

**Anthropology 4300/7300: Comparative Social Organization**  
**Fall Semester 2009**  
**2:00–2:50 pm MWF, Geology 108**

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**Texts and Readings**

- Stone, Linda. 2010. *Kinship and Gender: An Introduction* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). Westview Press: Boulder, Colorado. **Required**
- Weiner, Annette. 1988. *The Trobrianders of Papua New Guinea*. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich: Orlando, Florida. **Required**
- Harrell, Stevan. 1997. *Human Families*. Westview Press: Boulder, Colorado. **Recommended for Grad Students**

There will be additional readings given most weeks; these will be posted on ERes by Friday. All readings are due by Wednesday of the week for which they are assigned.

**Assignments and Grading**

**Exams:** There will be three exams in this course, two take-home midterms worth 120 points each and a comprehensive, in-class final worth 110 points. Exams will primarily consist of short and long essay questions.

**Quizzes:** Short, unannounced quizzes worth 10 points each covering the recent lecture material, readings, and/or presentations will be given throughout the course. 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.

**In-Class Presentation:** Students will be expected to give a 10 minute oral presentation (15 minutes for graduate students) on a subject of their choice related to one of the weekly topics covered in the course. Your topic is due to the instructor 10 days prior to your presentation.

Presentations will be given every Friday from September 18 onwards, and will be worth 50 points. Presentations should utilize Powerpoint or similar software, and will be graded on content (30), organization/clarity (10), visual interest (5), and style (5).

**Term Paper:** All students will be required to write a term paper worth 150 points. Topic choice is open but subject to approval. Ideally the term paper should be written on the same topic as the oral presentation. Students will be evaluated on their ability to provide detailed topical content, organize their paper well, and write clearly. Undergraduate term papers should be 3,000-3,500 words (6-7 pages single-spaced) while graduate term papers should be 4,000-5,000 words (8-10 pages single-spaced). Further details about the term paper requirements will be provided during the course.

**Attendance and Participation:** Attendance will be noted and combined with class participation to make up 50 points of your final grade.

**Makeup Work and Late Assignments:** Students each have two free late days which can be used on either of the take-home exams or the term paper. After these are gone, grades on assignments will be reduced by 10% for each day they are late unless prior arrangements have been made. Requests for makeup exams or deadline extensions 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 makeups for quizzes.

**Assignment Values and Grading Scale:**

<u>Type of Assignment</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Undergrad Grading Scale</u>
Midterm 1	120	A 651-700 (93-100%)
Midterm 2	120	A- 630-650 (90-92%)
Final Exam	110	B+ 609-629 (87-89%)
Quizzes (Combined)	100	B 581-608 (83-86%)
Attendance/Participation	50	B- 560-580 (80-82%)
In-Class Presentation	50	C+ 539-559 (77-79%)
<u>Term Paper</u>	<u>150</u>	C 511-538 (73-76%)
Total	650	C- 490-510 (70-72%)
		D+ 469-489 (67-69%)
		D 441-468 (63-66%)
		D- 420-440 (60-62%)
		F under 420 (under 60%)
<u>Graduate Grading Scale</u>		
A 630-700	C 490-559	
B 560-629	F < 490	

**Policies and Information:**

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students 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.

Students are encouraged to use appropriate internet and published sources when doing assignments for this class, but *any* information used 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.

**Change in Academic Calendar:** Effective this semester Reading Day has been moved from Friday to Thursday of the final week of classes. Final examinations are to be administered on Friday (the day following Reading Day) and Monday through Thursday of the following week. The Friday that follows 8 days after Reading Day will be reserved for individual make-up exams or in the event that extreme weather conditions or other extraordinary events result in cancellation of a regularly scheduled exam date. No commencement exercises will be scheduled before 1:00 pm of the Friday that follows 8 days after Reading Day.

**Topics and Readings:**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Readings</b>
August 24, 26, 28	Introduction to Social Organization as Studied by Anthropologists	Stone Ch. 1 Weiner Introduction & Ch. 1
August 31; Sept. 2,4	Major Anthropological Perspectives on Social Organization	Stone Ch. 2 Additional Readings on ERes
September 9, 11	Descent & Lineage	Stone Chs. 3, 4 & 5 Weiner Chs. 2 & 3
September 14, 16, 18	Marriage Patterns	Stone Ch. 6 Weiner Chs. 4 & 5 Additional Readings on ERes
<b>Student Presentations Begin September 18</b>		
September 21, 23, 25	Family Structure	Readings on ERes
<b>Midterm 1 Given in class September 25, Due September 29 by 4 pm</b>		
September 28, 30; Oct. 2	Inheritance Patterns and Practices	Weiner Ch. 8 Additional Readings on ERes
October 5, 7, 9	Political Organization and the Evolution of Social Complexity	Weiner Chs. 6 & 7 Additional Readings on ERes
October 12, 14, 16	Hunter-Gatherer Social Organization	Readings on ERes
October 19, 21, 23	Social Organization in Sub-Saharan Africa	Readings on ERes
October 26, 28, 30	Social Organization in Oceania	Weiner Chs. 9 & 10 Additional Readings on ERes
<b>Midterm 2 Given in class October 30, Due November 3 by 4 pm</b>		
November 2, 4, 6	Early Complex Societies of the Americas	Readings on ERes
November 9, 11, 13	Complex Societies and their Discontents: Europe & the Near East	Stone Ch. 7 to p. 248 Additional Readings on ERes
November 16, 18, 20	Complex Societies and their Discontents: South & East Asia	Readings on ERes
<b>Thanksgiving Break November 21-29</b>		
November 30; Dec. 2, 4	Kinship, Family, and Marriage in Modern Industrial Societies	Stone Ch. 7 (248-258), Ch. 8 Additional Readings on ERes
<b>Ethnographic Research Paper Due December 4 by 4 pm</b>		
December 7, 9	Postmodern Societies: The Critique of the Family, Alternate Family & Kinship Structures	Stone Ch. 7 (258-end), Ch. 9 Additional Readings on ERes
<b>Final Exam held Friday, December 11, from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm in Geology 108</b>		