

De Anza College
Cultural Anthropology
Anth D002.50Z CRN 13734
June 30 – August 8
Summer Quarter 2025

Class Schedule, Assignments, and Test Dates

Office Hours on Zoom

Tues. and Thurs. 12 – 1pm

Come on Zoom one time just to say hi!

Instructor: Nancy H Olsen Ph.D.

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(This is the quickest way to get in touch –
I answer emails every day)

Required Reading: *Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit For A Global Age , Fourth edition*, Kenneth J. Guest

Chapters that are required reading will be posted in Canvas in the class material for the week. You do not need to buy the text book. If you prefer your own copy, great, buy it from the publisher W. W. Norton and Company, 2nd Edition. New York **ISBN: 978-0-393-26500-2**

Also available from Amazon.com – they often have used copies for less than the sale price.

***Cultural Anthropology: Fieldwork Journal, Fourth edition*, Kenneth J. Guest.** This is a workbook designed for students to have “hands-on” opportunities to learn anthropology through experience. You need to buy this workbook so you can do the assignments for grade credit. There is an ebook to buy for \$20. Go to W.W.Norton,.com. Sign on as a student.

Class is on Canvas, Go to your MyPortal and enter using your Student ID#, then go to CANVAS and log in. If you are registered, you should see a square box with Cultural Anthropology on it. All class work is found in the MODULES – each week is 1 module. Quiz or exam at the end of every week.

ATTENTION - We will cover the same amount of work in 6 weeks that regular quarters cover in 12. So it's a little more intense, (FYI)!

Office Hours are on Zoom and the links are in the Modules in Canvas. Hours are noon to 1 pm Tues and Thurs. Hoping that if you're working you'll be able to visit on your lunch hour for a few minutes. Come and say hello, meet other students in the class!

Schedule time for yourself to do the assignments!!!! This is a more intense class than regular Winter Quarter classes. You can help yourself to get through everything if you plan ahead and make time in your schedule to do assignments. Try to get weekly assignments done so you don't accumulate a back-log of assignments! I'll try not to assign too much! However, don't forget that anthropology 101 has a standard number of topics to cover that is acceptable in State Universities and UC's. De Anza needs to comply with those standards too. When you transfer, if you take another anthropology class, you will be expected to know 101 basics! We're trying to get you ready for these expectations!

Anthropologists like to write about what they think – therefore anthro students need to spend time reading their thoughts. Give yourself enough time to read these thoughts critically – that is, ask yourself as you read ideas and arguments, does this make sense to me?? OR is this outside the

boundaries of what I know about? You go to college to stretch your minds and to learn new things, but it helps if the ideas are clear.

REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THE COURSE

Read Assignments carefully

Ask questions! No author has thought of everything so it's ok to have questions!! Come to office hours or make arrangements to talk via Zoom when you can do it to ask your questions about the reading assignments.

Attendance – Three journal assignments undone, quizzes skipped gives me the impression you're having trouble or are ill. Either case, please let me know what the problem is – we can try to work something out. Otherwise, if I don't hear from you via my email, I'll probably drop you. Keep me informed, please!

Journal Assignments – Since this is an online class and everyone is working at their own pace and schedule, it's hard to have breakout rooms for everyone to discuss together. We will use Forums for class discussion. Try to add something. Journal assignments is a way of applying what you have just read. Write out your answers on Microsoft Word and upload into the module labeled Fieldwork Journal. Check to make sure I have received it – sometimes computer compatibility issues keep me from getting or being able to open your answers unless you're using the latest Chrome version (Google for instance keeps answers from getting through unless Google users hit the “share” button BEFORE sending). 5 points for each completed Journal assignment.

Reflection papers/ Video worksheets - demonstrate your active participation. 5 points

Four quizzes – on Canvas and are meant to help you review assigned chapters – 10 pts each. If you miss a quiz I will notice and will re-open the quiz for you to get done asap.

