ANTH 112J
Introduction to Socio-Cultural Anthropology
Winter 2019

Instructor: Clare Fawcett

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Office Hours: See Moodle site

Course Content: Sociocultural anthropology involves the comparative study of societies throughout the world. Students will learn how societies differ from each other, as well as observing similarities among them. The course surveys traditional ways of understanding cultures while incorporating current insights and research. Topics include diverse political and economic systems, kinship patterns, religion, forms of ethnic and gender identity, health and medicine, development and migration. Department foci relating to First Nations, development and general anthropology are introduced.

Evaluation:

Seminar and Essay Assignment/Service Learning Assignment: 35%
- Essay draft: 5%
- Presentation: 10%
- Final Essay: 20%

Class Forums: (8 x 3 — maximum of 20 marks) 20%
Class attendance and participation: 5%
Mid-Term Examination: 15%
Final Examination: 25%

Total: 100%

Texts and required readings:


Other readings are available through the StFX library’s on-line holdings. Podcasts and videos are on-line and can be reached using links on the Anth 112 Moodle site. I will explain how to use these electronic resources during class.

Written Assignments:
All assignments must be handed in on the dates listed on the Moodle site. I will deduct 5% out of 100% for each day your assignment is late.

**Assignments MUST be in Word.** I will not accept assignments in Text Edit, Adobe (pdf), Pages or any other program.

Keep an extra copy of your assignments. If they disappear or I cannot download them, you will be responsible for supplying another copy. If you cannot supply another copy, you will receive a zero.

Please read the plagiarism/cheating/academic dishonesty policy in the University Calendar (Academic Regulations, Section 3.9). You may talk to me if you have questions about this policy.

**Class Equity Policy**

Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe and equitable learning environment free from discrimination or harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space—both real and virtual—that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination and respect for diversity. These values and practices are in accord with the *StFX Discrimination and Harassment Policy* which can be found at [http://www.mystfx.ca/campus/stu-serv/equity/](http://www.mystfx.ca/campus/stu-serv/equity/).

Please feel free to discuss with me any questions or concerns you have about equity in our classroom or in the StFX community. If I cannot answer your questions or help you address your concerns, I encourage you to talk to the Chair/Coordinator of the Department/Program.

**Copyright Notification**

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**Technology in the Classroom Policy**

Cell phone use in class, unless the phone is being used explicitly for research or learning purposes permitted by the instructor, distracts from the learning of the student using the cell phone, the other students and inhibits the instructor’s teaching. Therefore, cell
Phone use in class is prohibited unless I ask that students use their cell phones for a specific exercise.

I will ask any student using their cell phone in class to put it away. Students may use computers or tablets in class to take notes. I will ask students who are using computers or tablets for other purposes to close them. If I ask you to put away your phone, tablet or use your computer appropriately, I will do so publicly, that is, in front of the entire class. To avoid embarrassment, please use your devices wisely. You need to be in class physically, intellectually and emotionally at all times.

Course Schedule

Introduction (January 8)

Anthropological Concepts and Methods (January 10, 15, and 17)
- Participant observation, fieldwork and ethnography. Anthropological ethics. Critical cultural relativism and reflexivity.
- Basic anthropological concepts: Nature/nurture, Agency/structure, Materialist/interpretive anthropology
- Reading and writing an anthropological essay. Class Forums. Taking part in a seminar

Materials:
- Miller. 2017. Chapters 1 and 2

Sign-up for Seminar groups by Tuesday, January 15—Seminar days are noted in yellow below

Livelihoods and Production (January 22 and 24)

Materials:
- Miller Chapter 3, Pps 47-57

Consumption and Exchange (January 29 and 31)

Materials:
- Miller Chapter 3, 57-69

**Reproduction, Human Development and Gender** (February 5 and 7)

Materials:
- Miller, Chapter 4

**Disease, Illness and Healing** (February 12 and 14)

Materials:
- Miller, Chapter 5

**February Break: February 19 and 21**

**Mid-Term Exam: Tuesday, February 26**

**Kinship and Domestic Life** (February 28 and March 5)

Materials:
- Miller, Chapter 6

**Social Groups and Social Stratification** (March 7 and 12)

Materials:
- Miller, Chapter 7
- Ortner, Sherry. 2002. ‘Burned like a tattoo’High school social categories and ‘American culture

**Political and Legal Systems** (March 14 and March 19)

Materials:
- Miller, Chapter 8

**Communication** (21 and 26)

**Materials:**
- Miller, Chapter 9

**Anthropology of Development** (March 28 and April 2)

**Materials:**
- Miller, Chapters 12 and 13

April 4: Snow day