 1	Chapter 4 Language Chapter 5 Subsistence	M03 Quiz and Discussions
Week 4 Mar. 3-8	Chapter 6 Economics Chapter 7 Political Anthropology: A Cross-Cultural Comparison	M04 Quiz and Writing Assignment Self-Assessment
Week 5 Mar. 10-15	Chapter 8 Family and Marriage Chapter 9 Race and Ethnicity	M05 Quiz and Writing Assignment
Week 6 Mar. 17-22	Chapters 10 Gender and Sex Chapter 11 Religion	M06 Quiz and Discussion
Week 7 Mar. 24-29	Chapter 12 Globalization Research Project Idea (due: Saturday, 03/29/2025)	M07 Quiz and Research Project Idea
Week 8 Mar. 31-Apr.5	Mid-term Exam (due: Saturday, 04/05/2025)	M08 Mid-term Exam
Week 9 Apr. 7-12	Chapter 13 The History of Anthropological Ideas	M09 Quiz and Writing Assignment
Week 10 Apr. 14-19	Chapter 14 Culture and Sustainability: Environmental Anthropology in the Anthropocene	M10 Quiz and Discussion
Spring Recess, No Class (Campus Closed)		
Week 11 Apr. 28-May 3	Chapter 15 Performance	M11 Quiz and Discussion
Week 12 May 5-10	Chapter 16 Media Anthropology: Meaning, Embodiment, Infrastructure, and Activism Literature Review (due: Saturday, 05/10/2025)	M12 Quiz Literature Review
Week 13 May 12-17	Chapter 17 Health and Medicine	M13 Quiz and Discussion
Week 14 May 19-24	Chapter 18 Seeing Like an Anthropologist: Anthropology in Practice	M14 Quiz and Writing Assignment



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Assignments
Week 15 May 27-31	Chapter 19 Public Anthropology Research Proposal (due: Saturday, 05/31/2025)	M15 Quiz and Discussion Research Proposal
Week 16 June 2-6	Final Exam (due: Friday, 06/06/2025 at noon)	M16 Final Exam

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****