

:: Anthropology 210: Comparative Cultures ::

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Ecampus Course
CRN # 26362
Available by appointment via email

Course Description

Welcome to LBCC's Anthropology 210. This course introduces students to comparatively study human beings, societies, and cultures. This course provides students with an overview of cultural anthropology and its ways of understanding people. The course material explores the diversity of human cultures and takes a close look into a varied number of human communities in order to understand how they work, how they are different from others, and the forces that shape their worldviews.

Anthropology makes the strange familiar and the familiar strange. Why do we do the things we do? Throughout the course, you will be challenged to confront what you think is "normal" because the way you view the world is just one of many well-organized, equally sophisticated, and historically contingent approaches to life. Embrace this challenge and you may gain a better understanding of how you and others make sense of everyday life. Simply put, by exploring other cultures, you will better understand your own.

Learning Outcomes:

- Objectively analyze a variety of cultural practices from around the world
- Understand the pre and post-colonial influences of the cultures under study and recognize the interconnections between history, society, and culture
- Broadly and narrowly define and identify a culture's characteristics including setting and history, values, economy, social networks, community, and governance
- Develop a critical understanding of cultural diversity and its implications, ultimately enhancing sensitivity to other cultures

Instructor Philosophy

One of my primary goals in teaching anthropology is to enable my students to develop appropriate tools to be able to engage and employ them in their daily life. As anthropologists we fully understand that the condition of being a human is that we have to understand the meaning of our experience. In the context of

learning anthropology in the classroom, it is vital for students to viscerally learn to make their own interpretations rather than act on the purpose, beliefs, and judgments of others. Facilitating such an understanding is the pinnacle of my teaching philosophy. In other words, it is my hope and expectation that this course will help you create your own ideas and opinions about cultural phenomenon, particularly your own culture.

Requirements: Textbook, Canvas, LBCC email:

Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology, 15th Edition By James W. Spradley, David W. McCurdy, Dianna Shandy.

You will need to enroll in our Canvas course: <https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/H8M73M>.

Alternatively, you can access our site here: <https://canvas.instructure.com/register> and use the following join code: **H8M73M**

All readings that are not found in our textbook have been posted under Files...Readings.

*You will need a copy of this textbook to succeed in this course. If you are experiencing any obstacles in trying to purchase the textbook or having issues with Canvas, please talk to me as soon as possible.

You are required to use your LBCC email for this course.

Course Rules and Classroom Culture:

Student Conduct: The discipline of Anthropology requires us to explore the lives of others as well as our own. This means that certain topics can be sensitive at times and we have to act with the utmost respect for one another. The classroom both in person and online must remain a safe space for us to explore our thoughts and learn. You will be expected to conduct yourself in an honest, professional, and ethical manner. Comments made on our public forum will be held to this standard diligently.

In this course you will be engaging in an online discussion with your peers. Please handle this engagement with utmost respect, care, integrity, and empathy. If respect is not being shown, you will be contacted by your instructor immediately and given a warning. After this, you may be asked to leave the discussion part of our class, resulting in a significant grade loss.

If Anthropology's goal is to make the world safe for human differences, then we can begin by celebrating one another's differences starting with perceptions, worldviews, and opinions.

*** Additionally, all submissions in this class should be comprised in full sentences***

Late Assignment Policy:

- Please complete your work on time. Each day an assignment is late, it will drop a letter grade.

- The last possible day to submit late work in this course is **Wednesday, December 5th**. *No assignments will be accepted after this date.*

Statement on Academic Dishonesty: As a college student you will be held to the highest standards regarding academic integrity. Academic dishonesty includes: cheating (the intentional use of unauthorized materials, information, or study aids); fabrication (falsification or invention of any information); assisting (helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty); tampering (altering or interfering with evaluation instruments and documents); and plagiarism (intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another person as one's own). At the discretion of the instructor, engaging in academic dishonesty risks will absolutely result in a zero on the dishonest assignment and risks failing the entire course

Students with Disabilities:

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. Accommodations are a collaborative effort between students, faculty, and staff. You will need to contact with your instructor during the first week of class if you have a documented disability and need accommodations. Your instructor needs to know this from you in order for you to best be accommodated. If you think you may need accommodation services please contact Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR): 541-917-4789. <https://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar>. Online course accommodations may be different than those for on-campus courses, so it is important that you make contact with CFAR as soon as possible.

Course Requirements & Grades:

Most assignments in the course are due on Friday by midnight (Pacific Standard Time). For assignments that include course discussions, commenting on your peer's work is due by the end of the day on Sunday. You will have to remember to engage with your peers in a lively, respectful discussion as it is central to succeeding in this course.

Thanksgiving break occurs this term so be sure to check in earlier with your Week 9 assignment as it is due before the break. This assignment is available to you in the beginning of the term should you need to cater to any travel plans.

News Analysis Language Assignment (10 points)

You will choose a news headline from any mainstream media new site. Answer the following questions. After you are done answering the following questions, you are required to peer review one of your classmates assignments. You have randomly been assigned someone. The peer review is due Sunday, Your news analysis is due Friday

Written Assignments/Discussions (40 points)

The written assignments are a major portion of your grade in this course. I will by no means be counting words; however it is expected to have a *250 word minimum*, which equates to one page each. They are guided with questions, but you are always encouraged to reflect on the material in a personal light. They act as an extrapolation exercise - an opportunity for you to explore how you relate to the materials in class to your existing knowledge base. These will be graded based on whether they engage with the target material and whether they are done or not. In other words, as long as they are relevant to the course material, feel free to digress and explore your own thoughts through writing. Additionally, you will receive points for engaging in discussion with your classmates. A comment on someone's writing assignment is a minimum requirement, but engagement is encouraged.

Ethnographic Interview (15 points) due Week 3

You will find a person over the age of sixty to interview. There is a page explaining this assignment in detail. You can find this under "Assignments".

[Open-book] Quiz (10 points) due Week 6

During Week 6, you will take a quiz based on your readings. You will have one hour to complete less than ten questions so there is a significant amount of time and no need to rush.

Question from the Readings (20 points)

There are three sets of questions to answer and submit for credit. These are all based on the readings and a solid part of your grade in this class. Always write in complete sentences and answer in long form.

Final Reflective Assignment (5 points) -

This is one of the easier final exams you will prepare for in your college career. However, I encourage all of you to treat this final reflection with utmost care and consideration as it is a metacognitive summation of your learning in this course.

Extra-credit Assignment (optional) - (5 points) -

Warning! This is a four hour documentary so do not count on this! Search for the BBC Documentary entitled, Century of Self by Adam Curtis. It is broken into four parts so searching "Century of Self Part 1" on YouTube can be helpful. The extra credit assignment is to watch the whole documentary, taking handwritten notes on points made that stuck out to you. Lastly, hand in a minimum one page essay reflecting on what you learned in the film and how it relates to your own life.

