

ANTH 2

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Summer 2023

M-W 9 am - 12:30 pm

Thiman Lecture 001

Instructor: Alejandra Kramer

Office Hours: online/zoom Monday 4-6 or by appointment.

Email: alk@ucsc.edu

*I reply to emails M-F 9am-5pm within a 24 hour frame. Sat-S I do not read nor reply to email (or try not to).

Course Description:

Cultural Anthropology is a discipline that occupies the zone of overlap between the social sciences and the humanities and explores cultural diversity.

In this course we will explore a variety of concepts and theories that help us understand the similarities, differences, connections, and disconnections experienced by world communities (including ourselves). You will be exposed to a wide variety of topics within social and cultural anthropology, including how anthropological knowledge can help us understand how we shape our perspectives on the world we live in and the people we share it with.

Course Texts:

Ethnographic Sorcery, by Harvey West (2007) U of Chicago Press.

Available at BayTree bookstore and on reserve at McHenry.

CANVAS

I will use Canvas as our main hub for communication along with materials, assignments, and resources for this class.

The "Home" page will provide all the information you might need for this class and beyond.

Check Canvas daily. Your grades will be available there too.

Assignments and Grading:

Attendance **15%**

4 Written Assignments **40% (10% each)**- *Due on Friday*

4 Weekly Quizzes **20% (5% each)**- *weeks 2,3,4,5, on readings and class lecture*

1 Final Exam **25%**

My grading scale:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-
91-100	88-90	84-87	80-83	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69
4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7
D+	D	E					
64-66	63-60	59...					

Instructor Feedback

I will provide a study guide for the final, feedback on your essays and written assignments.

I will include a grading rubric that will be available to you prior to submitting your work.

Student Feedback

At the end of the quarter you will be asked to complete a Student Experience of Teaching survey for this course. SETs provide an opportunity for you to give valuable feedback on your learning that is honest and constructive. This anonymous feedback will help me consider modifications to the course that will help future students learn more effectively.

[CITL's Guide to Giving Useful Feedback to Instructors and TAs.](#)

Learning Outcomes

The primary objectives of this course are:

- Recognize, understand, and appreciate human diversity.
- Develop an awareness of the issues of power and inequality both locally and globally.
- Demonstrate knowledge of theoretical frameworks, methodologies and practices used by anthropologists.
- Critically evaluate popular representations of cultures and people around the world.

Policies:

Attendance: As a summer course, we will move quickly through the material. Attendance is mandatory unless you have an excused absence. Excused absences are allowed on a case-by-case basis. To ask for an excused absence (e.g. family emergency, illness) please inform me by email before the start of the class.

Late Work: No late work will be accepted without prior consent. If a serious situation or emergency arises that causes you to be unable to meet the deadline, please contact me email before the assignment is due.

Papers should be submitted on Canvas by the due date and time.

Workload: the expectation within the UC system during the standard academic year is 3 hours of preparation for each academic credit during a week (15 hours a week for a 5 credit course). For the summer session, expect this to be doubled, because the course is half the duration (5 weeks only).

For a 5 credit course, such as this one, the expectation is to spend 30 hours per week preparing for and participating in class.

Participation: Students are expected to come to class having read the materials and be ready to discuss them. We will discuss the readings in class and I will reference them in lectures. The first half of the class will be dedicated to lectures and the second half will be centered on discussions and small group activities. Occasionally I will ask you to submit a 3-5 sentence reflections while in class. These will be “participation points” and part of your attendance and participation grade.

Land Acknowledgement

The land on which we gather is the unceded territory of the Awaswas-speaking Uypi Tribe. The Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, comprised of the descendants of indigenous people taken to missions Santa Cruz and San Juan Bautista during Spanish colonization of the Central Coast, is today working hard to restore traditional stewardship practices on these lands and heal from historical trauma.

Academic integrity

is central to your being part of the UCSC student body. Read the UCSC Academic Integrity Code (<http://www2.ucsc.edu/judicial/handbook.shtml>).

Plagiarism: *bad bad idea, don't do it!*

If in doubt, you can take a look at:

Library guide on Citing Sources and Plagiarism:

<http://library.ucsc.edu/science/instruction/CitingSources.pdf>

NetTrail: <http://nettrail.ucsc.edu/> (Section XI, Info Ethics)

Intellectual Property

The materials in this course are the intellectual property of their creators. As a student, you have access to many of the materials in the course for the purpose of learning, engaging with your peers in the course, completing assignments, and so on. You have a moral and legal obligation to respect the rights of others by only using course materials for purposes associated with the course. For instance, you are not permitted to share, upload, stream, sell, republish, share the login information for, or otherwise disseminate any of the course materials, such as: video and audio files, assignment prompts, slides, notes, syllabus, simulations, datasets, discussion threads. Conversely, any materials created

solely by you (for example, your videos, essays, images, audio files, annotations, notes) are your intellectual property and you may use them as you wish.

Accessibility

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me privately during my office hours or by appointment, preferably within the first two weeks of the quarter. At this time, I would also like us to discuss ways we can ensure your full participation in the course. I encourage all students who may benefit from learning more about DRC services to contact the DRC by phone at 831-459-2089 or by email at drc@ucsc.edu.

Title IX and the CARE Office

Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the Campus Advocacy Resources & Education (CARE) Office by calling (831) 502-2273. In addition, Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) can provide confidential, counseling support, (831) 459-2628. You can also report gender discrimination directly to the University's Title IX Office, (831) 459-2462. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UCPD, (831) 459-2231 ext. 1. For emergencies call 911. Faculty and Teaching Assistants are required under the [UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment](#) to inform the Title IX Office should they become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or sexual harassment.

