

## SOCI 260- Cultural Anthropology

<b>COURSE DESCRIPTION:</b>
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**Catalog description:** Examines the variability of culture among the peoples of the world, cultural adaptation and cultural change. Includes study of diversity within social institutions, cultural relativism and ethnocentrism. (Meets Foundations of World Culture General Education Requirement.)

**University Mission Statement:** The mission of Friends University, a Christian University of Quaker heritage, is to equip students to honor God and serve others by integrating their intellectual, spiritual and professional lives.

**General Education Outcome 5: Culture and Diversity:** This course in Cultural Anthropology fulfills the Foundations of World Culture General Education Requirements

*Examining diverse cultures: Students will be able to investigate the diversity of human experience within the United States and abroad, considering, for example, age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and social class, and appreciate the contributions of different social groups. Students will examine a variety of perspectives in the global community, distinguish their own cultural patterns, and respond flexibly to multiple worldviews.*

### General Education Competencies and Assessments:

- A. Cultural Self- awareness - Recognizes new perspectives about own cultural rules and biases
- B. Diversity of Communities and Cultures - Reflects on how own attitudes and beliefs are different from those of other cultures and communities. Exhibits curiosity about what can be learned from diversity of communities and cultures.
- C. Transfer - Adapts and applies skills, abilities, theories, or methodologies gained in one situation to new situations to solve problems or explore issues.
- D. Knowledge of Cultural/ Worldview Frameworks - Demonstrates adequate understanding of the complexity of elements important to members of another culture in relation to its history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, or beliefs and practices.
- E. Empathy - Recognizes intellectual and emotional dimensions of more than one worldview and sometimes uses more than one worldview in interactions.

### SOCI260 -A Course Objectives:

1. Students will understand how anthropologists view and study different cultures around the world.
2. Students will examine a variety of cultural differences between societies and how those differences affect people's lives.
3. Students will consider how cultures change over time and how anthropology can be used to make a positive future impact on individuals, societies, and the world.

\*Objectives will be measured through the course requirements, as well as with an informal evaluation at the end of the semester.

Texts:

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Topic Papers: Students will write short papers on four topics over the course of the semester. Topic papers will refer to readings found in the Kottak text. Topic questions will be posted on Moodle. Topic papers should include proper citations of any outside sources used and should be three full typewritten, double-spaced pages in length, one inch margins, and 12 point font in Times New Roman style. Each topic paper is worth 20 points.

Discussion Boards: Discussion Boards: Students will have the opportunity to participate in two weekly discussion boards that pertain to readings found in your text, as well as supplementary materials posted on Moodle. Each student must post twice on each topic for each discussion board.

- Initial entries must be posted by midnight on the Friday before the next class
- Students must then either respond to other student's posts, and/or reply to other who have responded to their posts before class time on Tuesday evening
- You are encouraged to draw inferences between the assigned materials and personal experiences, outside media, and/or current events. Discussion board posts will be evaluated based on your familiarity with the material, your thoughtfulness, and your careful and timely participation. Please be respectful to each other at all times in discussions, whether in the classroom or online.

You must participate in all discussion boards, each of which can earn up to 15 points. No discussion submissions are accepted late. These discussion boards are worth a total of 195 points.

Active assignments (10 points each):

All active assignments range from short written responses to a question or questions posed on discussion boards to working with a group on creating an icon to drawing your own family tree. I may ask you to identify a main concept, comment on how a film we watch illustrates a concept from the readings, ask you to use discussions to think about a current event or pose a question. Five active assignments are counted toward your grade, though more than five will be given. **There is NO OPPORTUNITY to make up an active assignment.**

Final Paper/Project: Final Paper: A final paper is due at the end of the 8 week semester. Papers will require students to choose either a current issue or a popular culture source that is relevant to anthropology. You must submit your topic to me before you start your research. Papers will require students to integrate class materials, social science research, and their own histories with family and friends, to shed light on their chosen topic. Papers will be between eight and ten pages, double-spaced, one inch margins, 12 point font (Times New Roman), and carefully written. Papers should include proper citations of social science research articles and media sources. Details about papers will be posted on Moodle. The paper/project is worth 100 points.

