

UC 12124 12F

CBM003 ADD/CHANGE FORM

Undergraduate Council  
 New Course  Course Change  
 Core Category: Soc Behv Sci Effective Fall 2014

or  
 Graduate/Professional Studies Council  
 New Course  Course Change  
 Effective Fall 2014

- Department: CCS College: CLASS
- Faculty Contact Person: Susan Rassmussen Telephone: 33782 Email: srasmussen@uh.edu
- Course Information on New/Revised course:
  - Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:  
ANTH / 2302 / Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
  - Instructional Area / Course Number / Short Course Title (30 characters max.)  
ANTH / 2302 / INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHR
  - SCH: 3.00 Level: SO CIP Code: 45.0299.05 01 Lect Hrs: 3 Lab Hrs: 0
- Justification for adding/changing course: To meet core curriculum requirements
- Was the proposed/revised course previously offered as a special topics course?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, please complete:
  - Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:  
\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_
  - Course ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date (currently active row): \_\_\_\_\_
- Authorized Degree Program(s): BA/BS
  - Does this course affect major/minor requirements in the College/Department?  Yes  No
  - Does this course affect major/minor requirements in other Colleges/Departments?  Yes  No
  - Can the course be repeated for credit?  Yes  No (if yes, include in course description)
- Grade Option: Letter (A, B, C ...) Instruction Type: lecture ONLY (Note: Lect/Lab info. must match item 3, above.)
- If this form involves a change to an existing course, please obtain the following information from the course inventory: Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title  
ANTH / 2302 / Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
  - Course ID: 292294 Effective Date (currently active row): 2003
- Proposed Catalog Description: (If there are no prerequisites, type in "none".)  
 Cr: 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: concurrent enrollment in or completion of ENGL 1303 or equivalent.  
 Description (30 words max.): Survey of basic concepts and data in cultural anthropology, focusing on contemporary and recent human groups.

RECEIVED OCT 12 2012

10. Dean's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10/9/12  
 Print/Type Name: Sarah Fishman

## REQUEST FOR COURSES IN THE CORE CURRICULUM

Originating Department or College: Comparative Cultural Studies

Person Making Request: Susan Rasmussen

Telephone: 713-743-3987

Email: srasmusen@uh.edu

Dean's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 09-10-12

Course Number and Title: Anthropology 2302: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Please attach in separate documents:

Completed CBM003 Add/Change Form with Catalog Description

Syllabus

List the student learning outcomes for the course (Statements of what students will know and be able to do as a result of taking this course. See appended hints for constructing these statements):

\*Students will attain, through lectures, discussions, and readings, and demonstrate, through exams and other assignments such as the exercise/essay, knowledge about different cultures and societies and anthropological approaches to studying them. \*Students will develop, through class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of cultural/social anthropology, critical readings and thinking skills. \*Students will, in class and in written assignments, demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively. \*Students will, through their assignments, develop their ability to use empirical skills in their writing and thinking, and learn proper documentation skills. \*Students will explore issues of social responsibility in class and in their writing.

Component Area for which the course is being proposed (check one):

**\*Note:** If you check the Component Area Option, you would need to also check a Foundational Component Area.

Communication

American History

Mathematics

Government/Political

Science

Language, Philosophy, & Culture

Social & Behavioral Science

Creative Arts

Component Area Option

Life & Physical Sciences

Competency areas addressed by the course (refer to appended chart for competencies that are required and optional in each component area):

X Critical Thinking

Teamwork

X Communication Skills

X Social Responsibility

X Empirical & Quantitative Skills

Personal Responsibility

Because we will be assessing student learning outcomes across multiple core courses, assessments assigned in your course must include assessments of the core competencies. For each competency checked above, indicated the specific course assignment(s) which, when completed by students, will provide evidence of the competency. Provide detailed information, such as copies of the paper or project assignment, copies of individual test items, etc. A single assignment may be used to provide data for multiple competencies.

#### Critical Thinking:

Students will attain, through lectures, discussions, and readings, and demonstrate, through exams and other assignments such as the exercise/essay, knowledge about different cultures and societies and anthropological approaches to studying them. Students will develop, through class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of cultural/social anthropology, critical reading and thinking skills.

#### Sample paper assignment(s):

In the US, as elsewhere, many people have notions of disease that are not always scientific. In a "mini-fieldwork" project, construct an interview that includes questions eliciting these notions, for example, why people get colds often; their prevention and treatment; depression; allergies? How does one feel when patient and doctor differ in their opinions? Examine also your own "folk" beliefs and knowledge and practices concerning health/illness, and give anthropological advice based on your findings to a hypothetical doctor who must work with you and those you interviewed.

Or:

A business or other work setting may be thought of as a social organization with cultural knowledge, values, worldview, etiquette, rituals, and other social practices. Select any organization and its work setting with which you are familiar, for example, a school or a business, and describe it in these terms, and then analyze this using concepts and methods from ethnography.

