

***ANTH 110 Women in Cross-Cultural Perspective***  
***Fall 2004 Section 001***

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**Instructor Information**

Instructor: Nicole Kilburn, M.A.  
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This course will examine the social, economic, and political position of women in traditional, developing, and industrial societies, with an emphasis on cultural assumptions about women and theories of gender relations and stratification. This is not a feminist class, and will not explore the various topics with the exclusion of men. The roots of feminism can be found in equality, and the goal of this course is to examine a variety of issues related to women while striking a balance and considering all participants.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

*Knowledge outcomes:*

- Outline the main tenets of the feminist perspective in anthropology
- Explain the biosocial nature of pregnancy and childbirth
- Outline the cross-cultural patterns of marriage, gender division of labour, and activities originating in the domestic sphere
- Describe the impact of international development on women

*Skills outcomes:*

- Critically evaluating relevant topics such as veiling, seclusion, and female genital modification using cultural relativity
- Applying the feminist perspective to topics of anthropological interest

**3. Required Materials**

**(a) Texts:**

Barnes, Virginia Lee and Janice Boddy  
1995 *Aman: The Story of a Somali Girl*. Toronto: Vintage Canada.

Freidl, Erika  
1989 *Women of Deh Koh: Lives in an Iranian Village*. Toronto: Penguin.

Jordan, Brigitte  
1993 *Birth in Four Cultures: A Cross Cultural Investigation in Yucatan, Holland, Sweden, and the United States* (fourth edition). Prospect Heights, Illinois: Waveland Press.

**(b) Required readings** on reserve in Library

Abu-Lughod, Lila

2002 Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving? Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Revlativism and Its Others. *American Anthropologist* 104(3): 783-790.

Freidel, Ernestine

2001 Society and Sex Roles. IN: *Applying Anthropology: An Introductory Reader*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, Aaron Podolefsky and Peter Brown editors. California; Mayfield Publishing.

Lamphere, Louise

2001 The domestic Sphere of Women and the Public World of Men: The Strengths and Limitations of an anthropological Dichotomy. IN: *Gender in Cross-cultural Perspective*, Caroline Brettell and Carolyn Sargent editors, pp. 100-110. New Jersey; Prentice-Hall.

Murcott, Anne

2001 [1983] "It's A Pleasure to Cook for Him": Food, Mealtimes, and Gender in Some South Wales Households. Reprinted in *Gender and Cross-cultural Perspective*, Caroline Brettell and Carolyn Sargent editors, pp.110-119. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.

**4. Basis of Student Assessment**

**Exams : 65%**

There will be 2 exams written throughout the course of the semester. The midterm exam will be written in class on **Wednesday, October 20**. The final exam will be written during the college exam period. The exams are NOT cumulative, although some core concepts like cultural relativity and the feminist perspective in anthropology will be considered throughout the course, even if they are presented in the first half.

Exams must be written at the scheduled times. The only exception is grave illness, BUT the instructor must be notified by email or phone message prior to the start of the exam, and a medical note must be presented. There are 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 as soon as possible.

**Assignments:**

**BE FOREWARNED:** Try to avoid handing in papers late, as you will lose marks!!! An assignment will be considered late if it cannot be handed in at the beginning of class. Assignments handed in after class on the due date will have 1 mark deducted (printing problems don't make good excuses!). Assignments handed in the day following the due date will have an additional 1 mark deducted. Assignments will not be accepted later than two school days after they are due.

**Please note:** extra assignments **are not** available to students to up-grade poor marks from exams.

**5. Camosun College Grading System**

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%	B = 75 – 79.9%	D = 50 – 59.9%
A = 90 – 94.9%	B- = 70 – 74.9%	F = 0.0 – 49.9%
A- = 85 – 89.9%	C+ = 65 – 69.9%	I = See Calendar for Details
B+ = 80 – 84.9%	C = 60 – 64.9%	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](http://www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-8)

Plagiarism is extremely serious. If outside sources are consulted for any assignment, proper citations must be included. Outside sources include ANY books, journals, or websites used to collect information. Citations can be in MLA or APA style (a style guide is available at the Bookstore or library for consultation). Failure to provide proper citations will result in a zero for the assignment. This includes posters or handouts used for presentations. PLEASE come to ask if you have any questions!!

**Course schedule: Class meets Monday and Wednesday 3:30-4:50pm**

WEEK	LECTURE TOPIC	READINGS
<b>1 Sept. 6-10</b>	M: Labour Day holiday; no class W: Introduction to the course	
<b>2 Sept. 13-17</b>	M: What is Feminism and How has it influenced Anthropology? W: History of the Feminist Approach, continued....	Ehrenberg; Domestic/Private sphere article
<b>3 Sept. 20-24</b>	M: W:	
<b>4 Sept. 27-Oct. 1</b>	M: W:	
<b>5 Oct. 4-8</b>	M: W:	
<b>6 Oct. 11-15</b>	M: Thanksgiving Day holiday; no class W:	
<b>7 Oct. 18-22</b>	M: W:	
<b>8 Oct. 25-29</b>	M: <b>MIDTERM EXAM</b> W:	
<b>9 Nov. 1-5</b>	M: W:	
<b>10 Nov. 8-12</b>	M: W:	
<b>11 Nov. 15-19</b>	M: W:	
<b>12 Nov. 22-26</b>	M:	

	W:	
<b>13 Nov. 29-Dec. 3</b>	M: W:	
<b>14 Dec. Dec. 6-10</b>	M: W: review and wrap up	