Exams: There will be three exams over the course of the 8 week semester. Exams will involve short answer, true/false, and short essay questions. They will cover material from discussion boards, films, supplemental information, and assigned readings. Make up exams will only be given for excused absences, and with special arrangements with the instructor. Each of your three exams is worth 100 points. Your final exam will be cumulative.

### Class policies and etiquette:

- Handouts for each PowerPoint presentation will be posted on Moodle. These are meant to supplement your notes. They cannot make up for engaging with the discussions. All films are available online and the links will be provided on Moodle. All information covered in the texts, all PDFs of readings on Moodle, and material from films and lectures are fair game for the exams. I encourage you to contact other students via the discussion forum in Moodle to ask questions on any material you miss. Based on the amount of information that comes from PowerPoints and discussions, one cannot successfully complete this class without reviewing all posted materials.
- I will respond to all emails and Moodle messages as quickly as possible, however it may take up to 24 hours. Any message received after 5:00pm will not be read until the following day. Similarly, I generally avoid responding to emails on Saturdays and Sundays. If you need immediate assistance, you can contact me during office hours. At this time, I will be available on Moodle Chat, via email, or via phone, and I will respond to your question right away. You are also expected to check your email regularly, as I will send all important announcements to your Friends email address via Moodle. Missed emails because you are not in the habit of checking your Friends mail are not a valid excuse for late or missing assignment.
- This class will emphasize discussion, participation, and sharing of different perspectives. While dissent from the prevailing notions presented in the readings and discussions is accepted (and even encouraged!), it must be expressed in a manner respectful to the authors we are reading and to other members of the class.
- Lastly, your success in this class is my main objective for the semester. Should you experience unexpected academic, personal, or work related issues that affect your participation in the class please contact me right away. I will not always be able to accommodate you; however the earlier you discuss the situation with me the more likely it is that I will be able to assist.

<b>COURSE OUTLINE</b>
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\*\*All dates and materials are subject to change if necessary.

**Part One: Introduction to Anthropology**

Week of: The Essence of Anthropology  
Readings: Kottak —Chapter 1 – What is Anthropology?

What is Culture?  
Readings: Kottak —Chapter 2 – Culture  
*Topic Paper One Due*

Anthropology as Science: Method and Theory  
Readings: Kottak —Chapter 3 – Method and Theory in Cultural Anthropology

**Part Two: Appreciating Cultural Diversity**

Applying Anthropology  
Readings: Kottak —Chapter 4 – Applying Anthropology

Language  
Readings: Kottak —Chapter 5 – Language and Communication  
*Topic Paper Two Due*

Ethnicity  
Readings: Kottak —Chapter 6 – Ethnicity and Race

Economics and Politics  
Readings: Kottak —7 & 8 – Making a Living / Political Systems

Gender  
Readings: Kottak —Chapter 9 - Gender

Families and Kinship  
Readings: Kottak —Chapters 10 & 11 – Families, Kinship, and Descent / Marriage  
*Topic Paper Three Due*

Religion and Media  
Readings: Kottak – Chapter 12 – Religion

Media  
Readings: Kottak – Chapter 13 - Arts, Media, and Sports  
Exam Two

### **Part Three: The Changing World**

Readings: Kottak —Chapter 14 – The World System and Colonialism  
*Topic Paper Four Due*

Anthropology and Globalization

Readings: Kottak —Chapter 15 – Anthropology's Role in a Globalizing World

Review for Final – Jeopardy  
*Final Paper Due October 8*

### **Final Exam:**

<b>COURSE AND FRU POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</b>
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#### Total Points for Course:

Participation:	50 points
Topic Papers:	80 points
Discussion boards:	195 points
Final Paper:	100 points
Exams:	300 points
Active Assignments:	50 points

<u>Total possible points</u>	<u>775 points</u>
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Grades will be entered on Moodle as soon as they are available. Look at the number of points earned compared to the number of points possible and follow the typical percent scale. If you “have to” have a particular grade for work, scholarship, athletic, or program eligibility, the time to think about that is throughout the semester; by the last month of class it's probably too late.

#### Extra Credit

There will be opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester. Students may also submit written explanations for points they believed were unfairly marked wrong on exams and assignments. These need to be to the instructor within one week of the return of the assignment. This can result in the additional points being rewarded.