Midterm – 50 points – intended to help you review the ideas in a comprehensive fashion. Midterm has 2 parts. Each part = 25 points. Part 1 multiple choice, Part 2 – Essay question. You need to do BOTH parts to complete the Midterm

Final – Has 3 sections. Part 1 – most recent section you haven't been quizzed on. 10 points. Part 2 – Comprehensive – 50 multiple choice questions – 50 points. Part 3 is a thought problem based on your newly acquired anthropology skills – written – 40 points

Final total points = 100.

Extra Credit assignments – 5 points for completed work. Extra Credit assignment modules are open the whole quarter so you can upload a completed work whenever you are able. It will close 5 minutes to midnight on March 31. Then Game Over! You have a chance to make 20 points of extra credit. It will help your grade but it doesn't substitute for doing assignments.

GOALS FOR THE CLASS

- **Prepare you for four-year college-level learning and participation**
- **Learn to think critically – the “why” word often helps begin the critique! Build mental muscles – think “if this X is so, then does Y also fit?”**
- **Communication skills – writing essays, journals, reflections gives you a chance to improve your skills!! Don't give it up to an AI source to answer for you - As they say in the Wild West – “Chop your own wood – it keeps you twice as warm!!”**

SLO's for Cultural Anthropology

- Apply a scientific, holistic and a multidisciplinary approach to understand and

analyze human behavior.

- Recognize the value of cultural relativism and the validity of each culture as an adaptive strategy to the challenge of physical and social environment.
- Analyze cultural diversity, and explain how they arose and change. They will also identify underlying similarities between cultures.
- Recognize that humans are not superior to their environment but an integral part of their natural and cultural environment on this planet.

GRADING POLICY

I arrive at final grades mathrmatically through accumulated points. Ten fieldwork journal assignments (10 points), eighteen Forums and reflection papers (5 points each), four quizzes (10 points), one midterm (50 points) and one final (100 points) totals 380 points. That's the highest score one can get. Then I add on to the total academic score the extra credit points. That usually gives it another boost. Please be aware that Canvas closes August 11 at midnight so EVERYTHING you want me to grade needs to be uploaded by then. Please do not email me extra credit papers – think if everyone did that, I'd be over my head in extra credit!! Please upload them into Extra Credit modules in Canvas. I'll try to supply enough for you to use. If you have a late assignment, you can also use the Extra Credit module to upload it late.

You want to accumulate points like putting money in a saving account. Here's how the grading breaks down by accumulated totals –

A begins at 92% of 380 = 349 – 380. Anything over 380 is an A+

A- begins at 90% or 342– 348

B+ begins at 85% or 323 – 341, **B** begins at 82% or 311 - 322, **B-** begins at 80% or 304 - 310

C+ begins at 75% or 285– 303, **C** begins at 70% or 266- 284. C- does not exist at De Anza.

D+ begins at 65% or 247– 283, **D** begins at 62% or 235 –246 , **D-** begins at 60% or 228 - 234.

F – any total points falling below 228.

You can keep track of your own final accumulation of points as we go through the weeks and I grade and give you feedback about your answers.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS BY WEEK

Week One June 30 – July 6 Globalism/Culture

June 30

READING ASSIGNMENT: GUEST, CHAPTER 1 ANTHROPOLOGY IN A GLOBAL AGE

You will find the chapter in Week 1 on Canvas in MODULES

Fieldwork Journal - Anthropology in a Global Age: Making a Cup of Coffee Unfamiliar (you need to read the assignment before doing the fieldwork journal, information. To answer the questions is in Chapter 1) - 5 – 10 pts Upload answers in Week 1 module with the same name.

July 1

Forum – Answer the question – “What is your experience with globalization and why is it important for anthropology?”

EXTRA CREDIT – Go to Ted Talks on Google and in the search window type “The Walk From No to Yes” by William Ury. Write a critique of your experience, did it make sense? Did you try any of the suggestions? What was the outcome? Upload your response!

