

COURSE OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY – ANTH 203.3

Fall 2013

ST 140

WEDNESDAY

18:00 – 20:50 PM

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Saulesh Yessenova. Office: ES 602C. Email: sbyessen@ucalgary.ca

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Lauren Tognela <ltognela@ucalgary.ca>

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will introduce students to social and cultural anthropology. We will explore key areas, issues, and approaches that have shaped the discipline. Special attention will be paid to the diversity of human culture and academic debates that have addressed it, a phenomenon central to anthropological inquiry. Topics of interest will include a broad range of social and cultural forms: from traditional areas of anthropological research, such as religion, symbolism, social and political organization, to more recent concerns with gender and globalization.

COURSE AIMS: This course is designed to help students to (a) enhance awareness and appreciation of cultural and social diversity in the world and the way people give meaning to their experiences; (b) develop a basic understanding of key anthropological concepts, theories, and methodology; (c) help students to develop a firm understanding that all human experiences are embedded within particular historical and cultural contexts and corresponding political realms; and (d) provide an informed critical commentary on how society and culture work.

COURSE FORMAT: The course will include lectures, class discussions, films, assigned readings, and other activities on which students will be tested. Lectures will not simply repeat the material in the assigned readings, but will contain additional material that may be included in formal assessment. Therefore, students are encouraged to attend all classes, take notes, and complete assigned readings prior to the class.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- ↓ Moore, Jerry D. *Visions of culture: an Annotated Reader*. AltaMira Press, 2009.
- ↓ Copeland, Nick and Christine Labuski *The World of Wal-Mart: Discounting the American Dream*, Routledge, 2013.

Both texts are available at the university bookstore.

Additional required readings will be posted on Blackboard.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:

Evaluation of the course will be based on the following items of course work:

↓ In-class test on Oct. 9th	30%
↓ In-class test on Nov. 6th	30%
↓ Registrar's -scheduled final examination	40%

In-class tests will include multiple-choice questions and questions requiring short answers designed to assess knowledge of material covered in assigned readings, lectures, films shown in class, and associated internet resources.

University-scheduled final exam will be similar to the tests in format. Further details will be provided in class.

Please note: requests for differed final examination should be obtained from the Office of the Registrar. The Final Exam Schedule will be posted by the Registrar later in the semester and you should assume you could have a final examination at any point during the final examination period (9 Dec. – 19 Dec.).

Please note: no alternate final examinations arrangements will be approved by the instructor to accommodate travel plans.

Further details on tests and the final exam will be provided in class and at the time assignments are given. Students registered with the Student Access Center requiring special examination conditions should present their documentation to the instructor early in the course so that alternate arrangements can be made.

All course work will be graded on a 100-point system. At the end of the course the total number of marks will be converted to the official university letter grade system according to the following equivalences:

A+	100 - 94.9%	B+	84.8 – 79.9%	C+	70.8– 66.9%	D+	58.8 – 54.9%
A	94.8 - 89.9%	B	79.8 - 74.9%	C	66.8 – 62.9%	D	54.8 – 49.9%
A-	89.8 - 84.9%	B-	74.8 – 70.9%	C-	62.8 – 58.9%	F	49.8% and below

COMMUNICATION:

INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 14:30 – 15:30 ES 602C (between Sept. 16 and Nov. 25, excluding holidays) or by appointment.

EMAILING TO INSTRUCTOR: Students are welcome to forward their questions and comments to the instructor or TA's email indicated at the top of this document.

COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE VIA EMAIL:

- ✚ Please use your university account when possible. Otherwise, use an account with an appropriate name (example of an unacceptable email: sexymama@gmail.com).
- ✚ Use a clear subject line that includes the course name and the topic of the email such as: "ANTH 203. Question about my schedule."
- ✚ Please be respectful (i.e., not too casual) when addressing either myself or your TA in an email. Use an appropriate greeting (acceptable: "Dear Dr. Yessenova;" unacceptable: "Hey there").
- ✚ Keep in mind that answers to the questions concerning the matters clearly stated on the course outline will not be provided.
- ✚ Keep question(s) short and to the point. Show that you have made an effort to find the answer first in the text and lecture material (or even an outside source). State what you know in relation to what you are having a difficult time understanding.
- ✚ Include your full name and student ID in the signature of your email.
- ✚ Allow 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.

Please note: we may choose not to respond to emails that do not follow the format outlined above.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION:

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency situation please note that the primary assembly point shall be at the Professional Faculties Food Court and the Education Block food court shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office @ 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology Departments policy on intellectual honesty available at:

<https://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>

SCHEDULE OF LECTURE TOPICS, FILMS & REQUIRED READINGS

	Date	Topics/film titles/exams	Readings
1	11 Sept	Introduction to the course. What's anthropology and why take this course?	Miner, <i>Body Rituation Among the Nacarima (BB)</i>
2	18 Sept	Social anthropology: evolutionism (Edward Tyler & L. H. Morgan). Film: <i>Cannibal Tours (70 min.)</i>	Moore, Chapters 1 & 2
3	25 Sept	Social and cultural anthropology: different directions (Franz Boas & Emile Durkheim). Film: <i>Strangers Abroad: Everything is Relative (52 min.)</i>	Moore, Chapters 3 & 4
4	2 Oct	Social anthropology: ethnographic fieldwork; structural-functionalism.	Moore, Chapters 9 – 12
5	9 Oct	In-class test.	
6	16 Oct	Cultural anthropology (Ruth Benedict & Margaret Mead). Cultural relativism. Film: <i>Tribal Wives: Afar (58 min.)</i>	Moore, Chapters 6 & 8
7	23 Oct	Symbolic anthropology (Victor Turner, Clifford Geertz & Mary Douglas). Film: <i>Kataragama: An Ancient Hindu God Revived (52 min.)</i>	Moore, Chapters 18 – 20
8	30 Oct	Cultural and political ecology (Leslie White & Julian Stewart; Eric Wolf). Film: Alberta's Tar Sands (TBC). Film: <i>The Land on Which We Stand (31 min.)</i>	Moore, Chapters 13, 14 & 24
9	6 Nov	In-class test.	
10	13 Nov	Film: <i>Darwin's Nightmare (106 min.)</i> . Film discussion	
11	20 Nov	Film: Anne Leonard's <i>The Story of Stuff (21 min.)</i> . The World of Wal-Mart	Annotated script and other attachments for the <i>Story of Stuff (BB)</i> . Copeland & Labuski, Chapters 1 – 4.
12	27 Nov	The World of Wal-Mart	Copeland & Labuski, Chapters 5 – 8.
13	4 Dec	TBC	