

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

**ANTH 317.01**  
**ETHNOGRAPHIC SURVEY SOUTH OF THE SAHARA**  
WINTER 2018  
Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 - 10:45 P.M.  
SB 105

Instructor: Charles Mather  
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Office Hours MF 10:00 to 12:00 p.m.

Prerequisite: ANTH 203

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Anthropology 317 is one of the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's ethnographic survey courses, which have the aim of providing an introduction to the peoples and social institutions of the various ethnographic provinces of the world. The department intends for these courses to have two principal audiences: (1) undergraduate majors in social and cultural anthropology, for whom these courses should provide substantive knowledge to complement the various theoretical and methodological courses the department offers, and (2) students coming from outside of social and cultural anthropology, who for any reason wish to learn about the peoples and cultures of selected parts of the world.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Identify and briefly describe the major vegetation zones, climate areas, and physiographic provinces of the continent
2. Discuss culture history, language families, and origins and spread of food production
3. Describe and provide ethnographic examples of independent and symbiotic foraging societies
4. Describe and provide ethnographic examples of stateless societies
5. Describe and provide ethnographic examples of traditional African states

**COURSE CONTENT**

This course surveys sub-Saharan African cultures from a broad anthropological perspective. The first part of the course will focus on the culture history of the continent covering the last 25000 years or so, and introducing geography, history, and linguistic and ethnic groups. The second and larger part of the course will concentrate on a sample of societies that represent ethnographically important and widespread traditional

institutions (e.g., lineages, age-sets, military regiments, the “cattle complex”, chiefly authority). These societies can be broken into 3 groups: foragers, stateless societies, and traditional African states. As this is an anthropological course, we are concerned with traditional social institutions and cultural practices as described in the ethnographic literature of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (i.e., we will not be directly addressing issues related to contemporary social change, urbanization, and national development).

## **REQUIRED TEXT**

Students can locate readings for Anthropology 317 on the D2L space for this course.

## **ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATIONS**

The final grade will be based upon marks received on two mid-term examinations, and a final examination. Values for each of the above appear below. Questions for the exams will come from the text for the course, the films students will see, and the lectures they will hear. Exams will include a variety of question types: short answers, multiple choice, matching, identification, definition, and labeling of maps, intended to test comprehension of reading and lecture materials.

1 <sup>st</sup> mid-term	30%	February 13
2 <sup>nd</sup> mid-term	30%	March 13
Final exam	40%	to be scheduled by registrar

The grading system will use the following equivalencies:

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

## **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 Department of Anthropology and Archaeology’s policy on intellectual honesty

## **DEFERRED EXAMS:**

A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. The instructor at their discretion may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc. An instructor will normally make this decision on the basis of verbal information provided by the student. In the event that an instructor feels that they cannot judge the veracity of the information provided, Students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided

by the Provincial Health Care Plan. Deferral of the registrar scheduled final exam requires Registrar approval.

If a deferred exam is administered, the format of the exam may be different than the original exam.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor of this course.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Calgary is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievements. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Non-academic integrity also constitutes an important component of this program.

For detailed information on what constitutes academic and non-academic misconduct, please refer to the following link: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

All suspected cases of academic and non-academic misconduct will be investigated following procedures outlined in the University Calendar. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behavior or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

Where there is a criminal act involved in plagiarism, cheating or other academic misconduct, e.g., theft (taking another student's paper from their possession, or from the possession of a faculty member without permission), breaking and entering (forcibly entering an office to gain access to papers, grades or records), forgery, personation and conspiracy (impersonating another student by agreement and writing their paper) and other such offences under the Criminal Code of Canada, the University may take legal advice on the appropriate response and, where appropriate, refer the matter to the police, in addition to or in substitution for any action taken under these regulations by the University

### **TEACHING EVALUATIONS / USRIS (Universal Student Ratings of Instruction)**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRIS) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference, please participate! Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/usris/>

## **Writing Across the Curriculum**

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support, part of the Student Success Centre, can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance

**Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points:** In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

## **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:**

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Please refer to the following link for detailed information:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructor's office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology and Archaeology Office (ES620) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternative arrangements with the course instructor early in the term.

**Safewalk Information:** Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources: Have a question, but not sure where to start? Arts Students' Centre

The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance that they require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning, the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- program advising
- the Faculty's Co-operative Education Program
- the Arts and Science Honours Academy

- the Faculty's Interdisciplinary Programs
- a Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403.220.3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/)

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contacts for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

Ombudsman's office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>