July 3

READING ASSIGNMENT: GUEST, CHAPTER 2 CULTURE

Find it posted in Canvas Modules in Week 1. Read carefully, this is about you and how you learn about your surroundings and how you fit in to your surroundings. It’s going to be very different if you are a foreign student because you are adapting to a new language as well as food, customs, ways of living. It will be different if you are taking this class online and live in a different state than California. It will be different for you if you are taking this class online and live in the East Bay, across from De Anza College. It’s different for me (your instructor) because I don’t live in the Bay Area now (spent many years on campus, tho, so I know it well!!). Humans’ adaptability is why humans have been so successful as a species on this planet up to now.

July 4

Explore the social life of a vanilla bean

July 5

2nd Field Journal project : Creating Culture: College Students and the Culture of Consumerism – fill in all the squares that apply to you, upload in Week 1 module labeled 2nd Field Journal Creating Culture. Notice!! It’s ok to resist the Culture of Consumerism too!! If you’re one who prefers that approach, answer the questions noting that you resist.

July 5-6

Quiz 1 opens July 8 and closes on July 9. – 20 multiple choice questions, 10 points

Extra Credit – explore American Anthropology Association “Declaration on Anthropology and Human Rights”

Extra Credit– Do The Math: 2012 (found on 350.org – need to watch it on YouTube choice or Google, if you google. Write a critique of the topic.

Does it make sense to you? Or do you have other thoughts?

module. 5points! Doubts? After all, 2012 was 10 years ago!

Upload

your answer on Canvas in the Extra Credit

www.aaanet.org/about/Policies/statementsDeclaration-on-Anthropology-and-Human-Rightss.cfm

Week 1 closes Sunday night at 5 minutes to midnight. Try to get all the above assignments uploaded by then. This is about how the weeks will be – 2 chapters a week to get through all the material we need to cover. Assignments close, quizzes close on Sunday night. If you did not get everything done I can re-open the assignments for you again so you can upload. I highly advise trying to get everything done to stay abreast of the class, the ideas and activities.

Week 2 July 7 - 13 Doing Anthropology/Language

- July 7** **READING ASSIGNMENT - GUEST, CHAPTER 3 FIELDWORK AND ETHNOGRAPHY**
Find it on Canvas, Week 2 modules.
This is how anthropologists get their information!
Interesting point – as anthropologists’ attitudes toward respondents have changed, so have anthropological theories changed!!!
- July 8** Fieldwork Journal – 3rd chapter – Fieldwork: Mapping the Block – literally!!!
This is an example that will be easy for you to do. If you are uncomfortable doing your block, try mapping a shopping center close to you. Be sure to label everything!!
Who are the shop owners? Think about how this shopping center is a “built environment” per your textbook page 92.
Upload your journal pages into the section of the module labeled Fieldwork #3, Mapping a Block.
- July 9** **READING ASSIGNMENT - GUEST, CHAPTER 4 LANGUAGE**
SYMBOLIC THINKING - HUMANS COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER USING MORE THAN WORDS, RIGHT ???
DO YOU SPEAK AMERICAN? PART 3 OUT WEST WATCH THE VIDEO, TAKE NOTES, ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THE MODULE AND UPLOAD.
FORUM DESCRIBE THE WAY YOU SPEAK – HOW DO YOU LIKE TO SPEAK? ARE YOU AN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE SPEAKER?
- July 12-13** Quiz # 2 covers chapters 3 and 4 10 points
Extra Credit
Fieldwork #4 – this week you can go to the “Language and Gender in the Classroom” as extra credit. Since we are online it’s hard to apply the questions to this class. If you are on campus, you can use another class as your “fieldwork” OR you could sit in the cafeteria, pick a group of students around a table who are talking, watch who talks more. It’s ok if your observations don’t match the model in the Journal!
Basso’s excerpt from *Western Apache Language and Culture*
Read the excerpt about “Those Placenames Are Strong.” Write a reflection about what you learned. How are Apache use of placenames different from American placenames?. Can you think of examples used in American English? Example: “What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.”
Symbolic Information Communicating
Click on the link to see “Mardi Gras New Orleans Joan of Arc Parade” that happened 1/7/2023. Make a list of all the visual symbols you can spot. How do

you interpret each symbol? (It helps to know the story of Joan of Arc ahead of time).. Upload your symbols and interpretations in the Extra Credit module for Week 2.

