ANT 302 INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31095</td>
<td>MW/F</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>CLA 0.112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 - 9:00</td>
<td>SAC 4.118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Sabrina Lilleby)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31100</td>
<td>MW/F</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>CLA 0.112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>SAC 4.118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Sabrina Lilleby)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31105</td>
<td>MW/M</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>CLA 0.112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>SAC 4.118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Ömer Özcan)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31110</td>
<td>MW/W</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>CLA 0.112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>SAC 4.118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Ömer Özcan)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instructor: **Sofian Merabet** (sofian.merabet@austin.utexas.edu)
Office hours: Wednesday 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
or by appointment in SAC 5.164

Teaching Assistants: **Sabrina Lilleby** (sabrina.lilleby@utexas.edu)
Office hours: Friday 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or by appointment in SAC 5.114

**Ömer Özcan** (omrozcan@gmail.com)
Office hours: Monday 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. or by appointment in SAC 5.114

Course Description:
This course is an introduction to the anthropological study of social and cultural phenomena. It aims at communicating basic thoughts, concepts, and theories that are part of the sub-discipline of cultural anthropology. Based on the required readings, students will be exposed to the ways in which these concepts and theories are applied to the study of contemporary groups of people. Next to discussing some of the important debates in current qualitative social science, we will critically examine three ethnographic studies of four different cultures to understand some of the differences and commonalities of human experience.
**Required Texts:**
Books (listed alphabetically by the author and ordered at the University Co-Op, www.universitycoop.com, 2246 Guadalupe St, Austin, (512) 476-7211):


**Additional readings on Canvas (listed alphabetically by author’s last name):**

- Laura Bohannan “Shakespeare in the Bush: An American anthropologist set out to study the Tiv of West Africa and was taught the true meaning of Hamlet” in *Natural History* 75: 1966, pp. 28–33
- Gayle S. Rubin “Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality” in *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader* edited by Henry Abelove et al., 1993, pp. 143-179
Film Screening 1: “Unity through Culture,” 62 mins, 2011, Filmmakers Christian Suhr, Ton Otto, Language: English
Film Screening 2: “Strange Beliefs: Sir Edward Evans-Pritchard,” 52:20 mins. Language: English
Audio Recording: Hortense Powdermaker by Queens College Forum from March 22nd, 1941
Film Screening 4: “Pare Para Pensar” performance by Grupo de Teatro Choque Cultural, Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, 2003, Language: Brazilian Portuguese
Film Screening 5: “How Gay is Pakistan?—LGBT Rights in Pakistan” BBC Documentary, by Masood Khan, 2015, 52 mins. Language: English

This course may be used to fulfill the social and behavioral sciences component of the university core curriculum and addresses the following core objectives established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: communication skills, critical thinking skills, and social responsibility.

Course Requirements for Registered Students:

In combination with the TA-led discussion sections, the lecture class relies on the intellectual commitment and active participation of all students. In order for the lectures to be effective, all students must have the reading assignments completed and ready for in-depth discussion before each meeting.

The use of laptops, cell phones, and all other electronic devices is strictly prohibited!

Regular attendance is required, and so is active participation in the discussion section. Students are encouraged to ask questions and contribute to the discussion in both the section meetings as well as during the lectures. You must come to class having carefully read all materials and be prepared to discuss, question, and argue about issues raised in the readings. It will be beneficial for you to take excerpts/notes on any material that you find enlightening, controversial, or objectionable. You should also take notes in class on themes, key terms, and debates we discuss. These note-taking strategies will be crucial when you study for your exams.
In short:

- Attend all classes (lectures and discussion sections). Regular Attendance will be taken!

- Do all assigned readings (while taking excerpts/notes!) by the date indicated on the syllabus and participate actively in the discussion sections.

- Two written Blue-Book Exams on Monday, February 6th and, the Final on Wednesday, May 3rd to be taken during the lecture class and covering a theoretical question based on the assigned readings. All students are responsible to bring their own blue book! THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS!

- Two Take-Home Exams to be handed in to the TAs during the lecture class on Monday, March 6th and Monday, April 3rd [exactly 3-pages (double-spaced/12 point/Calibri)] (assignment will be posted on Canvas the Friday before it is due).

The two blue-book exams and two take-home exams are designed to develop critical reading, analytical, and writing skills. Evaluation criteria include: critical and integrative analysis of texts, clarity of thought, ability to synthesize readings and class discussions into your own argument, and ability to formulate a theoretical grounding for it. A visit to the Undergraduate Writing Center in The Perry-Castaneda Library, 101 E 21st St #2.330 is highly encouraged. For the in-class exams, make sure your handwriting is legible!

