

DOUGLAS COLLEGE
Anthropology 1100
Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology

Summer 2006, Tuesdays and Thursdays 12-1:50p (Room 3417)

Instructor: Tad McIlwraith ... please call me Tad
Email: mcilwraitht@douglas.bc.ca
Office: 3419B
Phone: 604-527-5782
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11a-12p; Wednesdays 11a-12p

I am available at other times by appointment. You may also contact me at any time at the email address listed above.

Aims and Objectives

This course will introduce students to the study of cultural anthropology. Topics covered include language, communication, culture, kinship, political systems, economic systems, religion, and changing cultures. Examples of cultural practices will be drawn from around the world and presented using lectures, films, and slide presentations.

Other Course Resources

www.tadmilwraith.com – This is my website. A page on the website is devoted to this class. You can keep up with the lecture schedule there, find additional copies of handouts, and review slides presented in class.

www.anthroblog.tadmilwraith.com – This is my blog. I discuss issues related to anthropology, studying anthropology, and my other interests here. Much of the blog deals with aboriginal rights in British Columbia. Feel free to browse at your leisure and, should you feel inclined, you are able to comment on what I write about on the blog.

Textbook

Miller, Barbara D., Penny Van Esterik, and John Van Esterik. 2004. *Cultural Anthropology, Second Canadian Edition*. Toronto: Pearson Education.

A1100 Workbook (Version 2.0), available for download from www.tadmilwraith.com or available for photocopying from the instructor. The workbook is required because it includes all readings and film-related questions as well as worksheets needed during lectures and for exam preparation.

Course Requirements

- i) Readings: Students are expected to complete required readings before class.
- ii) Tests and Exams: There are two midterm exams and a final quiz in this course. Students are responsible for all materials discussed in class.
- iii) Written Assignments: There are two written assignments for this course. The first, 750 words describing an observation of a 'cultural scene' is due in class on June 6, 2006. The second, 1500 words, builds on the first assignment and is due on July 25, 2006. All assignments will be discussed in class; explanatory handouts are provided in your workbook.

Evaluation

Observation Writing Assignment	Due June 6	15%
Midterm I	In Class, May 30	25%
Midterm II	In Class, July 6	25%
Essay Assignment	Due July 25	25%
Final Quiz	August 1	10%

Respectful Learning Environment

Students are expected to adhere to all College policies regarding respectful conduct in all aspects of this course. This includes classroom conduct and online conduct through message boards, etc.

Attendance

As material discussed in class will differ from the text material, attending class is important. If you miss a class, it is strongly recommended that you obtain the notes from another student.

Policy on Missed Tests

You must contact the instructor before an examination if an emergency prevents you from attending. Make up tests will only be administered if the student provides a **legitimate and pressing** reason for missing the test. **Otherwise a grade of 0 will be assigned for the test.**

Late Assignments

Penalties will be assessed. Specific penalties will be noted on assignment handouts. No assignments will be accepted after the last day of our class (August 1, 2006).

Plagiarism (Academic Dishonesty) Policy

Plagiarism is defined as a student “submitting the words, ideas, images or data of another person as his or her own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, research project or assignment in a course or program of study”. **Plagiarism amounts to cheating: it is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with as such in this course. If you are caught plagiarizing, you will receive a grade of 0 for the assignment and you will be subject to College disciplinary measures.**

Language Competency Policy

Students are advised that this is a **language intensive course**. Much of the material covered relies upon students possessing a good grasp of English grammar and syntax. It is **strongly recommended** that students have completed English 124 (Writing Skills) or possess its equivalent level for reading and writing English **prior** to taking this course. Students who do not possess a “post-secondary” level of reading and writing competence in English will not be able to complete this course successfully. Students for whom English is a second language are **strongly** advised to ensure that their level of English proficiency is adequate before taking this course.

Lecture Outline and Reading Assignments

The course will follow the general outline of the textbook and will use films, slide presentations and discussion groups in order to complement the materials presented in the book.

Note: Films and other content are subject to change.

Week 1: Introduction to Anthropology and Course (May 2 & 4)

- Miller, et al Chapter 1
- Culture Concept
- Film: Trobriand Islanders of Papua New Guinea

Week 2: Anthropological Methods (May 9 & 11)

- Miller, et al Chapters 1&2
- Anthropological Methods
- Film: Coming of Age

Week 3: Economic Anthropology (May 16 & 18)

- Miller, et al Chapter 3
- Slide Presentation: Hunting in a Modern World

Week 4: Exchange Systems (May 23 & 25)

- Miller, et al Chapter 4
- Film: Ongka's Big Moka

Midterm I: May 30

Week 5: Birth, Death, and Personality (June 1)

- Miller, et al Chapters 5&6
- (1 class only)

Week 6: Kinship (June 6, 8, 13)

- Miller, et al Chapter 8
- Film: Kinship and Descent

Observation Writing Assignment I Due in Class June 6

Week 7: Political Anthropology (June 15 & 20)

- Miller, et al Chapter 11
- Film: The Mursi

Week 8: Social Groups and Stratification (June 22 & 27)

- Miller, et al Chapters 9&10
- Film: Asante Market Women

Week 10: Language and Communication (June 27, 29, July 4)

- Miller, et al Chapter 13
- Video: The Dane Zaa

Midterm II: July 6

Week 11: Religion and Ritual (July 11 & 13)

- Miller, et al Chapter 12
- Film: Witchcraft Among the Azande

Week 12: Culture Change (July 18 & 20)

- Miller, et al, Chapter 15
- Film: Hunters and Bombers

Week 13: Applied Anthropology and Ethics in Anthropology (July 25 & 27)

- Miller, et al, Chapter 16
- Slides: Land Claims Research in BC (The Thunderbird's Nest)

Final Assignment Due in Class on July 25

Final Quiz: August 1