



ANTH 2351: World Cultures

COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2021

TTH 2:00-3:15

SS 309

Please, click on the following link to access A&M-Commerce Covid 19 Information, <https://new.tamuc.edu/coronavirus/>

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Julia Meszaros, Assistant Professor

Office Location: Ferguson Social Science Room SS230

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:15-4:30PM, Thursdays 1:00-2:00PM and 3:15 to 3:45 IN PERSON, Mondays and Wednesdays 4:00-5:15 ONLINE/ZOOM and by appointment

Office Fax: 903-886-5330

University Email Address: Julia.Meszaros@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: 24-48 Hours; Monday to Friday 9-5

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook Required: *Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age* by Kenneth Guest. (Norton). ISBN: 978-0-393-42852-0

Course Description

This course introduces major concepts, theoretical frameworks and research methods of cultural anthropology. We will examine societies from small-scale foraging bands to complex societies; students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends and symptoms). A range of topics will be addressed from a global perspective including, social, economic and political development and underdevelopment; marriage, religion, gender, and language. In addition to examining the diversity of human cultures', students will be able to apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics. Through cross-cultural study

students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Objectives

1. Students will be able to identify the main theories and methods of Anthropology as a discipline. This learning objective will be assessed in the Exams, Online quizzes, the group ethnography and in class assignments.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics. Assessments will test knowledge about concepts like gender, religion, values across various global cultures and historical time frames.
3. Apply anthropological concepts to their daily lives and view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world. This learning objective will be assessed in the Exams, Online quizzes, the mini ethnography and in class assignments.
4. Demonstrate intercultural competencies by comparing issues across cultures. This learning objective will be assessed in the Exams, Online quizzes, the mini ethnography and in class assignments.

Instructional Methods

Main Course Meetings: Students are required to attend their registered course meetings where the method of instruction will consist of a combination of lectures, discussions, and group work.

Classroom Expectations:

1. Students must come prepared to participate in group work and come prepared to take notes and complete work in class with a group of their peers
2. Students must come prepared to learn. That's why it is essential to come to class and be prepared for lecture by reading the chapter ahead of time. You are also encouraged to seek extra help from on campus tutoring resources if you do not do well on the first exam.
3. **CELL PHONE POLICY:** Anyone who uses cell phones during class time will cause the entire class to get a pop quiz.
4. Please treat everyone with respect. Disrespectful behavior towards anyone in the classroom will not be tolerated.

Assessments:

3 Exams @ 150 points (Total 450 Points): Exams will include multiple choice, fill in the blank and T/F questions and will be non-cumulative.

Weekly Online Reading Quizzes and Assignments (12 X10 points: 120 points Total): You will be expected complete weekly online quizzes or assignments on D2L. They will be due every Friday evening at 11:59 PM. Everyone will be allowed to miss one quiz and have me unlock it for them to take, but only one.

Attendance and Participation (100): Come to class weekly prepared to participate and be present. Measured by group submissions, pop quizzes and daily attendance.

Group Ethnography Assignment (280): Paper (200 points) Check Ins (40 points) Presentation (40 points)

Students will have to conduct a group ethnography of life on campus at Texas A&M Commerce (which can include off campus locations in Commerce).

Students will choose three to four of their peers to work with for the semester. Student groups will go to conduct observations at their chosen place. They will take copious field notes individually and begin to come up with theories together based on patterns that multiple group members observe.

Groups will turn in one five page, double spaced write up that analyzes any interesting patterns or surprises they may encounter, and must include everyone's field notes. Your group ethnography will include the notes you all took, and your write up must make intercultural connections about values, behaviors, and norms that you witness in your ethnography and how they compare to other cultures. Your write up should be 5 pages double spaced and have a clear argument that links things you observed to class materials. During the final week of the course, you will be presenting your observations to the rest of the class.

Total Class Points: 1000 Points

Grade Scale: A 900-1000

B 800-899

C 700-799

D 600-699

F Below 600

Grade Policies: For incompletes, you must speak with me ahead of time and have completed most of the course work. I do not round grades, and I do not change grades after they have been submitted. Grades are available on D2L so you can track your up to date progress in the course.

Extra Credit: You are allowed to do two extra credit assignments. You must attend an on campus event and write a paragraph that relates the events to class materials. They are worth 5 points each. You are limited to three events per semester.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “click here” to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I prefer communication via email. I rarely answer my office phone and am much more likely to respond to email. I will respond to email within 24 to 48 hours, between normal business hours of 8am to 5pm. Please be sure that when you email me, you use a proper greeting (Dr. Meszaros

Professor Meszaros) an email body, and an appropriate closing. You should never send an email with just an attachment and no email body. Be sure you have an appropriate and informative subject line and include the name and section of the course you are enrolled in. See the attached page for some email expectations that would serve you well in all future communication with any professors or potential employers.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week One (8/30-9/3):

Chapter One Introduction to Anthropology

Assignment: Quiz Week One

Week Two (9/6-9/10): Culture

Chapter 2 Culture

Online Quiz Due

Week Three (9/13-9/17): Fieldwork and Ethnography

Chapter 3 Culture and Language

Online Assignment Due

Week Four (9/20-9/24): Language

Chapter Four: Cultural Diversity & Globalization

Online Quiz Due

Week Five (9/27-10/1) EXAM

Group Work Day (9/28)

Exam One (9/30) (Covers chps 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Week Six (10/4-10/8): Human Origins

Read Chapter 5

Online Quiz

Week Seven (10/11-10/15): Race and Racism

Read Chapter 6

Online Quiz

Week Eight (10/18-10/22): Ethnicity and Nationalism

Read Chapter 7

Online Assignment Due

Week Nine (10/25-10/29): Gender

Read Chapter Eight

Online Quiz

Week Ten (11/1-11/5): EXAM

Group Work Day (11/2)

Exam Two on (11/4) (Covers chps 5, 6, 7 and 8)

Week Eleven (11/8-11/12): Sexuality

Reach Chapter 9

Online Quiz

Week Twelve (11/15-11/19): Kinship, Family and Marriage

Read Chapter 10

Online Assignment

Week Thirteen (11/22-11/26): Class Inequality

Read Chapter 11

NO CLASS THANKSGIVING (11/25)

Week Fourteen (11/29-12/3) The Global Economy

Read Chapter 12

Online Assignment

Week Fifteen (12/6-12/10): Presentations

Group Ethnography Presentations

Group Write up Due (12/10) by 11:59 PM on D2L

FINALS WEEK: (12/13-12/17)

NON CUMULATIVE FINAL IS TUESDAY DECEMBER 14th from 1:15 to 3:15 PM

CHPS 9, 10, 11, and 12