

**Anthropology 2030: Cultural Anthropology**  
**Fall Semester 2008**  
**12 – 12:50 pm MWF**  
**Agriculture Building Room 2-06**

**Instructor**

Dr. Mary K. Shenk  
202 Swallow Hall  
shenkm@missouri.edu  
(573) 882-0562 direct

**Teaching Assistant**

Christina Pomianek  
209 Swallow Hall  
cnp304@mizzou.edu

**Office Hours:**

M 2-4pm (Swallow Hall 202)  
Th 11am–1pm (Swallow Hall 202)

**Office Hours:**

M	9:00-10:00	A&S 320E
T	11:00-12:00	Swallow Hall 209
W	9:00-10:00	A&S 320E
Th	12:00-1:00	Swallow Hall 209
F	1:00-2:00	Swallow Hall 209

**Anthropology Department**

107 Swallow Hall  
(573) 882-4731 direct

**Texts**

Ferraro, Gary. 2004. *Classic Readings in Cultural Anthropology*. Thomson Wadsworth: Canada.

Nanda, Serena and Richard L. Warms. *Cultural Anthropology*, 9th Edition. Thomson Wadsworth: USA.

Spradley, James and David W. McCurdy. 2006. *Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology*, 12<sup>th</sup> edition. Pearson Education: USA.

**Assignments and Grading**

**Exams:** There will be three exams in this course, two midterms and a final each worth 100 points. Exams will consist of multiple question types, including multiple choice, definitions, short essay, and long essay.

**Quizzes:** Short quizzes worth 10 points each covering the recent readings and lectures will be given most weeks. Quizzes will be not be announced in advance and will either be given in class or available on Blackboard for a 24 hour period. No makeup quizzes will be given, but two quizzes can be missed without penalty. Students taking more than ten quizzes will be allowed to keep any extra points they receive.

**Ethnography Assignments:** You will have two related ethnographic research assignments to complete based on a cultural topic of your choice. The first assignment will involve background research and be worth 75 points, and the second will involve an interview and participant observation and be worth 125 points. Assignment details will be given separately, but each will require a 4-5 page (double-spaced) report.

**Community Action Website Project:** This is a collaborative project involving cultural anthropology students from many universities. Each year it focuses on different ethical issues that lie at the interface of anthropology and the contemporary world. All students read the same background materials and write expository letters which take either a pro or con position on the semester's topic. Each student then evaluates the letters written by other students and has his or her own letter evaluated by them. At the end of the project, students vote on the best letters which are then sent to individuals in a position to make a difference to the issue being explored.

Students pay a \$10 registration fee to participate in the project. Once registered, you will have full access to the website, a copy of the book used with the project, and all activities associated with the project. More information will be given out as we get closer to the start date, but you can get an overview at [www.publicanthropology.org](http://www.publicanthropology.org).

We will be participating from October 13-October 29. You have to complete the entire project to receive a grade for the project. The project is worth 100 points.

**Makeup Work and Late Assignments:** Requests for early/makeup exams for good reasons made in advance will be honored where possible. Requests for makeup exams received after the exam has been given must be accompanied by a documented excuse. There will be no makeup quizzes given. Ethnography Assignment grades will be reduced by 10% for each day they are late unless prior arrangements have been made.

**Extra Credit:** Extra Credit can be obtained in three ways:

1. By answering bonus questions on each of the three exams.
2. By taking more than the required ten quizzes.
3. By revising one of your ethnography assignments and submitting it to be re-graded. This must be done within two weeks of the time the graded assignment was returned to the class.

**Class Notes:** PowerPoint class notes will be posted online unless class attendance drops below 80%, in which case only skeleton notes will be posted.

**Films:** Films and videos will be shown frequently throughout the course. Material from films is fair game for all exams and quizzes.

