ANTH-2A - Intro to Sociocultural Anthropology
University of California, Irvine/Summer Session I 2014
Instructor: Erica Vogel       Email: vogelem@gmail.com

Class Schedule: June 23, 2014—July 28, 2014 (5 Weeks)
Final Exam: July 29, 2014 (online)
Office Hours: Since this is an online course, I will not hold regular office hours. However, I will be available to answer your questions via email and chats. Please allow 24 hours for a response to your emails M-F. If you email me over the weekend, I will be sure to respond on the following Monday.

Course Description:
This course introduces key topics in cultural anthropology—the study of the variation of human cultures, practices and beliefs across space and time. In this class you will learn to “think like an anthropologist” and ask questions that help you to understand how our world works, and our place in it. Cultural anthropology asks us to not only take a holistic approach to understanding cultural practices and diversity, but also to first examine our own cultural assumptions and how they shape our everyday lives and ways of thinking. Through readings, films and discussions, you will learn about the world’s diverse cultures in a contextual, comparative and holistic perspective and learn how to pose questions about your own cultural beliefs. Topics include kinship and family, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, religion and science, consumption, media, and globalization. In addition to the main textbook, which will provide you with a background in Anthropology, you will also read a full-length ethnography about life in Tonga, a country in the Pacific. Finally, you will have the chance to do your own original ethnographic research.

Learning Objectives
1. To introduce key concepts and ideas in cultural anthropology.
2. To help you develop critical thinking, reading and writing skills.
3. To give you the skills to ask critical questions about cultural practices and the world around you.

Required Texts:
There are two required books for this course. They are available at the bookstore and Amazon. A great option is to rent them from Amazon.com.


Articles and video clips: We will use a few articles and video clips in this class. Please see the syllabus and website for those resources.
Course Requirements:

Discussion Board
Introductions:
Introduce yourself to your classmates on the discussion board. Respond to at least one other student.
Post by June 28, 2014 at 11:59 PM. **Worth 10 points.**

Reading responses:
Three discussion posts: (Worth 120 points each)=360 points total
We will read *Voyages: From Tongan Villages to American Suburbs*, a full-length ethnography, and discuss the book together on our discussion board. There will be three required sections of the reading, and one discussion post for each section. I will post instructions for each discussion on the board. To get full points, you will need to write an individual response and then comment on at least 2 other people’s responses.
Post 1 due July 5, 2014 by 11:59 PM
Post 2 due July 12, 2014 by 11:59 PM
Post 3 due July 19, 2014 by 11:59 PM

Mini-Ethnography Assignment
You will have the chance to design your own ethnographic research assignment, conduct research and write a mini-ethnography. To get full points, post your ethnography, read and respond to other people’s posts.
Due July 26, 2014 by 11:59 PM. **Worth 100 points**

Assessments (Exams and Quizzes):
Quizzes:
15 quizzes (1 quiz per chapter) 10 points per quiz=150 points total
The quiz questions come directly from the textbook, so make sure that you read carefully, underline important points and take notes as you read. Quiz questions can also come from the power point lectures located on Moodle. You will have the chance to take each quiz twice. The higher of the two quiz scores will be counted towards your final grade.
- You can take quizzes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 anytime from Jun 23rd —July 9th at 11:59 PM.
- You can take quizzes 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 anytime from July 10th—July 28th at 11:59 PM.

Exams:
2 Exams (Midterm worth 180 points, Final worth 200 points)=380 points total
The exams will consist of questions from the quizzes plus questions about the supplemental materials (readings and videos). You will have 2 hours to take the exam, but you will only be allowed to take each exam one time.
- The **midterm** will cover chapters/quizzes 1-7
  o July 9th. (It will be available until 11:59 PM)
- The **final** will cover chapters/quizzes 8-15 and the video clip “Race: the Power of an Illusion”
  o July 29th (It will be available until 11:59 PM)
Extra Credit: Part IV of Voyages. Due July 28th by 11:59 PM (optional) Worth up to 30 points

Grading scale: A (90%), B (80%), C (70%), D (60%), F (50% and below)

Classroom Policies:

Attendance:
Please log onto the Moodle site at least three times per week. Make sure you are following along with assignments and readings.

Late Assignments and Make Ups:
Since this is such a short class, I will not accept late assignments. Make sure to take the quizzes and exams on time and post in the discussion board. There will be no extensions. I will send out announcements, but please make sure to write down the due dates.

Extra Information:

Each chapter has a quiz and a Power Point presentation to help you understand key concepts. You can find the Power Point Presentations on the “Course Content” section on Moodle.

Schedule:

Week 1: (6/23-6/28)
- Read the syllabus, mark down important dates. Familiarize yourself with the Moodle page. Buy the books and begin reading.

- READ: Cultural Anthropology (Chapter 1, 2 and 3)

- POST: A short introduction of yourself on Moodle. Respond to at least one other student’s post. Due June 28th by 11:59 PM.

- Quizzes 1-7 are available for you to take.

Week 2: (6/29-7/5)
- READ: Cultural Anthropology (Chapters 4, 5, 6 and 7)

- READ: Voyages (Part I. Departures: Pg 3-49)

- POST: Your response to Voyages Part I on the discussion board. Respond to at least 2 other students. See Moodle for prompt. Post by Saturday July 5th at 11:59 PM.

Week 3: (7/6-7/12)
- MIDTERM EXAM and Quizzes: Wednesday July 9th is our midterm exam. Please take all quizzes and the midterm by 11:59 PM.
• **READ:** *Cultural Anthropology* (Chapters 8 and 9)

• **WATCH:** “Race the Power of an Illusion” online. (see Moodle for the link)

• **READ:** *Voyages* (Part II. Arrivals: Pg. 51-120).

• **POST:** Your response to *Voyages* Part II on the discussion board. Respond to at least 2 other students. See Moodle for prompt. Post by Saturday July 12th at 11:59 PM.

• Quizzes 8-15 are available for you to take

**Week 4: (7/13-7/19)**

• **READ:** *Cultural Anthropology* (Chapters 10, 11 and 12)

• **READ:** *Voyages* (Part III. Returns pg. 121-181)

• **POST:** Your response to *Voyages* Part III on the discussion board. Respond to at least 2 other students. See Moodle for prompt. Post by Saturday July 19th at 11:59 PM.

**Week 5: (7/20-7/26)**

• **READ:** *Cultural Anthropology* (Chapters 13, 14 and 15)

• **POST:** Your ethnographic fieldwork project. Respond to at least 2 other students. See Moodle for prompt. Post by Saturday July 26th at 11:59 PM.

• **QUIZZES:** Take Quizzes 8-15 by 7/28 at 11:59 PM.

**FINAL EXAM.** Tuesday July 29th is our final exam. Take the exam by 11:59 PM.

**Extra Credit:**
Read: *Voyages* Part IV: 185-261 and respond to the prompt. Due by July 28th at 11:59 PM.