## **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (ANT 302)**

The University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2010

<u>Class Schedule</u>: Class meets Mondays and Wednesdays for lectures. Each student is assigned to a required discussion section. Please check the course schedule for the time and place of your section meetings.

Lectures: MW 4:00-5:00 pm, BUR 108

#### Discussion Sections:

29950	F	11:00 am-12:00 pm	JES A203A
29955	F	11:00 am-12:00 pm	PAR 103
29960	Th	12:00-1:00 pm	SZB 284
29965	F	12:00-1:00 pm	CBA 4.340

### Instructor: Heather K. Teague

E-mail: <a href="https://https

Office hours: W 1:30-3:30 pm at Cactus Cafe,

and by appointment

### Teaching Assistant: Jogi Kshetrimayum

Email: jogendro@gmail.com

Office hours: Th 3-5 pm, Prufrock's (PCL)

### Teaching Assistant: Tane Ward

E-mail: tane@mail.utexas.edu Office hours: F 1-3 pm, EPS 2.122

## **Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to cultural anthropology. Students will be introduced to key terms, concepts, issues and debates in the discipline. The aim of the course is to develop students' skills in critical thinking, analysis, and exposition through the examination of texts in cultural anthropology, films, and exercises in ethnography. Through these means, students will be encouraged to reexamine their own experiences as social and cultural beings and to develop an understanding for the ways social life is organized in different places.

#### Required Texts (books are available for purchase at the UT Co-op):

Delaney, Carol. 2004. <u>Investigating Culture: An Experiential Introduction to Anthropology</u>. Malden, Massachusetts: Blackwell Publishing.

Endicott, Kirk M., and Robert L. Welsch. 2009. <u>Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Anthropology</u>. Fourth Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

Knauft, Bruce. 2010. <u>The Gebusi: Lives Transformed in a Rainforest World</u>. Second Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

*Various articles that will be posted on Blackboard, including:* 

Brown, Robbie. 2009. "In Nashville, a Ballot Measure That May Quiet All but English," *New York Times*, January 11, <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/11/us/11english.html?scp=1&sq=Nashville%20English&st=cse">http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/11/us/11english.html?scp=1&sq=Nashville%20English&st=cse</a>.

Sletto, Bjørn Ingmunn. 2009. ""We Drew What We Imagined": Participatory Mapping, Performance, and the Arts of Landscape Making." *Current Anthropology* 50(4): 443-476.

### Films:

We will screen several films in class. These films complement and supplement readings and lecture material and are required viewing. Students who miss viewing the films in class are responsible for making other arrangements to view them, and are responsible for knowing the content.

## **Course Website:**

All students enrolled in the course may access the course website through Blackboard at <a href="http://courses.utexas.edu">http://courses.utexas.edu</a>. Assignments, readings, and other relevant materials and communications will be posted on this site. Other information about the course may be found on the CLIPS website accessible from your home page on UT Direct. It is your responsibility to check the course website regularly for announcements and assignments.

## Requirements, Evaluations, and Grading Policies:

Regular class attendance, participation, and timely completion of the reading and writing assignments are important for success in this course. Attendance will be taken and participation will be tracked for each class meeting. If you know ahead of time that you will be absent on a particular date/s, please communicate and make arrangements with the instructor as soon as possible (ahead of time) to make sure that you do not fall behind.

Each student is responsible for completing readings before the class for which they are assigned. Lectures will supplement rather that repeat the material in the readings. Time will be provided for questions during each class and discussion section. Students are also encouraged to meet individually with the instructor and teaching assistants during their office hours.

## **Evaluation and Grading:**

Writing assignments (5 points each)	30 points (best 6)
Debate preparations (5 points each)	10 points (best 2)
Mid-Term Exam	20 points
Final Ethnography (paper)	35 points
Attendance and Participation	05 points
Total	100 points

All assignments must by typed and turned in on time. HARD COPIES of writing assignments and debate preparations are due in your discussion sections as listed in the syllabus. No assignments will be accepted via e-mail. No late assignments will be accepted since only the best 6 writing assignment grades and the best 2 debate preparation grades will be included in your final grade. It is your responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments submitted. Make-up exams will only be given in the event of a documented illness or emergency. Final grades will be assigned according to the standard 100-point scale. Plagiarism (submitting work that is not your own) violates the UT honor code and a failing grade will be given for that assignment. A second case of plagiarism will result in a failing grade and a report to the Dean.

# **Academic Integrity**

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such

dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please visit the Student Judicial Services Web site: <a href="http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs">http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs</a> or call 471-2841.

# **Accomodation for Students with Disabilities:**

Any student with a documented disability (cognitive or physical) who requires academic accommodations should contact the Services for Students with Disabilities office at the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259 (voice) or 471-6441 (TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing) as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations. Please submit the letter to the instructor as early in the semester as possible so that accommodations can be made.

## **Course Schedule:**

Week 1	Why anthropology? What for?
W 8/25	Introduction and review of syllabus
Th 8/26 or F 8/27	First discussion section: Why study anthropology?
Week 2	History and Methods
M 8/30	Investigating Culture, Chapter 1 and "Shakespeare in the Bush" (pp. 1-31)
W 9/1	<i>Taking Sides</i> , "Issue 8: Should cultural anthropology stop trying to model itself on sciences?" (pp. 138-160)
Th/F 9/2, 9/3	Due: Writing Assignment 1—Two double-spaced typed pages answering Exercise 1 OR 2 on page 31, <i>Investigating Culture</i>
Week 3	<u>Ethics</u>
M 9/6	Labor Day Holiday
W 9/8	The Gebusi: Introduction and Chapters 1-3 Taking Sides, "Issue 18: Did Napoleon Chagnon's Research Methods and Publications Harm the Yanomami Indians?" (pp. 339-363)
Th/F 9/9 or 10	Due: Debate Preparation 1—In 1-2 pages, answer questions 1-5 on page xxvii of <i>Taking Sides</i> for each of the selections in Issue 18. (see Blackboard for example)
Week 4	Spatial Orientations
M 9/13	Investigating Culture: Chapter 2 (pp. 33-74)
W 9/15	Sletto, BI. 2009. "We Drew What We Imagined" (Blackboard)

