

GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

ANTHROPOLOGY 120 – CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

<u>1. Course Number</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Semester Units</u>	<u>Hours</u>
ANTH 120	Cultural Anthropology	3	3 hours lecture

2. Course Prerequisites

None.

3. Catalog Description

The nature of culture; cultural growth and history; survey of the range of cultural phenomena including material culture, social organization, kinship systems, religion, language and other topics. Systematic study of similarities and differences among cultures through investigation of selected societies.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

- a. Examine their own culture.
- b. Investigate various contemporary societies and compare them to other cultures and societies.
- c. Evaluate the human cultural growth and development in contemporary, historic, and prehistoric times.
- d. Assess the ideals, attitudes and behavioral patterns which are essential in understanding cultural phenomena.
- e. Develop an understanding of scientific methods and apply them to the anthropological study of contemporary world culture.
- f. Analyze the procedures and issues involved in doing field research.

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard classroom with maps, slide and data projector, video/CD player.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None.

7. Course Content

- a. Anthropology and the social sciences.
 - (1) Nature and scope of anthropology.
 - (2) Various subdivisions and specializations.
 - (3) Basic terminology.
 - (4) Application of the scientific method.
- b. The nature of culture.
 - (1) Culture as a determinant in human behavior.

7. Course Content continued

- (2) Working definition of culture.
- (3) Role of value judgments and ethnocentrism in cross-cultural studies.
- (4) Role of symbolic behavior.
- c. Review of physical anthropology and archaeology.
 - (1) Characteristics which enable humans to acquire culture.
 - (2) Humane evolution and relationship to other primates.
 - (3) Methods utilized by archaeologists in the study of early cultures.
- d. The nature of cultural change.
 - (1) How culture changes.
 - (2) Cultural change by diffusion.
 - (3) Invention and discovery in cultural change.
- e. Social and political organization.
 - (1) Nature and variety of family groupings.
 - (2) Courtship, marriage and related cultural patterns.
 - (3) Kinship.
 - (4) Status, role and role conflict.
 - (5) Age groups, age sets, tribal fraternities and voluntary associations.
 - (6) Initiation rites and theoretical explanations.
- f. Culture and personality.
 - (1) Factors other than culture which may determine personality.
 - (2) Traditional C & P studies.
 - (3) The individual in culture and deviance.
- g. Religion and world view.
 - (1) Primary functions of religion in human societies.
 - (2) Methods and techniques used in contacting, influencing and controlling supernatural powers.
 - (3) Psychological function of religion and interaction of man with the supernatural world.
 - (4) Interdependence of religion with other social institutions.
 - (5) Mechanistic and vitalistic world views.
- h. Linguistics.
 - (1) Structure of language.
 - (2) Growth and reconstruction of proto-languages and historical linguistics.
 - (3) Language families of both Old and New World.
- i. Theory in anthropology.
 - (1) Major theoretical positions.
 - (2) Differences between American ethnology and British social anthropology.
- j. Ethnographic material.

8. Method of Instruction

- a. Lecture and discussion.
- b. Films, slides, other instructional media.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

- a. Workbook assignments.
- b. Written tests.
- c. Written final exam.

10. Outside Class Assignments

- a. Assigned reading.
- b. Workbook assignments.
- c. Research projects.

11. Texts

- a. Required Text(s):
 - (1) Haviland, William A. Cultural Anthropology. 10th edition. 2002.
- b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:
 - (1) Dyke, Walter. Left Handed, Son of Old Man Hat: A Navaho Autobiography. Lincoln, NB: University of Nebraska Press, 1967.