

Moraine Valley Community College
Course Syllabus

Date: August 31, 2009

Course Title: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Course Number: ANT 202-505

Semester: Fall 2009

I. Faculty Information

- A. Name: Ashton J. Spatz
- B. Office: N/A
- C. Office Hours: By appointment only
- D. Mailbox location: N/A
- E. Office Phone: (708) 974-5710(no to report absenses)
- F. E-Mail: spatza@morainevalley.edu

II. Course Identification

- A. Credit hours: 3 hours
- B. Total contact hours: 3: lecture 3: lab 0
- C. Course meets: Wednesdays 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- D. Prerequisite: None
- E. Corequisite: None
- F. Catalogue Description: Introduces nature, origins of culture, and diversity of recent or living cultures. Covers methods of field work, case studies, problems of acculturation, and the role of museums in presenting and preserving material culture.

III. Textbooks/Reading List/Materials:

- A. Required Textbooks:
 - Ember, C & Ember, M. (2007). *Cultural Anthropology* (12th ed.). New Jersey: Pearson/Prentice Hall. (abbreviated **CA** in Course Calendar)
 - Angeloni, E, (Ed.). (2009). *Annual Editions Anthropology 09/10* (32nd ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill. (abbreviated **AA** in Course Calendar)
- B. Supplementary materials:
 - Selected readings will be assigned and/or distributed in class.
 - Films and handouts TBA.

IV. Course Goals:

- A. Expose students to the variety of human life expressed in diverse cultures, which provide comprehensive frameworks for successfully living on planet Earth.
- B. Show students the functioning of various subsystems in simple and complex structures.
- C. Teach students an overview of the theories and methods of cultural anthropology.
- D. Demonstrate how cultures interact with one another and the corollary issues of colonialism, globalization, and acculturation.

V. Course End Competencies:

With the successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify the fundamental concepts of anthropology and its principle subfields.
- B. Describe the principle characteristics of culture.
- C. Discuss the structure of language, sociolinguistics, and the process of historical change.
- D. Explain the modes of food production, types of exchange systems, and kinship and descent practices produced by each mode.
- E. Describe the basic rules of descent and the basic systems of classification.
- F. Discuss the primary rules regulating sexual relations, negotiating marriages, and post-marital residence.
- G. Identify the principle forms of political systems and the factors that give rise to each.
- H. Discuss the functions of religion, the types of supernatural forces, and the varieties of religious organization.

VI. Classroom Policies/Procedures:

- A. In addition to the information below, please read the General Information Sheet attached to this syllabus.
- B. According to Moraine Valley Community College policy, a student who does not withdraw officially from a course may receive a grade of "F," depending on course progress or course attendance, which will become a part of the student's permanent record. The official withdrawal date is listed in the General Information Sheet.
- C. The Final Exam for this course will be given on the last day of class, which is **December 16th**.
- D. **Regular class attendance is expected.** Part of your grade will be based on it. It is also an essential factor for your success in this course. Avoid major scheduling conflicts. At the beginning of each class, the attendance sheet will be passed out. It is your responsibility to ensure that you sign it each class. Additionally, it is your responsibility to arrive to class on time

- and remain in class for the duration. Arriving late or leaving early may negatively impact your attendance and participation grade.
- E. This course consists of lectures, class work, homework, reports, quizzes, and exams. The topics for lecture and class work are listed in the Course Calendar (VIII) along with the associated readings. They should be read before coming to class. In addition, homework may be assigned for completion for the next class.
 - F. **Attendance at all quizzes and exams is mandatory.** Failure to notify the instructor of an absence prior to the exam day will automatically result in a zero for that exam. In the case that a make-up exam is granted, it will be available in the Testing Center (B101) for one week after the initial exam date.
 - G. Assignments are handed in at the beginning of the class period. **Late assignments will be penalized.** If you know of a conflict, and you will not be able to attend class on the day an assignment is due, then you are encouraged to complete and turn in the assignment early.
 - H. For all assignments, when appropriate, students must use APA as their documentation style. Any work that needs to be cited must be in APA format.
 - I. I encourage students to meet with me and discuss any concerns or questions that they may have with their exam or assignment grades. Concerns and questions about your assignments and exams must be addressed within a one-week period following the return of the assignment or exam. After the one-week period, the assignment or exam grade will not be reevaluated, and there will be NO exceptions.
 - J. As per Moraine Valley Community College Policy, anyone found cheating on a test or plagiarizing a paper, may be given an F for the course.
 - K. Each student is responsible for adhering to the Code of Student Conduct as stated in the college catalog.
 - L. Faculty, staff, students and college visitors may not use and must silence cell phones, pagers, and other communication devices in all instructional areas which include: all labs and classrooms during instructional sessions, the Learning Resources Center/Library, the Assessment Services Center (B101), and other areas so designated by the college.
 - M. **E-mail Guidelines:** Students must use the e-mail account provided by MVCC as their official means of e-mail communication for all business related to this course. Any e-mail that does not come directly from your MVCC e-mail (*username@student.morainevalley.edu*) may be filtered by spam or junk mail filters or may get deleted. **The subject line of all e-mail to the instructor must begin with the course number and section number followed by the topic.** E-mail without a subject may not be read and will probably be deleted. All e-mails should have at least one complete sentence and be signed. **E-mail Guidelines & Procedures:** Each student is responsible for reading the E-mail Guidelines & Procedures, which is located at <http://www.morainevalley.edu/studentemail/guidelines.htm>.

