John Jay College of Criminal Justice
City University of New York
ANT 101 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
Fall 2021 Online
Dr. Sasha Golla
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Office Hours: by appointment only (Zoom)

This course is an introduction to cultural anthropology, the study of human societies and cultures. Students will examine the concept of culture in historical and global perspective, and learn tools for cross-cultural comparative analysis with an emphasis on critical thinking in relation to cultural values and practices, variation in human behavior, the organization of social life, and the making of cultural identity. Cross-cultural topics include subsistence, power and law, gender, family and kinship, language and intercultural communication, and the impact of globalization on human societies. Students will also learn fundamental concepts in anthropology to better understand the causes and conditions of our contemporary world.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, we will all have further developed our ability to:
● Think critically and independently about culture, cultures, and cultural difference;
● Value and appreciate cultural differences in the world around them;
● Understand and critically reflect on the history of anthropology as a discipline, and its relationship to other areas of knowledge;
● Identify key concepts and major strands of thought within the discipline of anthropology;
● Identify and critically reflect on class, race/ethnicity, and gender/sexuality as categories of social analysis.
● Understand the complex variety of factors that influence people's lives ;
● Generate qualitative data through ethnographic methods and analyze it by using and developing key concepts.

Course Structure and Communication

This course is conducted entirely online, which means you are not required to come to campus to complete any part of it. You will participate in the course using the Blackboard platform and you do not need to log in at any particular time. All course materials are available to you 24/7.
To access the course through Blackboard, visit www.cuny.edu and look for Blackboard in the pull-down menu under Login in the upper right-hand corner of your screen. Use your CUNYfirst information to login, then search for the course info under My Courses and click on it.

Course Learning Materials & Assignments

- Module Commentary Discussions: At the beginning of each week I will post a video to accompany your textbook reading for that week. In these videos I both clarify and build upon what I consider to be some of the most important issues from the assigned chapters. You will be expected to write a 100-word discussion forum post about the video that I post.

- Chapter Reflection: This is a weekly assignment in which you offer your comments on the assigned reading that week. There is a minimum word count of 300 words for this assignment, and you will be expected to respond to two of your classmates.

- Video Reflection: I will post one short video per week to accompany the assigned textbook reading. You will be asked to post a 200 word reflection on the video and respond to two of your classmates.

- Midterm: There will be an essay-based midterm for this class. It will cover all assignments covered up to that point.

- Final Project: The course will culminate in the creation of a final project by all students in the class. This final project will be a PowerPoint presentation based on research regarding a topic of your choice that was addressed by the class. Detailed instructions will be posted well in advance of the due date.

Announcements
Announcements will be posted in the Announcements section (look for the link on the course menu on the left-hand column). They will also appear, from newest to oldest, on the Course Dashboard when you log in, and will usually be sent out automatically to your John Jay email. Please make sure to check announcements regularly, as they will contain important information and reminders about upcoming deadlines and other class concerns.

Email and Messaging
When you have questions about the class or course material, please feel free to reach me at the email address listed above. You may also email members of the class (including me) without leaving Blackboard by using the Send Email link on the course menu. Please allow at least 24 hours for an email response on weekdays. If you email me on a weekend, I may not respond until Monday. Make sure you include the course number in the subject line.

Office Hours
Office hours will be held via Zoom. Please make an appointment via email at least 24 hours before your desired meeting time, in order to ensure that I am available. I will respond by sending you an invitation to a one-on-one Zoom meeting scheduled for that time, or propose alternatives if I'm not available. If we are unable to schedule a meeting at a time when we are both available, I will do my best to address your concerns over email.

Academic Integrity
Please visit John Jay's page on Academic Integrity. There is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy for plagiarism in this class. This means that a small amount of plagiarism receives the same grade as a lot of plagiarism (an F). Plagiarism "by accident" is treated the same as intentional plagiarism (an F). Students who submit two plagiarized assignments will receive an F in the course.

