

Cedar Crest College
Anthropology 100-80 and 100-70
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
Fall 2008
Thursdays, 6:30 – 9:00 pm
Curtis Hall, Room 135

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Syllabus

Course description: This is an introductory course in cultural anthropology. You will read about the major topical areas of the field, as well as two ethnographies of non-Western people: the Dobe Ju people of southern Africa and the Gebusi of Papua New Guinea. The ethnographies illustrate important points about human ecology, family, gender, religion, and world views. The goals of the course are to familiarize you with human diversity and to help you understand some of the cultural logic and values of non-Western societies. Format: lecture and discussion. 3-credit course.

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course. However, I do assume that you have basic computer literacy skills, including the ability to locate websites such as Cedar Crest Online (www.cedarcrestonline.net), use word processing software, download documents, and use e-mail. Please contact the Information Technology Department at 610-606-4635 or helpdesk@cedarcrest.edu if you need to hone your computer skills.

Required reading:

Textbooks:

- Kottak, CP (2007) "Mirror for Humanity.", 6th edition, McGraw-Hill, ISBN 9780073405247
- Lee, RB (2003) "The Dobe Ju/'hoansi.", 3rd edition, Wadsworth, ISBN 0155063332
- Knauff, B (2005) "The Gebusi: Lives Transformed in a Rainforest World.", 1st edition, McGraw-Hill, ISBN 0072972637

These books are available in the campus bookstore. However, you may be able to purchase used copies of Lee and Knauff at sites like www.half.com and www.bigwords.com. Please note, however, that we will begin using the Kottak and Lee texts early in the course.

Cedar Crest Online:

In addition to the required texts listed above, you will need to download required reading from Cedar Crest Online (COnline) for you to download. You can access Cedar Crest Online by visiting <http://www.cedarcrestonline.net>. All documents for this course are located under the "Doc Sharing" tab and are organized by document type (articles, quiz review sheets, etc.). Please do all assigned reading BEFORE the class meeting for which it is assigned. The documents on our COnline course are in PDF format; you will need to have a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader in order to read or print these articles.

Please try to download the documents from CCOOnline well in advance so that any kinks can be worked out.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Assignments	20 %
Quiz 1	20 %
Quiz 2	20 %
Quiz 3	20 %
Attendance and Participation	<u>20 %</u>
Total	100 %

Please note that all work that you do for this course is governed by the Community Standards for Academic Conduct in the Student Handbook, (<http://www.cedarcrest.edu/Redesign/pdf/CCCHandbook05.pdf>).

Evidence of cheating or plagiarism is grounds for an automatic “F” on the assignment, quiz, or presentation, and for certain cheating or plagiarism infractions, you may stand to fail the course.

Assignments: We will occasionally do in-class or take-home assignments during this course, as a way of reinforcing some of the topics we will cover. All assignments are graded out of a maximum of 10 points and are due 1 week after they are assigned (there are no exceptions).

Quizzes: There will be 3 non-cumulative quizzes in this course. All quizzes are governed by the Honor Code. Please see the Course Schedule below for the quiz dates; Quizzes 1 and 2 will take place during our normal class meeting time, while Quiz 3 will take place during the final exam period. All materials covered in the course (lectures, readings, assignments, and films) are considered “fair game” for quizzes. Quizzes are graded out of a possible maximum of 100 points. Quizzes will consist of a mix of multiple choice questions, true / false, short answer questions, and essays. If you are more than 15 minutes late on an exam day, you will be considered absent. If you are absent from an quiz, you will not be permitted to make it up as there are NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES unless there are truly exceptional circumstances, as determined by me. You must not leave the classroom until you are done. Cell phones, etc. must be turned off and stored away during the quiz. Cheating on a quiz is grounds for an automatic “F” in this course.

Attendance and Participation: I will note your attendance at each class meeting. You will be considered absent if you arrive more than 15 minutes late to class. You may miss up to 1 class meeting without providing an excuse and this absence will not affect your Attendance and Participation grade (also see “Absences”, below). If you wish to have your absence excused, please contact the Student Affairs Office (610-606-3371).

Course Policies:

Please note that you are bound to the guidelines for behavior outlined in the Community Standards for Academic Conduct in the Student Handbook.

(<http://www.cedarcrest.edu/Redesign/pdf/CCCHandbook05.pdf>).

The specific rules for this course are outlined below:

Lectures: Although some of my lectures may be in electronic format (i. e., PowerPoint), I cannot provide you with copies of them. I will make every effort to allow you enough time to take lecture notes – don't feel shy about asking me to slow down.

Required Reading: Please do all assigned reading (i.e., the textbooks or articles from Cedar Crest Online) BEFORE the class meeting for which it is assigned, so that you will be properly prepared for class. I recommend that you at least skim the material before the lecture, and note any terms and concepts that are new to you, or may be difficult. You can then ask questions about the material you don't understand during lecture.

Absences: If you miss more than 1 class meeting, you must contact the Student Affairs Office (610-606-3371) in order to have an absence excused. If the Student Affairs Office concludes that your absence is legitimate, they will contact your instructors (including me) to let us know that your absence is to be excused. Student athletes should contact me WELL IN ADVANCE regarding any class meetings that they will miss due to games. Regardless of the nature of your absence, you are responsible for the material you missed, so I suggest that you obtain lecture notes from another student when you miss a class meeting.

Classroom Protocol: I expect that you treat me and your fellow students with respect. Therefore, I expect that you will arrive to class on time, turn off your cell phone, and refrain from talking or leaving the classroom in the middle of a lecture. Please prepare yourself for class discussions by doing the required reading before class. Please do not text message or do work for other classes during our class meetings. Feel free to eat in the classroom, as long as you can avoid disrupting the class.

