

Montgomery County Community College
ANT 104H
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Honors
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the unique nature of culture and its role in the determination of human behavior. It also explores the relationship of kinship, political, economic, religious, and other institutions within cultural systems, with a particular emphasis upon the operation of these institutions in non-Western societies.

This Honors course fosters high-achieving students' growth towards learning outcomes such as: critical reading and artistic literacy; forming judgments based on evidence; clear, persuasive research writing; oral presentation; and articulate reflection on personal growth. Honors courses are more likely to utilize student-driven active learning, emphasizing exploration and discovery, rather than the acquisition of specific knowledge; faculty might provide projects with no pre-determined conclusion, but with real-world application.

REQUISITES:

Previous Course Requirements

None

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Apply the major approaches, methods, and resource data of the discipline of anthropology to an understanding of one universal aspect of human behavior.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
2. Use the ethnographic method to explain how a particular culture works to maintain order while faced with internal and/or external forces of change.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project
3. Describe the impact of economic, political, and social structures on individuals and their social organization.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Online Resources Videos Reaction Papers Postings Blackboard Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations*	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project
4. Identify the forces responsible for the complex nature of human diversity.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project
5. Appreciate the differences between one's own culture and those cultures that may on the surface appear to be quite different.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
6. Translate the ideas and behaviors of others into your own terms.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project
7. Identify symbols and their meanings that are found among diverse peoples.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project
8. Describe the relationship between culture and individuals whom live according to its precepts.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project
9. Develop an appreciation for the need to identify a basic set of human rights to which all individuals, regardless of their culture, has access.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
10. Apply an ethical framework to make informed decisions regarding our responsibilities to protecting the rights of indigenous peoples.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project
11. Demonstrate the ability to use resources appropriately to identify the multiple meanings found in cultural events and/or activities.	Active Discussions Individual and Group Projects Written and/or Oral Lectures Videos Reaction Papers Discussion Board Assigned Readings Interviews and/or Observations	Exams Quizzes Discussion Boards Reaction Papers Individual or Group Project

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Understanding anthropology as a lens on the world.
2. The nature and role of culture in human development.
3. The methods and approaches of anthropology, notable the use of ethnographic research.
4. Different ways of being human--a move away from ethnocentrism.
5. The role of subsistence patterns in the development of different cultural types.
6. Different economic systems and the concept of reciprocity.
7. The role of culture in the development of the personality and in the development of different social constructs.
8. Cultural differences in marriage, motherhood and family types.
9. The role of kinship and social groups in individual, societal, and cultural support/adaptation.
10. The role of political organizations, especially in maintaining social order.
11. Religion and art – powerful symbolic systems.
12. Culture and change global challenges and personality responsibility.

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Guest, Kenneth J. (2018) *Essentials of Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age*, 2nd Edition. W.W. Norton.

Ethnographic readings and/or films are also required and are selected each semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Martin Gelman	Date: 4/1998
Revised by: Joan E. Brookshire	Date: 11/2009
Revised by: Lynn O'Brien and Joan Brookshire	Date: 6/22/2012
Revised by: Lynn O'Brien and Joan Brookshire	Date: 3/20/2014
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 6/25/2012
Revised by: Lynn O'Brien	Date: 5/2013
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 5/30/2013
Revised by: Jim Cameron	Date: 3/19/2014
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 3/20/2014
Revised by: Samuel Clay Wallace	Date: 4/6/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 4/14/2017
Revised by: Lynn O'Brien, PhD	Date: 12/15/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 12/15/2017



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.