You cannot edit your discussion posts after submitting them. You will only be able to see other students' posts once you have submitted your own post. Regardless of circumstance, I only

accept the first post that is submitted for a discussion assignment. In other words, I will not allow you to submit a first post in order to see other students' posts, and then copy them in your second post. In this situation, I will only grade the first post.

It is expected that all work for this class will be written entirely in your own words, with the exception of cited quotes from the textbook or other reference sources. I will not accept work that has been created through a service such as Grammarly or other means of outside help. In these instances I will ask to meet with the student to discuss the submission and based on that I will determine the source of the text. Students who use such services will receive a 0 for the assignment. It is OK to get a few things wrong, and keep in mind that as long as you meet the requirements for the assignment, you will get full credit!

Draft Policy
I do not read drafts of assignments.

Assignment Resubmissions
There are no assignment resubmissions allowed. Make sure you do your best on the first try as there will be no opportunity to re-do your assignment.

Assignment Due Dates
The assignments for each week are due on Sunday of that week at 11:59 PM EST, unless otherwise noted in the class schedule below. Due dates and times are in Eastern Standard Time. All submissions must adhere to this time zone regardless of students' geographic location.

Late Work Policy
Assignments will be accepted after the due date ONLY IF you have documentation of an extreme extenuating circumstance, such as illness suffered by yourself or a family member. This documentation must be a doctor's note, hospital documentation, proof of positive Covid-19 test result, or other form of official document. Do not ask for an extension if you cannot provide this documentation.

Accessibility
I am happy to make any and all accommodations notified through the Office of Accessibility Services. For more information, please visit their page on the John Jay website.
I have made every effort to make this course accessible to all students, including students with disabilities. If you encounter a problem accessing anything in this course, please contact me immediately by email.

Writing Center
If you need help with your writing skills, please contact the John Jay Writing Center for help. For more information, visit the Writing Center website or call 212-237-8569.

Grading
Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Module Commentary Responses 20%
- Chapter Reflections 20%
- Video Reflections 20%
- Midterm 20%
- Final Presentation 20%

Assigned Readings
All readings for the course come from the following free online textbook:
Brown, Nina, Thomas McIlwraith, and Laura Tubelle de González. 2019. *Perspectives: An Open Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, Second Edition. American Anthropological Association. Click here for the website where you can download the book for free, or order a print version, if you prefer.

(Please note that the John Jay Bookstore website is currently showing another textbook for this course: *Conformity and Conflict* by James Spradley. We will not be using it for this class, so no need to purchase it.)

Class Schedule:

Week Beginning:	Textbook Reading:	Assignments Due Sunday 11:59 PM EST:
8/25	No Reading Due	○ Introductions Forum
8/30	1. Introduction to Anthropology 2. The Culture Concept	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
9/6	3. Doing Fieldwork: Methods in Cultural Anthropology	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
9/13	4. Language	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
9/20	5. Subsistence 6. Economics	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
9/27	7. Political Anthropology: A Cross-Cultural Comparison	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
10/4	8. Family and Marriage 10. Gender and Sexuality	○ Module Commentary Response

		○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
10/11	No Reading Due	○ Midterm
10/18	9. Race and Ethnicity	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
10/25	11. Religion	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
11/1	12. Globalization	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
11/8	14. Culture and Sustainability: Environmental Anthropology in the Anthropocene	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
11/15	15. Performance 16. Media Anthropology: Meaning, Embodiment, Infrastructure, and Activism	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
11/22 (Thanksgiving Week)	No Reading Due	No Assignments Due
11/29	17. Health and Medicine	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
12/6	18. Seeing Like an Anthropologist: Anthropology in Practice 19. Public Anthropology	○ Module Commentary Response ○ Chapter Reflection ○ Video Reflection
12/13	No Reading Due	Final Project Due on 12/21

Last But Not Least…

Let's have a great semester!

~Dr. Golla