

ANTH 220 Cultural Anthropology

Spring 2004

Instructor Information

Instructor: Nicole Kilburn, M.A.

Office hours: M 4:30-6:00, T 1:30-3:00, W 4:30-6:00, TH 1:30-3:00 or by appointment

Location: Young 207

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Required texts:

Fadiman, Anne

1997 *The Spirit Catches You And You Fall Down; A Hmong Child, her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux; New York.

Miller, Barbara, Penny Van Esterik, and John Van Esterik

2001 *Cultural Anthropology*, Canadian Edition. Pearson Education Canada; Toronto.

Anne Fadiman's book will be read throughout the semester with particular elements tied into lecture material. It's an easy read, so reading it as soon as possible will mean you get the most out of it in this course.

Basis of Student Assessment

(a) Exams : 65%

There will be two exams designed to test your understanding of key concepts. The goal is to be able to apply the material rather than strict memorization. Therefore, exams will be a varied format of some multiple choice, some short answer questions, and several long, open ended questions. The exams are NOT cumulative. The exams are weighted to the student's advantage; the exam with the highest mark will be worth 40% of the course, and the second exam will be worth 25%.

Midterm Tuesday, May 25

Final written during the College exam period

Both exams must be written to successfully complete Anthropology 220. Exams must be written **at the scheduled times**. In the case of illness, a medical certificate must be presented to the instructor. There will be **no exceptions** without a medical certificate. If a make-up exam is

scheduled because of illness, students must write the make-up exam at the mutually agreed upon time. Unavailability of texts or pressure of other work will not be accepted as excuses for missing exams or other assigned work.

(b) Assignments: 35%

Term paper: 25%

Students can choose to write a paper on an ethnology topic or a critical review of an ethnography.

Term paper option 1: critical review of an ethnography from the list posted on the web.

Students must consider the following aspects of the ethnography: objectives, fieldwork techniques, methods of recording data, nature of data collected, analysis of data, conclusions, and finished written monograph as realist or reflexive as a reflection of the theoretical orientation.

Term paper option 2: take one topic from the list posted on the web and examine it cross-culturally. The topic must be compared in two cultural contexts to examine similarities and differences.

6-8 pages, typed, double-spaced

The outline and provisional bibliography are due in class on **May 27**. This will ensure that you get an early start on your paper, and that you can get some feedback regarding your topic. **This part of the term paper is worth 5%.**

The final paper will be due in class on **June 15** (Monday).

PLEASE REMEMBER: Plagiarism is VERY serious! It is very important that you cite paraphrased and direct quotations for any sources that you use. If you need guidance, consult the *Style Manual for the Social Sciences* on reserve in the library or available for purchase in the Bookstore.

Participant Observation Commentary: 5%

This short (approximately 2 pages double spaced) commentary will summarize a documentary film presented as part of a lecture on fieldwork and focus on the merits of participant observation. This short assignment is due **May 13**.

Class participation: 5%

Students get the most out of a course by participating in class discussions and asking relevant questions. A mark out of 5 will be assigned based on overall attendance and student participation in class.

Please note: extra assignments **are not** available to students in order to up-grade poor marks from exams or lab work.

5. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%
 A = 90 - 94%
 A- = 85 - 89%
 B+ = 80 - 85%

B = 75 - 79%
 B- = 70 - 74%
 C+ = 65 - 69%
 C = 60 - 64%

D = 50 - 59%
 F = 0.0 - 49%
 I = See Calendar for Details
 AUD = Audit

W = Official withdrawal has taken place.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-8

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
May 4	Introduction: Concepts, Theory, and Method	Chapter 1
May 6	Anthropology Fieldwork; Gathering "evidence" and representing "others"	Chapter 2
May 11	Making Sense of "other worlds - other lives"; Religion and Worldview	Chapter 12
May 13	Kinship Systems, Marriage, and the Family <i>Participant Observation Commentary due in class</i>	Chapter 8
May 18	Social Organization and Power: The Politics of Identity and Social Control I	Chapters 10 and 11
May 20	Social Organization and Power: The Politics of Identity and Social Control II	Chapters 10 and 11
May 25	MIDTERM EXAM (2 hours)	
May 27	Cross Cultural Perceptions of Birth and Death <i>Paper outline and bibliography due</i>	Chapter 5; video clips posted at website
June 1	Illness and Healing A discussion of <i>The Spirit Catches You</i> book	Chapter 7
June 3	Making a Living I; Subsistence Patterns	Chapter 3
June 8	Making a Living II: Producing, Distributing and Consuming Resources	Chapter 4
June 10	The Body as Visual Language	Body Art As Visual Language; video clips posted at website
June 15	Expressive Culture; Art, Music, and Sport <i>Term paper due</i>	Chapter 15
June 17	Consequences of Modernization Wrap up and Review	Reading to be announced