



School of Arts & Science  
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

**ANTH 110-002**  
**Anthropology of Women**  
Winter 2010

## COURSE OUTLINE

1 – 2:20 pm,  
Monday & Wednesday,  
Wilna Thomas 103

### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Karoline Guelke, M.A.		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday to Thursday 11 am – 12 noon, or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul 233		
(d)	Phone:	370 3370		
(e)	Email:	Guelkek@Camosun.bc.ca		

### 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.

### 3. Required Materials

**(a) From the Camosun 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

**(b) On the internet:**

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

**(c) On reserve at the Camosun library:**

Friedl, Erika  
1997 Chapter 13: Boys and Girls. In *Children of Deh Koh: Young Life in an Iranian Village*. Pp. 138 - 150. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press.  
(Also available online under Google books)

**(d) Handouts:**

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

Assignment Handout & Study guides (plus, other short 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.

Date	Topic	Readings
Jan. 6	Introduction	
Jan. 11 & 13	Introduction to Anthropology The Feminist Perspective in Anthropology A Cross-Cultural Perspective of Gender Roles	Ferraro (Reader) Friedl (Reader)
Jan. 18 & 20	Introduction to the !Kung & Fieldwork Methods Childhood among the !Kung	Shostak Introduction Shostak Chap. 1, 2, 3
Jan. 25 & 27	Sexuality, Marriage and Family Childbirth: A Biocultural Perspective	Shostak Chap. 4, 5, 6, 7 Shostak Chap. 8 & 9
Feb. 1 & 3	Gender Roles and Culture Change A Cross-Cultural Approach to Illness & Healing	Shostak Chap. 10, 11, 12 Shostak Chap. 13
Feb. 8 & 10	The !Kung today <b>Wed: Assignment 1 - In-class essay</b>	Chap. 14, 15, and Epilogue
Feb 15 & 17	Language & Gender	Maltz & Borker (Reader)
Feb. 22 & 24	The Female Body in Cross-Cultural Perspective: (a) An Overview & Exam Prep. <b>Wed: MIDTERM</b>	
March 1 & 3	(b) Female Genital Cutting Introduction to Islam & Iran, Methods revisited	Gruenbaum (Reader) Friedl Prologue, Chap. 1, 2
March 8 & 10	Women in Iran Marriage & Family revisited	Friedl Chap. 3, 6 Friedl Chap. 4, 7, 10, Nanda (Reader)
March 15 & 17	<b>Mon: Assignment 2 due</b> Marriage & Family continued Wrap up book discussion	Friedl Chap. 9, 11, 12, Epilogue
March 22 & 24	The Female Body in Cross-Cultural Perspective: (c) The Veil Women & Development	Firfiray (poem online, see this outline p.2)
March 29 & 31	Women & Development <b>Mon: Assignment 3 due</b>	Mills (Reader)
April 7	Women & Development continued	Harper (Reader)
Exam Period April 12 -20*	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

\* **IMPORTANT:** 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 Feb. 17, 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 Feb. 22 and 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 similar to that of the midterm.

### **Assignment 1: Commentary on Nisa (10%)**

The first assignment is an in-class essay which consists of a discussion of women's roles in traditional !Kung society, based on Shostak's *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*. You will have the whole class to write it. Details will follow in assignment handout.

### **Assignment 2: Gender & Childrearing (10%)**

The basis for this assignment is Friedl's book chapter on reserve, which deals with childrearing in rural Iran. In about four pages (1000 words) you are asked to compare Friedl's description to specific experiences and observations from your own culture. Details will follow in handout.

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

Anthropologists often work as consultants for development projects. In about five pages (1250 words) you are asked to critically evaluate potential tourism developments in Deh Koh, the Iranian village described by Friedl in *Women of Deh Koh*. Details will follow in handout.

**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 school days after the deadline. 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. <i>(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.)</i>
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.