Students with Disabilities: I will make every effort to accommodate students with disabilities. If you have a disability, please contact Academic Services (610-606-4628, Curtis Hall Room 109, advising@cedarcrest.edu). They will then contact me to let me know about your specific needs.

Contacting me: You may e-mail me using the contact information on the first page of this syllabus. When you send me an e-mail, please give the course name or number and give me detailed information regarding the issue and how to contact you. Please allow 24 hours for me to respond. Additionally, I may occasionally communicate with the class by sending e-mail. Therefore, you should check you Cedar Crest e-mail account frequently, at least on a daily basis.

Cheating and Plagiarism: Evidence of plagiarism or cheating, as described in the Student Handbook, on assignments or quizzes is grounds for an automatic "F" in this course.

Incompletes: Following the policy of Cedar Crest College, an “Incomplete” or “I” grade may only be obtained if at least 75% of the coursework has been completed. Forms for incomplete grades may be obtained from the Academic Services Office (610-606-4628, Curtis Hall Room 109, advising@cedarcrest.edu), and require the signatures of your advisor and myself.

Outcomes and Means of Assessment:

- Understand key concepts in cultural anthropology: culture, evolution, ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, gender, class, race, ethnicity, etc. Assessed by exams
- Understand some degree of human variation with respect to family and kinship, subsistence, politics, law, and religion. Assessed by exams
- Become aware of impact of globalization on small societies. Assessed by exams

Additional Information:

Cedar Crest occasionally closes due to bad weather. The weather hotline is 610-606-4629. Due to the fact that I will be traveling from Philadelphia for this course, I may cancel a class meeting in advance if road conditions are bad. If this happens, I will send an e-mail to the effect that class has been canceled, and have someone post a message on the classroom door.

Course Schedule

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE! It is your responsibility to attend class in order to be made aware of any changes in the content of this syllabus. Please do all readings BEFORE the class meeting for which they are assigned.

(***TBA = “to be announced”; CCOonline = “Cedar Crest Online” ***)

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
Aug. 28	Introduction to the course and the four fields of Anthropology. The scientific method.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapter 1 2) <u>CCOnline</u> : Miner
<i>Sept. 4 – last day to drop / add</i>		
Sept. 4	How do cultural anthropologists do their research? Ethical issues in fieldwork. Culture, ethnocentrism, and cultural relativism. Introducing the Ju/'hoansi. Assignment 1.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapters 2 & 3 2) <u>Lee</u> : Chapter 1 and Appendix A (p. 207-227) 3) <u>CCOnline</u> : Abu-Lughod
Sept. 11	Subsistence strategies. How do people in other cultures make a living? Assignment 1 due. Assignment 2.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapter 5 (p. 82-92) 2) <u>Lee</u> : Chapters 2-4 3) <u>CCOnline</u> : Gadsby

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
Sept. 18	Kinship, marriage & sexuality. Political systems. Review for quiz. Assignment 3.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapters 6 & 7 2) <u>Lee</u> : Chapters 5, 6 & 8 3) <u>CCOnline</u> : Goldstein 4) <u>CCOnline</u> : Geertz
Sept. 25	QUIZ 1 Ethnicity and race. Assignments 2 and 3 due.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapter 11 2) <u>CCOnline</u> : AAA statement on race and McIntosh
Oct. 2	Features of language and speech. Discourse among the Ju. Introducing the Gebusi. Film, "American Tongues" Assignment 4	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapter 4 2) <u>Lee</u> : Chapter 7 3) <u>Knauff</u> : Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2 4) <u>CCOnline</u> : Thomson 5) <u>CCOnline</u> : Napoli
Oct. 9	CLASS CANCELLED	Catch up on your reading!
Oct. 16	Religion and religious ritual. Film, "N!ai, the Life of a !Kung Woman" Assignment 5. Assignment 4 due.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapter 9 2) <u>Lee</u> : Chapter 9 3) <u>CCOnline</u> : Gmelch 4) <u>CCOnline</u> : Sosis
Oct. 23	Gender and sexuality. Sorcery and kinship among the Gebusi. Assignment 6. Review for quiz.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapter 8 2) <u>Knauff</u> : Chapters 3 & 4 3) <u>CCOnline</u> : Williams
Oct. 30	QUIZ 2 Gebusi ritual. Assignments 5 and 6 due.	1) <u>Knauff</u> : Chapters 5 & 6
Nov. 6	Economic systems, distribution & exchange. Film, "Ongka's Big Moka" The modern world system. Cultural change among the Gebusi. Assignment 7.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapters 5 (p. 92-104) & 10 2) <u>Knauff</u> : Chapters 7 & 8 3) <u>CCOnline</u> : Counts
<i>Nov. 10: Last day to withdraw from this course</i>		

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
Nov. 13	Response to cultural change. Applied anthropology. Applying anthropological concepts: cultural change. Assignment 8. Assignment 7 due.	1) <u>Kottak</u> : Chapters 12 & 13 2) <u>CCOnline</u> : Turner 1) <u>Lee</u> : Chapters 10-12 2) <u>Knauff</u> : Chapters 9 - end
Nov. 20	Globalization. Film, "The Toured" Assignment 9. Assignment 8 due.	1) <u>CCOnline</u> : Brennan 2) <u>CCOnline</u> : Watson 3) <u>CCOnline</u> : Globalization definition
Nov. 27	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS	Catch up on your reading!
Dec. 4	Discuss Assignment 9 findings. Film, "New Rulers of the World". Review for quiz.	Catch up on your reading!
TBA	QUIZ 3 Assignment 9 due <i>(during final exam period)</i>	