#### Communication Skills:

Students will, in class and in written assignments, demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively.

#### Empirical & Quantitative Skills:

Students will, through their assignments, develop their ability to use empirical skills in their writing and thinking, and learn proper documentation skills.

#### Teamwork:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

#### Social Responsibility:

Students will explore issues of social responsibility in class and in their writing.

#### Personal Responsibility:

Will the syllabus vary across multiple section of the course?     Yes             No

If yes, list the assignments that will be constant across sections:

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Inclusion in the core is contingent upon the course being offered and taught at least once every other academic year. Courses will be reviewed for renewal every 5 years.

The department understands that instructors will be expected to provide student work and to participate in university-wide assessments of student work. This could include, but may not be limited to, designing instruments such as rubrics, and scoring work by students in this or other courses. In addition, instructors of core courses may be asked to include brief assessment activities in their course.

Dept. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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Dr. S. Rasmussen ANT 2302, Section 03577

University of Houston  
 Department of Anthropology  
 McElhinney 258-A  
 Phone: (direct) 743-3787 or (departmental administrator) 743-3780

Anthropology 2302, Section 03577  
 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology  
 Spring Semester 2002  
 Time: MWF noon-1PM  
 Place: SW 101  
 Professor S. Rasmussen  
 Office Hours: WF 1:00-2:00PM or by special appointment

(NOTE: This syllabus is subject to minor modifications and refinements throughout the semester, as determined by the professor to suit the class's needs as these arise. It is the student's responsibility to attend class regularly for further information, announcements, etc.)

Subject Matter, Goals of Course:

Cultural anthropology is the study of human beliefs and practices from a comparative perspective. As anthropologists we are concerned with the influence of both the physical and social environments on people's value systems and their activities. We approach these questions comparatively, studying peoples from all parts of the world looking for similarities and differences, but in a non-judgmental way. The goal of this course is to give you an idea of how anthropological work proceeds; to provide a cultural perspective in understanding the varieties of cultural experiences as well as the constraints imposed on the participants in a given culture.

People make "sense" and it is the anthropologist's task to figure out the sense of a particular group he or she is studying. By making ourselves familiar with "distant" customs and practices we hope to make the "familiar" a bit more strange, and the seemingly strange a bit more familiar, so that ideas and behavior which are usually implicitly assumed and acted upon may be brought to the surface of consciousness and examined. The anthropologist seeks to understand the peoples of the world in their own terms and, as such, tries to maintain a nonjudgmental attitude and to empathize with different cultures. Anthropology bridges the gaps among disciplines that study human beings by seeking an understanding of human society through ways of making a living, the arts, religious beliefs, and other areas of behavior and the types of institutions used to achieve given needs and cultural goals.

I hope to develop your facility for thinking about that which you have been conditioned all your life to accept without question—not so that you will become cynical about it, but so that you may examine it honestly, with a measure of objectivity, and in the process gain a degree of respect for what can be learned from life-ways of other peoples.

During this course, you will be "doing" anthropology, that is, figuring out how and why people do things the way they do. You will be reading what anthropologists have written about the various aspects of culture and society: you will be seeing films that illustrate these points; and you will be applying these concepts in your own research.

Since this is a social science course focusing on people and behavior, the format will vary and allow for ample discussion. Although the instructor will present much background material in lecture form, emphasis will be placed also upon both general and small-group discussions, in so far as time permits. There will be in addition occasional panel and role-playing presentations in order to amplify and apply general concepts and demonstrate unified themes. Discussions of readings and films will be led alternately by the instructor and students. Readings must be completed on time, and prepared for class meetings by the date of assignment indicated on the course syllabus. There will be NO CHANGES IN DATES ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMINATIONS ARE SUBMITTED. Do not take this course unless you

plan to submit the required written assignments and exams on the due dates; failure to complete these on time will result in a penalty of diminished points and lowered grades.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will attain, through lectures, discussions, and readings, and demonstrate, through exams and other assignments such as the exercise/essay, knowledge about different cultures and societies and anthropological approaches to studying them. Students will develop, through class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of cultural/social anthropology, critical readings and thinking skills.
- Students will, in class and in written assignments, demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively.
- Students will, through their assignments, develop their ability to use empirical skills in their writing and thinking, and learn proper documentation skills.
- Students will explore issues of social responsibility in class and in their writing.

Readings (three books):

- The principal text, Cultural Anthropology, by William Haviland, Harcourt Brace College Publishers (latest edition)
- an ethnographic monograph, Death Without Weeping, by Nancy Scheper-Hughes, University of California Berkeley Press 1992; and
- an anthology of edited articles, Annual Editions: Anthropology 2001-2002 or latest edition, edited by Elvio Angeloni, Duskin Publishing Company

All students are required to read these books, to be purchased, all in paper, at the bookstore. Students are responsible for the required readings; therefore, it is your responsibility to plan your schedule so as to complete assignments on time. The instructor will indicate which readings are required, and which ones are recommended, at intervals throughout the semester.

