

**Instructor** Dr. Nanda Grow  
**Office** Old Main 245G  
**Office Hours** By appointment (in person or online)  
**E-mail** nanda.grow@usu.edu

**Course Description**

This course uses principles of cultural anthropology to introduce students to the diversity of world cultures. We will investigate variation in the social, economic, and political patterns of both past and present societies within the context of anthropological concepts, methods, and theories. Broad cultural concepts will be introduced with examples from specific cultures, including pre-industrial peoples (e.g. foragers, horticulturalists, and agriculturalists), as well as complex civilizations such as our own. The course format will consist of lectures supplemented by films and class discussion.

**Course Objectives** The primary objective of this course is to develop each student’s ability to understand other cultures from an anthropological perspective. Upon completion of this course, students should have an increased awareness of other cultures and a better understanding of key concepts in cultural anthropology.

**Required Texts**

1. *Yanomamö*, Fifth (or Sixth) Edition ISBN: 0155053272  
 Napoleon A. Chagnon, 1997 [1968]
2. *Dancing Skeletons: Life and Death in West Africa* ISBN: 088133748X  
 Katherine Dettwyler, 1994
3. *Culture Sketches: Case Studies in Anthropology*, Fifth (or Sixth) Ed. ISBN: 0073405302  
 Holly Peters-Golden, 2009

Recommended Text: *Introducing Cultural Anthropology*, Fourth Edition ISBN: 0073531022  
 Roberta E. Lenkeit, 2009

We will use the cultures presented in *Yanomamo*, *Dancing Skeletons*, and *Culture Sketches* as examples of core concepts for each unit of the course. It is important to progress through the readings as they are assigned with each module, given that they correspond to the topics for the week!

The *Introducing Cultural Anthropology* textbook is recommended, but not required. It goes into depth about terms and concepts from lecture. If you have never had a course in anthropology before, you may find this text especially useful. Contact me if you would like to borrow a copy.

**Canvas Course Website**

The web address is: <https://usu.instructure.com/courses/472123>

*This course is entirely online. You are required to read all posted messages.*

**Grading and Assessments**

Final grades may be curved at the discretion of the instructor. Corresponding letter grades follow the USU grading scheme.

• **Exams:** Three equally weighted exams are worth 42.3% of the final grade (50 points each). Exams are not cumulative and will include lectures, readings, and films covered since the previous

|                  | <b>Points</b> | <b>% of Final Grade</b> |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Exams (3)        | 150           | 42.3                    |
| Assignments (6)  | 50            | 14                      |
| Discussions (11) | 125           | 35.2                    |
| Quizzes (3)      | 30            | 8.5                     |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>355</b>    | <b>100%</b>             |

exam. However, understanding some concepts may depend on those learned earlier in the semester. Exams may consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, matching, and short answer questions. A study guide will be provided prior to each exam. The absence of a term/concept from the study guide does not preclude it from being included in the exam.

- **Quizzes:** There are 3 discussions totaling 8.5% of the final grade (30 points). These will help you prepare for each exam.
- **Assignments:** There are 6 assignments totaling 14% of the final grade (50 points), each of variable point value. Each will consist of an independent writing exercise on topics covered in the readings or lectures. Individual point values are indicated on each assignment page on Canvas.
- **Discussions:** There are 11 discussions totaling 35.2% of the final grade (125 points). These discussions will either be open to the entire class or prescheduled within small groups. Refer to the Canvas page on online discourse for guidelines on how to engage in discussions on the course boards. Individual point values are indicated on each discussion page on Canvas.
- **Extra Credit:** Opportunities for extra credit may be provided throughout the semester, not to exceed a maximum of 20 extra points possible. These may include bonus assignments or exam questions.
- **Late/Make-up Assignment/Exam Policy:** Late assignments may be accepted, at instructor discretion, but frequently result in a point penalty.

### Questions?

---

Questions about the course materials can be during office hours or via email. I have many courses and many students; to ensure an efficient response to your message, **put “ANTH 2010” in the subject line for all email correspondence and sign with your full name.**

### Academic Integrity Statements

---

- **Plagiarism Statement:** Plagiarism consists of passing off someone else’s ideas, words, or writing as your own. You are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have the permission of that person. The penalties for plagiarism are severe, including reprimand, grade adjustment, probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, and/or denial or revocation of degrees. For more information about plagiarism, please consult the USU Code of Policies and Procedures for Students, Article VI.
- **Copyright Statement:** All materials and handouts used in this course are copyrighted. Because these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy or distribute handouts without expressly granted permission.
- **Academic Dishonesty Policy:** Academic dishonesty comprises the unauthorized distribution of information, cheating, and/or plagiarism. The USU Honor Pledge states: “I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity.” Evidence of cheating or plagiarism on any exam, assignment, or paper may result in a failing grade. Academic dishonesty is never tolerated, and offending students will be reported to the university.
- **Privacy Statement:** In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), it is the policy of the Department of Sociology, Social Work, & Anthropology at Utah State University to maintain the confidentiality of students’ records.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. This legislation requires that all students be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of disabilities. If you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact the university. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC), University Inn Room 101 (797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY).
- **USU Classroom Civility Policy:** Utah State University respects the rights of faculty to teach and students to learn. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated either in person or online. An individual engaging in such behavior may be subject to disciplinary action.