#### Late Work

Late discussions or topic papers are not accepted. A late final paper will be accepted until 5:00 the last Friday of the regular semester before final exam week begins. However, papers not turned in before class on the due date are penalized ten percent of the possible points for each day they are late. Hence, a paper due on Tuesday and turned in on Thursday will receive a maximum of 80%. Students are responsible for maintaining records and copies of assignments to show they were turned in on time.

### Participation

Participation: Attendance in our course must be kept for FRU record-keeping purposes. However, this is an online class, so your participation will be based on your engagement in discussion boards and paper submissions. Your total possible attendance points are 50.

### Academic Misconduct

#### **HONOR CODE Sanctions and Procedures:**

Part of the value of an Academic Honor Code and Sanctions for Honor Code violations is that it allows faculty and students to have a clear indication of how specific types of “cheating” and violations of academic integrity are addressed. (*See the Friends University Catalog.*)

#### **Academic Integrity Process**

##### **Sanctions for first time offenses:**

- The professor suspects and verifies violation of the honor code and notifies the Division Chair/Program Director who sends the information via a form to the Registrar to check for priors. The professor meets with the student to discuss the problem. If the student has no priors, he or she can admit and accept the sanction (generally a zero for the assignment). If the student disagrees, a meeting with the Division Chair/Program Director is scheduled. If the student then agrees to the sanction, notification is sent to the adviser and appropriate division chair/program director. The case is closed and filed in the Registrar’s office. If there is no agreement, the case is sent to the Academic Integrity Board for a final decision.

##### **Sanctions if there has been a prior offense:**

- All second (or 2+) time offenses and those where the student doesn’t agree with the sanctions will be heard by the Academic Integrity Board. If the student is deemed not guilty, the case is closed and the information is filed in the Registrar’s office. If the student is found responsible, sanctions could include a failing grade for the course, a notation on the transcript, suspension or expulsion from the university or any combination of these sanctions.

##### **Examples of Academic Dishonesty:**

**1. Cheating:** using unauthorized notes, study aids, or information on an examination; altering a graded work after it has been returned, then submitting the work for re-grading; allowing another person to do one's work and submitting that work under one's own name; submitting identical or similar papers for credit in more than one course without prior permission from the course instructors.

**2. Plagiarism:** submitting material that in part or whole is not entirely one's own work without attributing those same portions to their correct source.

**3. Fabrication:** falsifying or inventing any information, data or citation; presenting data that were not gathered in accordance with standard guidelines defining the appropriate methods for collecting or generating data and failing to include an accurate account of the method by which the data were gathered or collected.

**4. Obtaining an Unfair Advantage:** (a) stealing, reproducing, circulating or otherwise gaining access to examination materials prior to the time authorized by the instructor; (b) stealing, destroying, defacing or concealing library materials with the purpose of depriving others of their use; (c) unauthorized collaborating on an academic assignment (d) retaining, possessing, using or circulating previously given examination materials, where those materials clearly indicate that they are to be returned to the instructor at the conclusion of the examination; (e) intentionally obstructing or interfering with another student's academic work (f) unauthorized consultation with other students personally, or use of any electronic devices or (g) otherwise undertaking activity with the purpose of creating or obtaining an unfair academic advantage over other students' academic work.

**5. Aiding and Abetting Academic Dishonesty:** (a) providing material, information, or other assistance to another person with knowledge that such aid could be used in any of the violations stated above, or (b) providing false information in connection with any inquiry regarding academic integrity.

**6. Falsification of Records and Official Documents:** altering documents affecting academic records; forging signatures of authorization or falsifying information on an official academic document, grade report, letter of permission, petition, drop/add form, ID card, or any other official University document.

**7. Unauthorized Access** to computerized academic or administrative records or systems: viewing or altering computer records, modifying computer programs or systems, releasing or dispensing information gained via unauthorized access, or interfering with the use or availability of computer systems or information.

*Examples of academic dishonesty used by permission of the Northwestern University Undergraduate Academic Conduct Committee.*

*In order to promote the safety of all members of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic:*

- *If a student is sick and thinks they have COVID-19, the student needs to stay home until they have gone three days with no fever or other COVID-19 symptoms and ten days since symptoms first appeared.*
- *If a student tests positive for COVID-19 but does not have symptoms, the student needs to stay home until 10 days have passed since the positive test.*

*Students who need to miss face-to-face classes should contact their instructors immediately to arrange an SEL or online option in order to continue to participate in class.*