Th/F 9/16 or 17	Due: Writing Assignment 2—Respond to Exercise Parts I AND II on pp. 74-75 of <i>Investigating Culture</i> . Turn in one page containing your map, and two pages double-spaced containing your written response.
Week 5	Time, Primitivism & the Concept of Progress
M 9/20	Investigating Culture: Chapter 3 (pp. 79-110), "The Original Affluent Society" (pp. 110-33)
W 9/22	Film: Cannibal Tours (70 min.)
Th/F 9/23 or 24	Due: Writing Assignment 3—Exercise 3, p. 133 of <i>Investigating Culture</i>
Week 6	Language & Society
M 9/27	Investigating Culture: Chapter 4 (pp. 135-174)
W 9/29	Taking Sides: Issue 6: Can Apes Learn Language? (pp. 105-121) Taking Sides: Issue 7: Should Anthropologists and Linguists Be Concerned about Losing Endangered Languages? (pp. 122-134) "Nashville English" article (Blackboard)
	Film: American Tongues (56 min.)
Th/F 9/30 or 10/1	Due: Writing Assignment 4—Two-page answer to Exercises 1 AND 2, p. 174, <i>Investigating Culture</i>
Week 7	
M 10/4	MID-TERM EXAM
	Family Ties, Gender & Sexuality
W 10/6	Investigating Culture: Chapter 5 (pp. 177-227)
Th/F 10/7 or 8	Due: Writing Assignment 5, 2-page double-spaced typed answer to question 1 OR 2 on page 227 of <i>Investigating Culture</i>
Week 8	
M 10/11	The Gebusi: Chapters 4-6 (pp. 52-90)
W 10/13	Taking Sides: "Issue 12: Is Gay Marriage Natural?" (pp. 216-226)

Th/F 10/14 or 15	Due: Debate Preparation 2— In 1-2 pages, answer questions 1-5 on page xxvii of <i>Taking Sides</i> for each of the selections in Issue 12
Week 9	Physical Bodies, Social Bodies
M 10/18	<i>Investigating Culture</i> : Chapter 6 (pp. 231-268), including "Body Rituals of the Nacirema")
W 10/20	Taking Sides: Issue 1: Is Race a Useful Concept for Anthropologists? (pp. 2-11)
	Film
Th/F 10/21 or 22	Due: Writing Assignment 6— Exercise 1 OR 2, p. 269 of Investigating Culture
Week 10	<u>Modernity</u>
M 10/25	<i>Taking Sides</i> : Issue 10: Do Native Peoples Today Invent Their Traditions? (pp. 183-200)
W 10/27	The Gebusi: Chapters 7-10 (pp. 93-142)
Th/F 10/28 or 29	Due: Debate Preparation 3— In 1-2 pages, answer questions 1-5 on page xxvii of <i>Taking Sides</i> for each of the selections in Issue 10
Week 11	Conflict and Violence
M 11/1	Taking Sides: Issue 2: Are humans inherently violent? (pp. 12-33) Taking Sides: Issue 16: Is ethnic conflict inevitable? (pp.293-314)
W 11/3	Article TBA Film
Th/F 11/4 or 5	Due: Debate Preparation 4— In 1-2 pages, answer questions 1-5 on page xxvii of <i>Taking Sides</i> for each of the selections in Issue 2 OR Issue 16
Week 12	Identity, Performance & Representation
M 11/8	The Gebusi: Chapter 11 (pp. 145-157) Film: Paris Is Burning
W 11/10	Investigating Culture: Chapter 8: Clothing Matters (pp. 323-266)
Th/F 11/11 or 12	Due: Writing Assignment 7— Write two-page analysis of film viewed on 11/8, discussing sex and gender in relation to the following: 1) family, 2) violence, 3) performance (as linked to identity and representation)

Week 13	Production and Consumption
M 11/15	Investigating Culture: Chapter 7 (pp. 273-319)
W 11/17	Taking Sides: Issue 5: "Did Prehistoric Native Americans Practice Cannibalism in the American Southwest?" (pp.80-103)
Th/F 11/18-19	Due: Writing Assignment 8—Do exercises 1, 2, AND 3, page 319, <i>Investigating Culture</i> (2 double-spaced typed pages)
Week 14	Globalization and Transnationalism
M 11/22	The Gebusi: Chapter 12, Conclusion, and Farewell (pp. 159-178)
W 11/24	Investigating Culture: Chapter 9 (pp. 369-422)
Th/F 11/25 or 26	Thanksgiving Holiday
Week 15	Bringing It Together
<u>Week 15</u> M 11/29	Film TBA Due in Class: Newspaper articles about current debates / current events
	Film TBA
M 11/29	Film TBA Due in Class: Newspaper articles about current debates / current events
M 11/29 W 12/1	Film TBA Due in Class: Newspaper articles about current debates / current events  Last class day  Last discussion section Due: Writing Assignment 9—Choose one of the current debates discussed in class this week and write an analysis of it using at least three concepts covered in class
M 11/29 W 12/1 Th/F 12/2 or 3	Film TBA Due in Class: Newspaper articles about current debates / current events  Last class day  Last discussion section Due: Writing Assignment 9—Choose one of the current debates discussed in class this week and write an analysis of it using at least three concepts covered in class