

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ANTH 20103 Cultural Anthropology

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 10103 Composition I or ENGL 14343 Honors Composition

Effective Catalog: 2021-2022

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Introduces students to the cultural diversity of human beings around the world. Focuses on cross-cultural comparisons of cultural values, language, economy, polity, hierarchical structures, marriage, family, kinship, race and ethnicity, gender roles, religious practices, responses to health and well-being, and globalization. Examines the impact of culture change, assimilation, multiculturalism, cultural pluralism (ACTS: ANTH 2013).

B. Additional Information

This course is a prerequisite to ANTH 30233 Diversity Through Archaeology and is one of two required courses in the Minor Degree in Diversity Studies.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Discuss key anthropological methods and theories for examining cross-cultural variation in beliefs and behaviors.
2. Apply the anthropological framework of cultural relativism to the variety of cultural beliefs, and behaviors found all around the world.
3. Analyze ethnographic data on specific cultures from all around the world.
4. Evaluate personal and societal ethnocentric responses to variations in cultural beliefs and behaviors.
5. Create presentations that demonstrate competent ethnological, cross-cultural comparisons of specific aspects of diverse cultures.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULO)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills:**Critical Thinking Skills Goal:**

Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Ethnocentrism and cultural relativism
- B. Diversity of language and sociolinguistics
- C. Cultural variations in the arrangement of social institutions
- D. Diversity of hierarchical structures of differential access to power, prestige, and wealth
- E. Culture change, assimilation, pluralism