VII. Evaluation Criteria - Grades will be determined on:

A. Nature of all graded criteria:

1. Exams: There will be two exams during the course of the term: a midterm exam and a comprehensive final exam. Further exam details will be given at the appropriate time.
2. Quizzes: There will be two short quizzes given during the term. These should prepare students for the exams. Further details will be given prior to each quiz.
3. Class and Homework Assignments: There will be a number of class and homework assignments throughout the term. For homework assignments, students will have one week to complete these assignments, which will be due at the beginning of the next class meeting.
4. Museum Exhibit Assignment: This assignment will require students to visit a Chicagoland museum and write a short paper in response to the exhibit viewed. Additional details will be given at the appropriate time in the term.
5. Attendance and Participation: Attendance is required as previously discussed. If you are not present in class, then you cannot participate. Participation includes asking or answering a question or taking part in an in-class discussion or activity.

B. Weight of each criteria:

Attendance and Participation: 5%
Class and Homework Assignments: 20%
Quizzes: 10% (5% each)
Museum Exhibit Assignment: 15%
Midterm Exam: 20%
Final Exam: 30%

Grading Scale for Course:	A	90-100%
	B	80-89%
	C	70-79%
	D	60-69%
	F	0-59%

- ### C. Extra credit policy: Under rare circumstances, some extra credit options may be available. If extra credit is available, it will always be to the entire class.

VIII. Course Calendar:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Week 1	9/2	Course Overview Introduction to Anthropology	CA Ch. 1
Week 2	9/9	The Concept of Culture The History of Cultural Anthropology	CA Ch. 2 & 3
Week 3	9/16	Research and Fieldwork Methods in Cultural Anthropology	CA Ch. 4 AA Articles 1 & 2
Week 4	9/23	QUIZ 1 Language and Communication	CA Ch. 5 AA Articles 5, 8, & 9
Week 5	9/30	Making a Living: Acquiring Food and Economic Systems	CA Ch. 6 & 7
Week 6	10/7	Social Stratification Political Organization	CA Chap. 8 & 13 AA Articles 13 & 14
Week 7	10/14	MIDTERM EXAM Museum Anthropology	
Week 8	10/21	Sex, Gender, and Culture	CA Chap. 9 Articles TBA
Week 9	10/28	Marriage, Family, and Kinship	CA Chap. 10 & 11
Week 10	11/4	Marriage, Family, and Kinship (cont.)	Articles TBA
Week 11	11/11	Ritual, Religion, Myth, and Magic	CA Chap. 15 Articles TBA
Week 12	11/18	QUIZ 2 Art and Other Expressive Cultures	CA Chap. 16 Articles TBA
Week 13	11/25	NO CLASS-Thanksgiving Break	
Week 14	12/2	Contemporary Culture Change and Globalization	CA Chap. 17 & 20 Articles TBA

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Week 15	12/9	Museum Exhibit Assignment Due Applied Anthropology Medical Anthropology Review for Final Exam	CA Chap. 18 & 19 AA Article 23
Week 16	12/16	FINAL EXAM	

Important Dates to Remember:

9/23	Quiz 1
10/14	Midterm Exam
11/18	Quiz 2
12/9	Museum Exhibit Assignment Due
12/16	Final Exam

Items on the syllabus may be added, deleted, or modified throughout the semester. Students will be apprised of any changes.