



*School of Arts & Science*  
*SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT*

**ANTH 110-001**  
**Anthropology of Women**  
**Fall 2007**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Mo & Wed: 3 - 4:20 pm, Fisher 202**

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**1. Instructor Information**

(a)	Instructor:	Karoline Herbison, M.A.		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mo 2 – 3 pm, Tue & Thu 1 – 2:30 pm, or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul 334		
(d)	Phone:	370 3371		
(e)	Email:	<a href="mailto:HerbisonK@Camosun.bc.ca">HerbisonK@Camosun.bc.ca</a>		

**2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Outline the main tenets of the feminist perspective in anthropology.
2. Explain the biosocial nature of pregnancy and childbirth.
3. Outline the cross-cultural patterns of marriage, gender division of labour, and activities originating in the domestic sphere.
4. Describe the impact of international development on women.
5. Critically evaluate relevant topics such as veiling, seclusion, and female genital modification using cultural relativism.
6. Apply the feminist anthropology perspective to issues pertaining to women's lives in Canada and around the world.
7. Apply the anthropological perspective in writing an anthropological paper.

Course material will be presented through lectures, PowerPoint presentations, films, and other materials. Emphasis will be placed on interactive learning, and students will be asked to take part in both group and class discussions.

### 3. Required Materials

*(a) From the bookstore:*

Shostak, Marjorie  
2000 *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Friedl, Erika  
1989 *Women of Deh Koh: Lives in an Iranian Village*. New York: Penguin Books.

Reader for ANTH 110, including seven anthropological articles on different topics

*(b) On the Internet:*

“Object of Despair”, by Fahim Firfiray  
[www.islamawareness.net/Poems/poem4.html](http://www.islamawareness.net/Poems/poem4.html)

*(c) Handouts:*

Reading Guide (containing focus questions to help you with the reading of the two books)

Assignment Handout & Studyguides (plus, other handouts may be given by your instructor)

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

Please note that the schedule below is tentative; possible changes will be announced in class.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Sept. 5	Introduction to Class	
Sept. 10 & 12	Introduction to Anthropology & Feminist Anth. A Cross-Cultural Perspective of Gender Roles <i>Film: Gender Tango</i>	Ferraro & Friedl (Reader)
Sept. 17 & 19	Introduction to the !Kung & Fieldwork Methods Childhood among the !Kung	Shostak Introduction Shostak Chap. 1, 2, 3
Sept. 24 & 26	Sexuality, Marriage and Family The Biosocial Nature of Childbirth	Shostak Chap. 4, 5, 6, 7 Shostak Chap. 8 & 9
Oct. 1 & 3	Gender Roles and Culture Change A Cross-Cultural Approach to Illness & Healing	Shostak Chap. 10, 11, 12 Shostak Chap. 13
Oct. 10	<i>Oct. 8: Thanksgiving, College closed</i> wrap up book discussion <b>Wed: Assignment 1 due</b>	Chap. 14, 15, and Epilogue
Oct. 15 & 17	Language & Gender	Maltz & Borker (Reader)
Oct. 22 & 24	<b>Mo: MIDTERM</b> Introduction to Islam & Iran, Methods revisited	Friedl Prologue, Chap. 1, 2
Oct. 29 & 31	Women in Iran Marriage & Family revisited	Friedl Chap. 3, 5, 6 Friedl Chap. 4, 7, 10, Nanda (Reader)
Nov. 5 & 7	<i>Film: A World without Fathers or Husbands</i> <b>Mo: Assignment 2 due</b> wrap up book discussion	Chap. 9, 11, 12, Epilogue
Nov. 14	<i>Nov. 12: Remembrance Day, College closed</i> Veiling, <i>Film: Under One Sky</i>	Firfiray (poem online, see p.2)
Nov. 19 & 21	Body Modification, Female Genital Cutting The Female Body in Cross-Cultural Perspective <b>Wed: Assignment 3 due</b>	Gruenbaum (Reader)
Nov. 26 & 28	The Female Body continued Women & Development <i>Film: I Used to Work in the Fields</i>	Mills (Reader)
Dec. 3 & 5	Women & Development continued Wrap up	Harper (Reader)
TBA* Dec. 10-18	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

*\*Do not make travel plans until the final exam schedule is posted. Exceptions cannot be made for work or travel arrangements.*

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Grades are based on two exams (65%) and three assignments (35%). You will get a study guide for both exams and a handout with detailed information about each assignment.

### ***Midterm Exam (30%):***

The midterm will be based on all materials covered to that date, including lectures, films, and readings. It will consist of a mix of multiple-choice, short-answer, and short essay questions.

### ***Final Exam (35%):***

The final exam will be based on all material covered after the midterm, including lectures, films, and readings. The final exam will also include a few general concepts discussed throughout the term. The format will be very similar to the midterm.

### ***Assignment 1: Commentary on Nisa (5%)***

This short assignment (3 pages) consists of a commentary on a few key themes in Shostak's *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*.

### ***Assignment 2: Family and Women's Roles (15%)***

For assignment 2 you will use anthropological sources to research the family structure of a specific cultural group and focus particularly on the roles of women. Based on your research findings, you will write a detailed paper outline (about 5 pages).

### ***Assignment 3: Applied Anthropology (15%)***

Anthropologists often work as consultants for development projects. For assignment 3 you are asked to critically evaluate potential tourism development in Deh Koh, the Iranian village described by Friedl in *Women of Deh Koh* (about 6 pages).

**Formatting of Assignments:** All assignments have to be typed, Font 12, double-spaced, with 1-1.5 inch margins. You do not need to provide a separate title page, but the first page has to clearly show your name, the name and number of the class, the title of the assignment, and the date.

**IMPORTANT:** Both exams must be written to successfully complete this course and both must be written at the scheduled times. In the case of an emergency or grave illness, you have to inform the instructor *before* the start of the exam and present a medical certificate. There are no exceptions without such a document.

Assignments are due *in class* on the days listed in the course schedule. For late assignments, 5 % of the grade will be deducted per school day, and assignments will **not** be accepted more than three days after the deadline. You know about assignment deadlines far in advance, so plan ahead.

Also note that there is no option to redo assignments in this class, but I encourage you to see me during office hours and get feedback as you are preparing your assignments.

**Class Participation:** Group and class discussions are an integral part of this course. Up to 2 % of *bonus marks* will be given to students who contribute to discussions regularly and with good comments.

## 6. Grading System

### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

### Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 <sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

## 7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

### 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, at Student Services or the College web site at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

### STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.