



## Syllabus

### ANT 200 Comparative Cultures

#### General Information

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**Date** March 15th, 2023

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**Department** Social Science

**Course Prefix** ANT

**Course Number** 200

**Course Title** Comparative Cultures

#### Course Information

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**Catalog Description** Comparative Cultures is a survey of world cultures to examine how people achieve the necessary elements of hunting and gathering, matrilineage, big men, redistribution, and state-type societies. The course starts with some very simple societies and compares them to very complex cultures like our own. This course will examine and describe the ways selected pre-literate and complex societies have used culture to adapt to their environments. Case studies drawn from American, Asian, African, and European societies will be the basis for engaging in cross-cultural studies. Students will earn credit for the SUNY Social Science General Education and Diversity Equity Inclusion, and Social Justice categories.

**Credit Hours** 3

**Lecture Contact Hours** 3

**Lab Contact Hours** 0

**Other Contact Hours** 0

**Grading Scheme** Letter

#### Prerequisites

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ENG 101

#### Co-requisites

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None

## First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

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**This course DOES NOT satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.**

## SUNY General Education

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**This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed categories**

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice Outcome 1, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice Outcome 2, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice Outcome 3, and Social Sciences

## FLCC Values

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### **Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course**

Vitality and Inquiry

## Course Learning Outcomes

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### **Course Learning Outcomes**

1. Analyze major concepts and theories in cultural anthropology by describing the historical and contemporary societal factors that shape the development of individual and group identity involving race, class, and gender.
2. Compare and contrast anthropological research findings by analyzing the role that complex networks of social structures and systems play in the creation and perpetuation of the dynamics of power, privilege, oppression, and opportunity.
3. Explore of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena by using basic research techniques to locate, evaluate and synthesize information from a variety of sources appropriate for understanding cultural anthropology.
4. Apply anthropological perspectives and theories by using core concepts of the field including but not limited to the principles of rights, access, equity, and autonomous participation in past, current, or future social justice actions.

## Outline of Topics Covered

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ANT 200 examines a selection of preliterate and complex cultures, using fundamental concepts of cultural anthropology. The following sample outline includes illustrative cultures; the selection of these may change across sections. The cultural sketches are examples of the culture that might be focused on to illustrate the topic.

## I. What is anthropology?

- Cultural sketch: The Yanomami

## II. What is culture?

- Cultural sketch: The Yanomami, cont.

## III. Problems of fieldwork

- Cultural sketch: The Tiwi

## IV. Language

- Cultural sketch: The Kaluli

## V. Subsistence strategies

- Cultural sketch: The Basseri and Ojibwa

## VI. Economy

- Cultural sketch: The Trobriand Islanders

## VII. Marriage, family, and residence

- Cultural sketch: The Minangkabau

## VIII. Kinship and descent

- Cultural sketch: The Nuer

## IX. Gender and sexuality

- Cultural sketch: The Haiti

## X. Political order, disorder, and social control

- Cultural sketch: The Samoans

## XI. Belief systems and art

- Cultural sketch: The Azande

## XII. Globalization and culture change

- Cultural sketch: The Hmong and the Aztecs