

**ANTHROPOLOGY 12: CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY  
CONTINUING EDUCATION  
FURMAN UNIVERSITY  
SPRING 2007**

**Course:** ANT 12  
**Semester Credit Hours:** 3.0  
**Course Title:** Cultural Anthropology  
**Instructor's Name:** Dianne Chidester  
**Office Hours:** Before or after class or by appointment  
**Office Phone Number:** 864-250-8729 (cell 864-386-7200 for emergencies)  
**E-Mail Address:** [dianne.chidester@gvltec.edu](mailto:dianne.chidester@gvltec.edu)

**Time:** Thursday 6-8:45p  
**Room:** Hipp Hall 204

**Prerequisite:** Satisfactory placement in reading

**Course Description:** An introduction to social and cultural anthropology. Topics include the comparative study of subsistence regimes and economics, stratification and political organization, marriage and kinship, culture and personality, religion, and social and cultural change.

**Course Purpose:** ANT 12 satisfies a 3 credit hour course in General Education requirement the social sciences.

**Required Texts:** Heider, Karl G. Seeing Anthropology: Cultural Anthropology through Film, 4th ed., Pearson, Education, Inc., 2004.  
Angeloni, Elvio, ed. Annual Editions: Anthropology 07/08, 30<sup>th</sup> ed., McGraw-Hill/Dushkin 2007.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. The student will be able to discuss what is unique about the perspective of Anthropology and to differentiate between the major subfields of anthropology.
2. The student will be able to relate the scientific method to research issues, including a discussion of the characteristics, strengths and weaknesses of the most commonly used types of anthropological research.
3. The student will be able to compare and explain the concepts of culture, ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, and holism.
4. The student will be able to explain how culture reflects ideas, symbols, and behavior.
5. The student will be able to analyze "race" as a sociocultural construct.
6. The student will be able to describe the basic methodological tools of anthropology and the different between qualitative and quantitative methods.
7. The student will be able to discuss the interaction between types and functions of marriage and culture.
8. The student will be able to describe the complex meaning and variability of sex and gender.

## GRADING AND EVALUATION POLICIES

**Grades:** Grades will be based on 4 tests (approx 50pts/test for a total of 200pts); “question of the day” to be given at the beginning of each class (1pt/question); writing assignments (5 pts each), and one video analysis (10pts). Extra credit is available. No grades are curved.

**Estimated Points Possible:** Tests 200pts; writing assignments 25pts; video analysis 10pts. Total: 235 pts.

**Grade scale:** 90-100%=A; 80-89%=B; 70-79%=C; 60-69%=D; 0-59%=F

**Tests:** Tests will consist of 30 multiple choice questions (1pt each) and 4 short answer questions (5 points each). The final exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. The final exam (test 4) will be comprehensive and is the “core final” for the course.

**Make-up Tests:** Only one (1) test can be made up. You will need to notify me which test you need to make up. Any other missed tests will receive the grade of “zero.” Arrangements for the test will be announced later.

**Writing Assignments:** The assigned *Annual Editions* article is to be read and the following questions answered. 1. What is the main idea of the article? 2. What are three important facts the author uses to support the main idea? 3. How does this connect outside of the class? 4. List any examples of bias or faulty reasoning that you found in the article. 5. List any new terms/concepts that were discussed in the article and write a short definition. (Each answer is worth 1 pt.) Format is posted on Campus Cruiser and is at the page of the *AE* reader. All assignments are to be typed and in complete sentences. Work not meeting these requirements will be returned ungraded.

**Video Analysis:** You will watch one in-class video and will use the writing assignment format plus two other questions which will be supplied. Format will be posted on Campus Cruiser.

**Extra Credit:** Read one of the articles from *AE* which is not already on the syllabus and answer the same questions as for the writing assignments (see Campus Cruiser). Extra credit work is due on Friday of the week noted. Or, some campus activities will be certified for extra credit. Each article or activity review is worth 3 points with a maximum of 15 points extra credit for the course.

**Class Discussion:** You all have knowledge from other classes and experiences. This knowledge connects to our studies. You should ask questions and/or make comments regarding topics during class. A comment must contribute to the knowledge of the class and have value. In other words, “That’s stupid!” is not a contribution to the class unless you explain how and why it is stupid. I will tally comments to be credited to you if your grades are on the border between letter grades.

**Students with Disabilities:** If a student with a disability desires an accommodation, it is the student’s responsibility to identify himself or herself as having a disability and to make a formal request for appropriate accommodations. The Disabilities Service Coordinator at Furman is Ms. Gina Parris at extension 294-2322. For more information, visit <http://www.furman.edu/disability/academic.htm>

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty in any form is a fundamental offense against the entire academic community and is always a threat to the standards of the college and to the standing of every student. In taking tests, examinations, doing homework, laboratory work, and writing papers, students are expected to perform with honor. For more information, visit <http://www.furman.edu/integrity/>

**Academic Assistance:** The Office of Academic Assistance provides free tutoring and academic support for all Furman students (day and evening), for all subjects. Academic support includes assistance with study skills, time management, test-taking and other academic success strategies. If you would like to access tutoring or any other services, please contact Barbara Foltz at 294-2110 or [barbara.foltz@furman.edu](mailto:barbara.foltz@furman.edu).

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All work turned in must be typed and use complete sentences.

Date	Day	Class Topic/ Activity	Reading
Jan. 11		Orientation to the course. Explanation of syllabus. In-class video: <i>Zea: A Study in Perspective</i>	
Jan. 18		In-class discussion: Science/Religion/Pseudoscience Chapter 1: The Study of Human Diversity	AE #31 <i>Body Ritual...</i>
Jan. 25		Chapter 2: Understanding Culture	Extra Credit #1 Due
Feb. 1		Chapter 2: continued Chapter 3: Doing Anthropology (beginning)	
Feb. 8		Chapter 3: continued	AE #1 <i>Doing Fieldwork...</i>
Feb. 15		<b>TEST CHAPTERS 1, 2, 3</b> Chapter 4: Meanings: Language, Symbols, & Art	
Feb. 22		Chapter 4: continued	Extra Credit #3 Due
Mar. 1		Chapter 5: Psychology & Culture	AE #17 <i>Death without Weeping</i>
Mar. 8		Chapter 5: Continued	
Mar. 15		Chapter 6: Patterns of Production Chapter 7: Distribution & Consumption	Extra Credit #4 Due
Mar. 22	Dead Birds	In-class video: <i>Dead Birds</i>	
Mar. 29		<b>TEST CHAPTERS 4, 5, 6, 7</b> Chapter 8: Marriage + Family (beginning)	<i>Dead Birds Due</i> AE #20 <i>Who Needs Love!</i>
Apr. 5		Chapter 8: continued Chapter 12: Cultural Construction of Gender & Sexuality	AE #19 <i>Arranging a Marriage</i> Extra Credit #5 Due
Apr. 12		Chapter 11: Facing the Supernatural: Magic, Religion, & Ritual	AE #21 <i>Berdache Tradition</i>
Apr. 19		<b>COMPREHENSIVE FINAL:</b> <b>INCLUDES CHAPTERS 8, 12, 11</b>	

The above schedule is a tentative schedule. Changes may be made in the schedule if it is in the best interest of the class. Schedule changes (if any) will be announced in class.