Course Description

This course focuses on "classic" themes in anthropology such as ethnicity, language, adaptation, marriage, kinship, gender, religion, and social stratification. We will consider anthropological theory from its 19th-century origins to the present. The course also explores the nature of ethnographic field work, especially the relationship between the anthropologist and the field community.

The lectures, readings, and films for this course have been selected with the objective of exploring the social meanings with which diverse groups invest their life. By comparing and analyzing the similarities and differences between "us" and "others," both within the borders of the U.S. and abroad, the anthropological perspective can expose some of our own cultural assumptions and enable us to better understand diverse cultures.

Attendance:
This will be recorded every day via a sign-in sheet. Attendance will not be calculated in your final grade per se, though poor attendance will certainly impact your ability to earn participation points and to effectively complete assignments. Lecture material will be presented daily that expands on readings, and video or audio clips may be played. There is no substitute for your presence in class.

Required texts:

Readings will be also be available either through UT's online library databases or, for pieces that are hard to come by, through CANVAS as PDFs; these are marked as provided. Additional materials such as blog entries or news items will be available online. Links will be provided.
I reserve the right to make changes as required.

On readings:
Reading of the scholarly literature is central to the enterprise of anthropology. Readings should be done prior to class in order to maximize lecture and discussion
time. Doing the readings is necessary to complete the required reflection papers every week. I reserve the right to change these as conditions require.

**Assignments**
The assignments for this course consist of 4 2-3 pg., TNR double spaced, reflection papers on the readings. These are due by 5 p.m. via CANVAS. **Quizzes** are TBA. **Participation** grades are based on attendance and quantity and quality of in-class comments and questions. The **final assignment** will be a 7-10 page, TNR double spaced, paper on a cultural anthropological topic of your own choosing. The paper is scaffolded with smaller assignments during the semester so that the bulk of the work does not fall on you during the last portion of the semester (see below).

Points may also be earned through participation.

NO EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE OFFERED. Assignments more than 10 minutes late will be docked 50%, but can be submitted up until 24 hours past the deadline. There will be no quiz make-ups.

I do not round up final grades.

4 reflection papers x 10 = 40  
4 quizzes X 5 = 20  
Participation = 20  
Final paper = 110  
TOTAL PTS POSSIBLE = 200

90-93.999% = A-; 94.000+=A  
80-83.999% = B-; 84.000-89.999 = B  
70-73.999% = C-; 74.000-79.999 = C  
60-63.999% = D-; 64.000-69.999 = D  
59.999% and below = F

**Final paper guidelines**
The final paper is intended to allow you to integrate the book, course discussion, and other sources to discuss a cultural anthropological topic of your choosing. You will note that in addition to the finished product, you are required to produce a few portions early to prevent being overloaded at the end of the semester. Completion of all portions is required to do well on the paper.

Step 1: 2 potential topics, due via Canvas Feb. 3 by 5 p.m. (5 pts)
Step 2: 3 Scholarly sources due via Canvas March 4 by 5 p.m. (10 pts)
Step 4: Paper submission via Canvas May 12 by 5 p.m. (70)
Course Schedule
I reserve the right to make changes to this schedule as conditions require.

WEEK 1 (1/20-22)
Course intro
Lecture on cultural anthropology (no readings)

WEEK 2-3 (1/25-2/5): Cultural Anthro, contd., Religion/belief systems
Wed., Feb. 3, Paper topic ideas due
Lecture on cultural anthropology, contd.
Viewing: Online documentary on Santeria

WEEK 4-5 (2/8-19) The body, biology, and food in cultural anthropology
First reflection paper due Mon., Feb. 8
Viewing: Public TV documentary on childhood obesity

WEEK 6-7 (2/21-4/1) Performance and practice
Second reflection paper due Mar. 4
3 Scholarly sources due Mar. 11 via Canvas
Third reflection due April 1 via Canvas
Muehlmann 2008 “‘Spread Your Ass Cheeks’: and other things that should not be said in Indigenous languages” *American Ethnologist*  

**SPRING BREAK – Mar 14-18**  

**Week 11-12 (4/4-15)**  
Rabinow, Paul. *Reflections on Fieldwork in Morocco*  
Food anthropology lecture  

Last reflection paper due via Canvas Apr 20 (should be on Rabinow)  
Screening of Texas Tavola film  
Sutton, *Secrets of the Greek Kitchen*  
**Peer Workshops May 4-6**  
Last day of class: May 6  

**Final paper due May 12 by 5 p.m. via Canvas**  

**Special Needs**  
Students with disabilities who require special accommodations need to get a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students (471-6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). This letter should be presented to me at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time. See following website for more information:  

http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssf/providing.php  

**Emergency Evacuation Policy**
Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation: Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of the classroom and the building.

Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when you entered the building. If you require assistance to evacuate, inform me in writing during the first week of class. In the event of an evacuation, follow my instructions or those of class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless you’re given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.