The Student Honor Code states: “As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity.”

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING:

Anyone plagiarizing cheating will first be given an “F” (Fail) and a report will be forwarded to the appropriate university authorities.

Notice regarding academic dishonesty (e.g. Plagiarism)

- Honor Code or statement of ethics.
  - University of Texas Honor Code: Each member of the university is expected to uphold The University of Texas Honor Code through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to “plagiarize” means

- to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own.
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source.
- to commit literary theft.
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.
In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward.

**All of the following are considered plagiarism:**

- turning in someone else's work as your own.
- copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit.
- failing to put a quotation in quotation marks.
- giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation.
- changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit.
- copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules).

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided, however, by citing sources. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed, and providing your readers with the information necessary to find that source, is usually enough to prevent plagiarism.

- Web site for more information:
- [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism)

**Grading Procedure:**

- 2 Blue-Book Exams: 40%.
- 2 Take-Home Exams: 40%
- Regular attendance/participation: 20%.

**Grading Distribution (Letter Grade: Points):**

A: 100-95  A-: 94-90  B+: 89-87  B: 86-83  B-: 82-80  C+: 79-77  C: 76-73  

**Documented Disability Statement:**

- Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone) or [http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssp](http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssp). Students need to inform the instructor and the teaching assistant(s) about their disability right at the beginning of the semester.
Please note that the instructor reserves the right to make changes in the syllabus when necessary to meet learning objectives.

Reading Schedule: (this schedule is tentative and subject to possible revision)

Week 1: What is Anthropology?
- Wednesday, January 18th  Introduction and Orientation
  No discussion sections on week 1!

Week 2: The Practice of Anthropology

- Wednesday, January 25th  Laura Bohannan “Shakespeare in the Bush: An American anthropologist set out to study the Tiv of West Africa and was taught the true meaning of Hamlet” in Natural History 75: 1966, pp. 28–33

Week 3: The Complexity of the Ethnographic Field Site

- Wednesday, February 1st  Film Screening 1: “Unity through Culture,” 62 mins, 2011, Filmmakers Christian Suhr, Ton Otto, Language: English

Week 4: British Social Anthropology (1)
- Monday, February 6th  1st in-class Blue Book Exam!

**Week 5: British Social Anthropology (2)**
  Film Screening 2: “Strange Beliefs: Sir Edward Evans-Pritchard,” 52:20 mins. Language: English

**Week 6: Classical Social Thought (1)**

**Week 7: Classical Social Thought (2)**
- Wednesday, March 1st *In-Class Visit by a Staff Member of the Undergraduate Writing Center*

**Week 8: Classical Social Thought (3)**
  Hand in 1st Take-Home Exam! (Questions Posted on Canvas on Friday, March 3rd)
- Wednesday, March 8th  

**Week 9:**  
*Spring Break*

**Week 10: Between British Social Anthropology and American Cultural Anthropology (1)**
- Monday, March 20th  

- Wednesday, March 22nd  

**Week 11: Between British Social Anthropology and American Cultural Anthropology (2)**
- Monday, March 27th  
Audio Recording: “Hortense Powdermaker” by Queens College Forum from March 22nd, 1941

- Wednesday, March 29th  

**Week 12: Gender, Sexuality, and the Body**
- Monday, April 3rd  
**Hand in 2nd Take-Home Exam! (Questions Posted on Canvas on Friday, March 31st)**

- Wednesday, April 5th  
Gayle S. Rubin “Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality” in *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader* edited by Henry Abelove et al., 1993, pp. 143-179

**Week 13: Race, Politics, and the Body**
- Monday, April 10th  
“Interlude I: Culture Shock” and “Afro-Paradise: Where the Whip Tears the Flesh” in Smith, Christen (2016) *Afro-
- Wednesday, April 12th

Film Screening 4: “Pare Para Pensar” performance by Grupo de Teatro Choque Cultural, Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, 2003. Language: Brazilian Portuguese

Week 14: Reading a Contemporary Ethnography (1)
- Monday, April 17th


- Wednesday, April 19th


Week 15: Reading a Contemporary Ethnography (2)
- Monday, April 24th


- Wednesday, April 26th

Film Screening 5: “How Gay is Pakistan?–LGBT Rights in Pakistan” BBC Documentary, by Masood Khan, 2015, 52 mins. Language: English

Week 16: End-of-Semester Review
- Monday, May 1st

General Review Session

- Wednesday, May 3rd

2nd in-class Blue Book Exam!

No discussion sections on Week 16!