## Schedule of Lectures and Reading Assignments

### Schedule is subject to modification.

CS = Culture Sketches, DS = Dancing Skeletons, Y = Yanomamö, ICA = Introducing Cultural Anthropology

| Week                    | Topics  | Readings   | Items Assigned                         | Points   | Due (12AM) |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|----------|------------|
| <b>1</b><br>8/28-9/3    | Introduction to course<br>Anthropology overview; What is "the field"?                 | Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 1, Ch 2 pp. 24-38  | Week 1 Assignment<br>Week 1 Discussion | 10<br>5  | 9/3        |
| <b>2</b><br>9/4-9/10    | What is culture?<br>Race, Ethnicity, & Culture  | CS: Ch 2 (Aztecs)<br>ICA: Ch 2 pp. 38-47, Ch. 3  | Week 2 Assignment<br>Week 2 Discussion | 5<br>20  | 9/10       |
| <b>3</b><br>9/11-9/17   | Ethnographic Research<br>Film –<br><i>A Man Called Bee:<br/>Studying the Yanomamö</i> | DS: Ch 1-5<br>Y: Ch 1<br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 4, DS: Ch 5   | Week 3 Assignment<br>Week 3 Discussion | 10<br>10 | 9/17       |
| <b>4</b><br>9/18-9/24   | Cultural Ecology<br>Subsistence - Foragers  | Y: Ch 2 pp. 45-62<br>DS: Ch 6<br>CS: Ch 6 (Ju/'hoansi),<br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 5 pp. 94-119, Ch 6<br>pp. 120-128 | Week 4 Assignment<br>Week 4 Quiz       | 5<br>10  | 9/24       |
| <b>5</b><br>9/25-10/1   | Subsistence – Horticulturalists<br>Film –<br><i>Ongka's Big Moka</i>                  | Y: Ch 2 pp. 63-97  | Week 5 Assignment<br>Exam 1            | 10<br>50 | 10/1       |
| <b>6</b><br>10/2-10/8   | Subsistence - Pastoralism<br>Subsistence - Agriculture                                | CS: Ch 9 (Nuer); Ch 14<br>(Trobriand)<br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 6 pp. 128-143, Ch 7<br>pp. 144-164                  | Week 6 Assignment<br>Week 7 Discussion | 10<br>10 | 10/8       |
| <b>7</b><br>10/9-10/15  | Kinship & Families  | DS: Ch 7<br>Y: Ch 4 pp. 121-158<br>CS: Ch 3 (Basseri)<br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 7 pp.164-9, Ch 8-9                  | Week 7 Assignment                      | 10       | 10/15      |
| <b>8</b><br>10/16-22    | Sex & Gender  | DS: Ch 8<br>CS: Ch 8 (Minangkabau)<br>Y: Ch 5 pp. 159-169<br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 10 pp. 216-227,                 | Week 8 Discussion                      | 10       | 10/22      |
| <b>9</b><br>10/23-29    | Social Stratification   | Y: Ch 5 pp. 170-183<br>DS: Ch 9, Ch 10<br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 10 pp. 228-237                                     | Week 9 Discussion<br>Week 9 Quiz       | 10<br>10 | 10/29      |
| <b>10</b><br>10/30-11/5 | State Societies   | Catch up on readings   | Week 10 Discussion<br>Exam 2           | 10<br>50 | 11/5       |

|                         |  |  |                                    |          |           |
|-------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| <b>11</b><br>11/6-11/12 | Religion & Art   | CS: Ch 4 (Haiti)<br>DS: Ch 11-12<br>Y: Ch 3<br><br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 11, Ch 12 | Week 11 Discussion                 | 20       | 11/12     |
| <b>12</b><br>11/13-19   | Global Issues: Population Growth; Cultural Change & Modernization        | CS: Ch 10 (Ojibwa)<br>Y: Ch 8<br><br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 13                      | Week 12 Discussion                 | 10       | 11/19     |
| <b>13</b><br>11/20-26   | Culture Change and Globalization<br>Film – <i>The Gods Must Be Crazy</i> | CS: Ch 15<br><br>Suggested:<br>ICA: Ch 14  | Week 13 Discussion<br>Week 13 Quiz | 10<br>10 | 11/26     |
| <b>14</b><br>11/27-12/3 | Applied Anthropology   | CS: Ch 12 (Samoans)  | Week 14 Discussion                 | 10       | Due 12/13 |
| <b>Finals Week</b>      | December 9: Exam 3 Available   |  | Exam 3                             | 50       | Due 12/14 |