Week 3 July 14 – 20 Unmasking the Structures of Power – Chapter 5 Race and Racism, Chapter 6 Ethnicity and Midterm

July 14 [READING ASSIGNMENT – GUEST, CHAPTER 5 RACE AND RACISM, CHAPTER 6 ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM, AND CHAPTER 8 GENDER](#)

Find it on Canvas module for Week 4

Fieldwork Journal # 6 Initiating a Classroom Conversation about Race –answer the questions based on your own experience since we are not in a classroom. (5 points) Upload in the Fieldwork Journal #6 module for credit.

FORUM – (optional) If you would like to say something to everyone about what you have learned about race and/or racism.. Keep it positive!

July 22 [READING ASSIGNMENT – CHAPTER 7 ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM](#)

Find it on Canvas in Week 4 modules. Read it thoughtfully!

FORUM (not optional) 5 points – Tell us about your “ethnicity” more correctly identified as “heritage”. Which parent has given you the most influence? What generation American are you? On the news talking heads have been mentioning John Lewis’s remark about “we may have come to America in different ships, but we are now all in the same boat together!” suggesting we each need to do our share of rowing, no matter what generation one belongs to. Anyone with Native American heritage???

Anthropology calls our society a “plural society” which recognizes the diversity inherent in us all. Do you have a primary ethnicity that is more important to your identity? Do you think of it as an attachment to a particular nation? Or do you roll like a transnational soccer player?

July 24 [READING ASSIGNMENT – GUEST, CHAPTER 7 GENDER](#)

[JULY 25 FIELDWORK JOURNAL # 8 CARTOON COMMERCIALS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF GENDER. UPLOAD YOUR ANSWERS IN THE JOURNAL #8 MODULE ON CANVAS.](#)

[JULY 26 – 27 QUIZ #3, COVERS CHAPTERS 6, 7, 8 MULTIPLE CHOICE 20 QUESTIONS, 10 POINTS](#)

Extra Credit – 5 points

Read Augustin Fuentes *Race, Monogamy, and Other Lies They Told You: Busting Myths About Human Nature* – Chapter 1 “Myths about Human Nature Are

Powerful – and Misleading” - Find it on Canvas. Write a 1-page reflection about what you learned. Can you apply what you learned to your life right now?

Upload your answer in the Extra Credit module for Week 4.

Fieldwork Journal #7 – Visit an ethnic restaurant, follow instructions in the Journal., answer questions, try to talk to another customer – why they like the place? Did you like the experience? Upload your answers in the Extra Credit module for Week 4.

July 19-20 Midterm Exam – Comprehensive 50 points
Part 1 – 50 multiple choice questions – 25 points
Part 2 – Essay to write – will probably come from questions in the textbook – review questions at the end of chapters to prepare. – 25 points
Exam will close at 5 minutes to midnight July 23

Week 4 July 21 - 27 Kinship, Family and Marriage – Class - Inequality

July 21 **Reading Assignment:** Chapter 9 Kinship, Family and Marriage

July 21 **READING ASSIGNMENT – GUEST, CHAPTER 9 KINSHIP, FAMILY AND MARRIAGE, CHAPTER 10 CLASS AND INEQUALITY**

Find it on Canvas in Week 5 module.

July 22 **Fieldwork Journal # 9 Mapping Kinship Relations** – Tracing Your Family Tree! Map your family by talking to your relatives, Mother and Father and Grandparents if they are available. Don't go on Ancestry.com or other DNA linked sources – just information that is easily available w/o spending \$\$\$!!!

