

## **ANTH 210 – Comparative Cultures**

Spring 2017 Thursdays 6:00-8:50 PM BC-244

Sean Carroll, Instructor

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Office Hours: TH 5-6 PM BC-223 or by appointment

### **Course Description:**

Examines the ethnographic process anthropologists use to study other cultures, the process of comparing two or more cultures in an ethnologic context, and the development of cultures over time to be what they are today. A methodology for engaging in culturally relative dialogue is introduced and then emphasized in all learning activities.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Upon the successful completion of the course, student should be able to:

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

### **Student learning assessment:**

Reading Quizzes (8)	20%
Weekly Readings Write-Up (8)	40%
Final Projects Presentation	10%
Final Project Write-Up	10%
In Class Participation	20%

### **Required textbooks:**

1. Noble Savages: My Life Among Two Dangerous Tribes (2013), Chagnon, Napoleon A.  
**ISBN-10:**0684855119
2. Coming of Age in Second Life: An Anthropologist Explores the Virtually Human (2015), Boellstorff, Tom.  
**ISBN-10:** 0691168342
3. Righteous Dopefiend (2009), Bourgois, Philippe and Jeffrey Schonberg.  
**ISBN-10:** 0520254988
4. How Forests Think: Toward an Anthropology Beyond the Human (2013), Kohn, Eduardo.  
**ISBN-10:** 0520276116

### **Instructor Expectations:**

Arrive on time for class, do not leave early.

Put away and silence cell phones (except with instructor permission).

Use of Laptops or other electronic devices is not permitted in class without prior consent of the instructor.

Keep talking to a minimum, do not disrupt the class.

If you have problems or issues with the course, please notify the instructor.

### **In-Class Participation (20%):**

1. This class will be very heavy on reading and will include a large amount of in class discussion.
2. You will be expected to contribute to in-class discussions on readings.
3. You will be graded on your contributions to in class discussions.

### **Reading Quizzes (20%):**

1. Eight (8) quizzes will be given at the end of each class session. Each worth 2.5% of your grade.
2. Consist of five questions taken directly from the assigned readings.
3. Will be given at the end of each class during Weeks 2-9.

### **Weekly Readings Write-Up (40%):**

1. Due at the beginning of each class, will be used during class discussions and handed in at the end of each class.
2. **Weekly Readings must be printed out and a hard copy turned in each week (Weeks 2-9)**
3. First portion will be a written summary of the readings for that week.
4. Second portion will be a personal reflection of the week's readings (What did you think? etc.).
5. Third portion will be at least 5 discussion questions that you thought about during the readings.
6. **Will not accept late or digital submissions, must be typed, printed out, and brought to each class.**

### **Final Project Presentation / Write Up (20%; 10% Each):**

1. Students will work in groups of 2-4 on one of four options for a final project.
2. Each of the four project options will be based off the required textbooks and discussed in class.
3. **Groups will meet with the instructor to discuss project options no later than Week 6 (5/11).**
4. Groups will **present their final project during Week 10.**
5. The class will grade these presentations (a rubric will be provided).
6. Each group member will turn in an individual 3-5 page write up of the final project, with a hard copy submitted in class **no later than the end of class on June 8, 2017.**

### **Late Work:**

**No late work will be accepted.** Assignments consist of eight in class reading quizzes, eight weekly reading write ups, and a final presentation which will not be allowed to be made up except in extreme cases.

### **Plagiarism Policy:**

Do your own work! Using someone else's work as your own or using information or ideas without proper citations will lead to your failing the assignment and/or the class. Bibliographies and in-text citations are required whenever you use outside sources, including the internet. Plagiarized assignments will automatically receive a 0 and result in an "F" for the course. Depending on the severity of the plagiarism, the student may be subject to administrative action. If you have any questions as to what constitutes plagiarism, please ask.

**LBCC's policy regarding cell phone usage:**

Cell phone use by a student is not permitted in a classroom, restroom, locker room, staff office, or work space, including text messaging, without express permission prior to use. Students are directed to, please, either turn off your cell or turn to vibrate/no sound during class. If a student uses a cell phone during class, they will be given a warning, after that, the student can be excluded for up to two class sessions and referred to the Associate Dean of Student Development. If there is an emergency situation (family illness, work on-call, etc.), let me know before class and we can arrange something.

**Disability Services:**

The Center for Accessibility Resources provides reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments and auxiliary aids to ensure that qualified students with disabilities have access to classes, programs and events at Linn-Benton Community College. Students are responsible for requesting accommodations in a timely manner. To receive appropriate and timely accommodations from LBCC, please give the Center for Accessibility Resources as much advance notice of your disability and specific needs as possible, as certain accommodations such as sign language interpreting take days to weeks to have in place. Contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4789 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232.

**Discrimination Policy:**

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

**Campus Security:** 541-917-4440

**Weather:**

Please make sure to check the Linn-Benton website in case the campus is closed or is starting late due to the weather.

## **Tentative Course Plan:**

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Topics</u></b>
1	4/6	<u>Introduction: Anthropology, Concept of Culture, Ethnology and Ethnography</u> Required Reading: None
2	4/13	<u>Noble Savages Part 1</u> Required Reading: <b>Noble Savages / Introduction – Chapter 8 (PGS 1-246)</b>  <b><u>!*NOTE* Class is in BC-246 from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm 4/13 Only!</u></b>
3	4/20	<u>Noble Savages Part 2</u> Required Reading: <b>Noble Savages / Chapter 9 – Chapter 16 (PGS 247-457)</b>
4	4/27	<u>Coming of Age in Second Life Part 1</u> Required Reading: <b>Coming of Age / Chapter 1 – Chapter 5 (PGS 1-150)</b>
5	5/4	<u>Coming of Age in Second Life Part 2</u> Required Reading: <b>Coming of Age / Chapter 6 – Chapter 9 (PGS 151-249)</b>
6	5/11	<u>Righteous Dopefiend Part 1</u> Required Reading: <b>Righteous Dopefiend / Introduction – Chapter 5 (PGS 1-182)</b>
7	5/18	<u>Righteous Dopefiend Part 2</u> Required Reading: <b>Righteous Dopefiend / Chapter 6 – Conclusion (PGS 183-320)</b>
8	5/25	<u>How Forests Think Part 1</u> Required Reading: <b>How Forests Think / Introduction – Chapter 3 (PGS 1-130)</b>
9	6/1	<u>How Forests Think Part 2</u> Required Reading: <b>How Forests Think / Chapter 4 – Epilogue (PGS 131-228)</b>
10	6/8	<u>Final Project Presentations</u> Required Reading: None