## **Assignment Values and Grading Scale:**

<u>Type of Assignment</u>	<u>Points (Extra Points)</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
Midterm 1	100 (5)	A 651-700 (93-100%)
Midterm 2	100 (5)	A- 630-650 (90-92%)
Final Exam	100 (5)	B+ 609-629 (87-89%)
All Quizzes	100 (20)	B 581-608 (83-86%)
Ethnography Assignment 1	75	B- 560-580 (80-82%)
Ethnography Assignment 2	125	C+ 539-559 (77-79%)
<u>Community Action Project</u>	<u>100</u>	C 511-538 (73-76%)
Total	700 (35)	D+ 469-489 (67-69%)
		D 441-468 (63-66%)
		D- 420-440 (60-62%)
		F under 420 (under 60%)

## **Policies and Information**

**Academic Dishonesty:** You are expected to observe the University's standards for academic behavior. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, copying work from another student, and plagiarism. Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will receive no credit for the affected assignments and will be reported to the Provost's office. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting or collaboration, consult the course instructor. You may also refer to the *Collected Rules and Regulations*, Section 200.010, Standard of Conduct, and Section 200.020, Rules of Procedures in Student Conduct Matters for more specific details. These are available on the University of Missouri System website.

You are encouraged to use appropriate published and internet sources when doing assignments for this class, but **any** information you use must be either (a) paraphrased into your own words and the reference given, or (b) directly quoted and the reference given. To do otherwise is plagiarism and will result in loss of credit and possible disciplinary action.

**Disability Accommodations:** If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform the instructor immediately. You can speak with the instructor privately after class or in her office during the hours listed above.

To request academic accommodations (for example, a note taker or extended time on exams), students must also register with the Office of Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 882-4696. It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

## Topics and Readings

Dates	Topic(s)	Readings
August 25-29	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology; Human Origins and the Capacity for Culture	Nanda and Warms Ch. 1 & Ch. 2 (pp. 31-35 & 48-54 only)
September 3 & 5	History and Practice of Cultural Anthropology	Nanda and Warms Ch. 3 Spradley & McCurdy 4 & 5
September 8-12	The Culture Concept <b>Ethnography Assignment Topic Due Sept. 12</b>	Nanda and Warms Ch. 4 Ferraro Ch. 2 & 4 Spradley & McCurdy Ch. 3
September 15-19	Language as the Foundation of Culture	Nanda and Warms Ch. 5 Ferraro Ch. 3 Spradley & McCurdy 6 & 9
September 22-26	Subsistence Patterns	Nanda and Warms Ch. 6 Spradley & McCurdy 10 & 12
September 29 – October 3	<b>Midterm 1 on September 29</b> Production, Consumption, and Exchange	Nanda and Warms Ch. 7 Ferraro Ch. 5 Spradley & McCurdy 13 & 15
October 6-10	<b>Ethnography Assignment 1 Due October 6</b> Marriage and Family Systems	Nanda and Warms Ch. 8 Ferraro Chs. 6 Spradley & McCurdy 17 & 18
October 13-17	Kinship Systems <b>Community Action Website Week 1: Write Letter</b>	Nanda and Warms Ch. 9 Ferraro Ch. 7 Spradley & McCurdy 19
October 20-24	Sex, Gender, and Gender Roles <b>Community Action Website Week 2: Evaluate Letters</b>	Nanda and Warms Ch. 10 Ferraro Ch. 8 Spradley & McCurdy 20 or 22
October 27-31	Political Organization and Social Control <b>Community Action Website Week 3: Vote for Best Letters</b>	Nanda and Warms Ch. 11 Ferraro Ch. 10 Spradley & McCurdy 25 or 26
November 3-7	<b>Midterm 2 on November 3</b> Identity and Inequality: Caste and Class	Nanda and Warms Ch. 12
November 10-14	Identity and Inequality: Race and Ethnicity	Nanda and Warms Ch. 13 Spradley & McCurdy 23 & 32
November 17-21	Religion and Culture <b>Ethnography Assignment 2 Due Nov. 21</b>	Nanda and Warms Ch. 14 Ferraro Chs. 12 & 13 Spradley & McCurdy 27 or 30
November 24-28	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b> – No Class	No Readings
December 1-5	Art and Popular Culture	Nanda and Warms Ch. 15 Spradley & McCurdy 8, 29 & 33
December 8 & 10	Globalization and Culture Change	Nanda and Warms Ch. 16 Ferraro Chs. 14 or 15 Spradley & McCurdy 11 & 34
December 17	<b>Final Exam</b> Wednesday, Dec. 17 1–3 p.m.	No Readings