Religious Accommodations

UC Santa Cruz welcomes diversity of religious beliefs and practices, recognizing the contributions differing experiences and viewpoints can bring to the community. There may be times when an academic requirement conflicts with religious observances and practices. If that happens, students may request the reasonable accommodation for religious practices. The instructor will review the situation in an effort to provide a reasonable accommodation without penalty. You should first discuss the conflict and your requested accommodation with your instructor early in the term. You or your instructor may also seek assistance from the [Dean of Students office](#).

Principles of Community

The University of California, Santa Cruz expressly prohibits students from engaging in conduct constituting unlawful discrimination, harassment or bias ([see more here](#)).

With you I will encourage this seminar to create an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity and supports inclusivity. We need to work together to build this community of learning. I ask all members of this class to:

- be open to and interested in the views of others.
- consider the possibility that your views may change over the course of the term.
- be aware that this course asks you to reconsider some “common sense” notions you may hold.
- honor the unique life experiences of your colleagues
- appreciate the opportunity that we have to learn from each other
- listen to each other’s opinions and communicate in a respectful manner.
- keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature.
- ground your comments in the texts we are studying. Refer frequently to the texts and make them the focus of your questions, comments, and arguments. This is the single most effective way to ensure respectful discussion and to create a space where we are all learning together.

... and finally...

STUDENT SERVICES

Counseling and Psychological Services

Many students at UCSC face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients’ cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation

Student Success and Engagement Hub

The Division of Student Success provides campus-wide coordination and leadership for student success programs and activities across departments, divisions, the colleges, and administrative units.

Tutoring and Learning Support

At Learning Support Services (LSS), undergraduate students build a strong foundation for success and cultivate a sense of belonging in our Community of Learners. LSS partners with faculty and staff to advance educational equity by designing inclusive learning environments in Modified Supplemental Instruction, Small Group Tutoring, and Writing Support. When students fully engage in our programs, they gain transformative experiences that empower them at the university and beyond.

Slug Support Program

College can be a challenging time for students and during times of stress it is not always easy to find the help you need. Slug Support can give help with everything from basic needs (housing, food, or financial insecurity) to getting the technology you need during remote instruction.

To get started with SLUG Support, please contact the [Dean of Students](#) Office at 831-459-4446 or you may send us an email at deanofstudents@ucsc.edu.

Slug Help/Technology The ITS Support Center is your single point of contact for all issues, problems or questions related to technology services and computing at UC Santa Cruz. To get technological help, simply email help@ucsc.edu.

On-Campus Emergency Contacts

Slug Help/[Emergency Services](#). For all other help and support, including the health center and emergency services, start [here](#). Always dial 9-1-1 in the case of an emergency.

Course Outline and Reading/Watching Schedule

(all reading materials will be in pdf format on Canvas, under Modules, by week)

Week 1

Monday 7/31

What is Anthropology? What do Anthropologists do?

Introduction to the class.

Video: The Anthropologist

Wednesday 8/2

Culture and Ethnography - Orientation and Disorientation

Readings: Richard Lee (1969) "Eating Christmas in the Kalahari Desert"

Lauriston Sharp (1952) "Steel Axes for Stone-age Australians".

Laura Bohannan (1961) "Shakespeare in the Bush"

*** Assignment 1** (Due on Friday 8/4 on Canvas under "Assignments")

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Week 2

Monday 8/7

Space and Time

Readings: Keith Basso (1996), "Wisdom Sits in Places";

Marshall Sahlins (date), "The Original Affluent Society".

Wednesday 8/9

Language and Communication

Reading: Keith Basso (1970) "To Give Up On Words";

Alan Dundes (1980) "Seeing is Believing;

Sharif Kanaana (2005) "The Arab Ear and the American Eye".

Video: Hidden Letters

*** Assignment 2** (Due on Friday 8/11 on Canvas under "Assignments")

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Week 3

Monday 8/14

Kinship and Family - Relatives and Others

Readings: Collier, Rosaldo and Yanagisako (1982) "Is There a Family?".

Video: The Women Kingdom

Wednesday 8/16

Religion, Politics and Magic

Readings: Harvey West (2006) Ethnographic Sorcery.

*** Assignment 3** (Due on Friday 8/18 on Canvas under "Assignments")

Week 4

Monday 8/21

Food and Clothing

Readings: Melissa Caldwell (2009) "Tempest in a Coffee Pot";
William Roseberry (1996) "The Rise of Yuppie Coffees and the Reimagination of Class in the US", in *American Anthropologist*.

Wednesday 8/23

Our Bodies, Ourselves - Identities, Roles, and Groups - Race, Gender, Class; Bodily Ways of Knowing.

Readings: Ana Tsing (1990) "Monster Stories";
Andrew Sparks (2009) "Ethnography of the Senses: Challenges and Possibilities".
Paul Stoller (1984) "Sounds in Songhay Cultural Experience", in *American Ethnologist*.

*** Assignment 4** (Due on Friday 8/25 on Canvas under "Assignments")

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Week 5

Monday 8/28

Economy, Environment, Globalization

Readings: Anna Tsing (2014) "More-Than-Human Sociality: A Call for Critical Description"
Stefano Ponte and Lisa Ann Richey (2011) "The Rock Man's Burden".
Videos: Made in China; Not Ok

Wednesday 8/30

Using Anthropology. Doing Anthropology

Readings: Daina Ann Davis, Melissa Checker and Mark Schuller (2014) "The Conflicts of Crisis".
Elizabeth Enslin (1994) "Beyond Writing".
Video: A Year in the Field

*** Final Exam: Due on Canvas/Assignments on September 1, 2023**