July 23 **FORUM** - Now, thinking about inequality – This is a Thought Game – Imagine that you are sitting in the back row of a class room and your instructor asks the whole class to write their name on a piece of paper and then try to throw that piece of paper into a waste basket that sits on the instructor's desk in the front of the room. What would you do to get that piece of paper into the wastebasket? What are the odds that you'll make it? What are the hang-ups? If you were sitting in the front row what are the odds you'd make it? Why?

July 24 **Fieldwork # 10 10 Chairs of Inequality**
Video - Syrian Bride Watch this movie keeping notes as you go – what are the different factions in the family? Does wealth enter into the difference between factions? Or what else causes differences between people? Write a summary of your observations about the factions, the inequality based on ??

July 26 – 27 **Quiz # 4 Chapters 9 and 10**

Week 5 July 28 – August3 Global Economy and Environment and Sustainability

July 28 **READING ASSIGNMENT – GUEST, CHAPTER 12 GLOBAL ECONOMY**

FIND THE CHAPTER IN CANVAS MODULE FOR WEEK 5

FIELDWORK JOURNAL #11 – GLOBAL ECONOMY – TRACKING THE TRAVELS OF AN IPHONE.

UPLOAD YOUR ANSWERS IN THE FIELDWORK JOURNAL #11 MODULE ON CANVAS.

AUGUST 5-6 QUIZ # 4 COVERING CHAPTERS 10 AND 11

EXTRA CREDIT – 5 POINTS

FORUM – WRITE ABOUT YOUR FAMILY'S MIGRATION FROM A POINT OF STABILITY/ORIGIN TO CALIFORNIA – OR WHEREVER YOU ARE NOW, WHICH WE ASSUME IS A FINAL POINT OF STABILITY.

WATCH – MONSOON WEDDING – DE ANZA YOUTUBE, TYPE IN THE NAME IN THE SEARCH

WINDOW, THEN SCROLL DOWN TO THE "MONSOON WEDDING – FULL MOVIE HD" DO NOT RENT OR BUY IT . FILL IN THE QUESTIONS ON THE QUESTION SHEET AS YOU GO ALONG.

OR SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE – DE ANZA YOUTUBE. TYPE IN THE TITLE IN THE SEARCH BOX AND SCROLL DOWN TO THE FIRST AVAILABLE MOVIE. WRITE A REFLECTION ABOUT THE LEVELS OF

INEQUALITY OF CLASS YOU OBSERVED ON DISPLAY. WHAT ENABLED JAMAL TO WIN BESIDES GOOD KARMA? UPLOAD YOUR ANSWER IN THE EXTRA CREDIT MODULE FOR WEEK 5.

WEEK 6 AUGUST 4 - 8 POLITICS AND POWER AND FINAL EXAM ON THE LAST DAY OF CLASS

AUGUST 4 READING ASSIGNMENT – GUEST, CHAPTER 14 POLITICS AND POWER

FIND THE CHAPTER ON CANVAS

AUGUST 5 FIELDWORK JOURNAL #14 EXPLORING THE BALANCE OF POWER IN HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS. UPLOAD YOUR ANSWERS IN THE JOURNAL #14 MODULE.

WARNING – CANVAS WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 8 SO DON'T WAIT UNTIL SATURDAY TO DO YOUR WORK, IT WILL BE TOO LATE!

AUGUST 7-8 FINAL EXAM – 100 POINTS

PART 1 –CHAPTER 14 POLITICS AND POWER 20 QUESTIONS 10 PTS

PART 2 – COMPREHENSIVE – COVERING ALL PREVIOUS CHAPTERS 50 QUESTIONS 50 POINTS

PART 3 – A THOUGHT PROBLEM TO ANSWER BASED ON YOUR NEWLY ACQUIRED KNOWLEDGE OF ANTHROPOLOGY

AND YOU'RE DONE!!!!

FINAL GRADES ARE POSTED THE FOLLOWING WEEK BEGINNING AUGUST 13, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE YOUR GRADE AUGUST 14.