All members of class will read the required material prior to the class meeting for which they are assigned. I always encourage open, but courteous interaction in classes. Regardless of class size, only a portion of time will be devoted to lecture; another portion will consist of commentary and/or discussion of readings, debates, presentations of reviews and/or field projects/exercises by small groups, panels, and the general class group.

Grades will be based on four written requirements:

- TWO MIDTERM EXAMS, one consisting of an in-class, closed-book exam on February 25; the other a take-home, open-book exam distributed March 20 and due March 22, each 20 points, total 40 points;
- ONE short written take-home assignment involving a "mini"-fieldwork project on one topic to be chosen by the student from among three topics distributed two weeks in advance of due date by the professor, not to exceed four typed, double-spaced pages; distributed April 1 and due April 15, total 30 points;
- ONE in-class, closed-book, final exam, taken May 8, 11AM-2PM, covering ALL SUBJECT MATTER INCLUDED AFTER THE FIRST MIDTERM, total 30 points, NO EXCEPTIONS MADE ON SCHEDULING OF THESE REQUIREMENTS

Course Outline:

General Orientation, Overview

UNIT

I. Week of Jan. 14: Introduction to Anthropology: What it is and Why Study it

Readings: Haviland text, chapters 1 and 2

Jan. 14: Guest lecture by Professor J. Harper

films: Jan. 16: Hinduism and the Song of God

Jan. 18: Margaret Mead: Taking Note

NO CLASS MONDAY JANUARY 21; MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

II. Jan. 23 and 25: History of Cultural Anthropology and its Theory

Readings: Re-read carefully in Haviland text, chapter 1; and in Annual Editions: Anthropology: Miner and Bohannan articles

films: Jan. 23: Elephants of Timbuktu;

Jan. 25: In the White Man's Image: Indian Education

III. Week of Jan. 28: What Social/Cultural Anthropologists Do: Fieldwork Methods, Ethnographic Issues

Readings: In Annual Editions: Anthropology: Kurin article; in Scheper-Hughes book: Prologue,

Introduction, and chapter 1

Jan. 28: Guest lecture by Professor J. Harper

films: Jan. 30: Healing Rituals and Rites of the Zoa of Brazil

Feb. 1: Holy Ghost People (reel #2, only)

IV. Week of Feb. 4: Language and Culture

Readings: Haviland text, chapter 4; Annual Editions: Anthropology, Lutz and Tannen articles

V. Week of Feb. 11: Subsistence and Adaptation; Economics and Production

Readings: Haviland, chapters 6 and 7; in Scheper-Hughes, chapters 2 and 3

#### FIRST MIDTERM EXAM MONDAY FEB. 25

VI. Week of Feb. 18: The Individual and the Collectivity: Socialization, Culture and Personality, and the Life Course

Readings: in Haviland: chapter 5 and selected pages (To be announced) only in chapter 11; in Scheper-Hughes: chapter 4; in Annual Editions: Tepilit Ole Saitoti article

#### Systems of Membership and Relationship

VII. Week of Feb. 25: Kinship, Marriage, Descent

Readings: Haviland: chapters 8,9 and 10; in Annual Editions: Goldstein and Nanda

#### NO CLASS WEEK OF MARCH 4; SPRING BREAK

VIII. Week of Mar. 11: Sex and Gender

Readings: in Haviland: selected pages (to be announced) only in chapter 11; in Annual Editions: Friedl; Sillah and Simmons articles

IX. Week of Mar. 18: Politics, and Social Control and Stratification

Readings: Haviland: chapters 11 and 12; in Annual Editions: Moore Lappe and Collins article

#### SECOND MIDTERM EXAM (TAKE-HOME) DISTRIBUTED MAR. 20 AND DUE MAR. 22

Other Worlds: Mind, Body and Emotion

X. Week of Mar. 25: Health, Illness, and Curing in Cross-Cultural Perspective

Readings: Scheper-Hughes, chapters 5 and 6; Annual Editions: Marshall

XI. Week of Apr. 1: Religion and Worldview

Readings: Haviland text chapter 13; Scheper-Hughes chapters 7 through 9

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED APRIL 1 AND DUE APRIL 15

XII. .Week of Apr. 8: Expressive Culture: Art and Symbolism in Anthropological Perspective

Readings: Haviland text chapter 14; Scheper-Hughes chapters 10 and 11

XIII. Week of April 15: Anthropology and Contemporary Problems of Human Rights, Part I

Readings: Haviland: chapter 15; and in Annual Editions: Fagan

XIV. Week of April 22 and Mon. April 29: Anthropology and Contemporary Problems of Human Rights, Part II Applied Anthropology and "Development"

Readings: Haviland chapter 16; Complete Scheper-Hughes book (chapter 12 and Epilogue)

Slides from Professor Rasmussen's field research

FINAL EXAMINATION WED., MAY 8, 11AM-2PM