Anthropology 220-50  
**CULTURE AND SOCIETY**  
Spring 2021

Instructor: Ren Freeman  
ren.freeman@umontana.edu

Course Type: Online

Office Hours: As needed, via email request and appointment. Email, Phone, Video Chat are options for visits.

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**Course Description**

Anthropology is a discipline that investigates the origins and natures of the human species. There are four primary anthropology sub-fields: Cultural, Archaeology, Bio/Physical, and Linguistics. Anthropologists use a holistic approach to understand the full scope of human diversity in all aspects, places, and times. This in-turn assists people of different cultures to better understand one another, their various worldviews, and impacts to their lives and lifeways as social and cultural beings. In this course, we will look at past and contemporary human cultures, in-depth, from around the world and focus on one of the four major fields of anthropological inquiry—cultural anthropology. We will also extensively explore the impacts of Globalization through the lens—methodologies and methods—of anthropology.

This introductory course is a core requirement for the Anthropology Major and the Minor in the BA degree. The Course also serves two requirements for general education, social sciences (Group VII) and International and Cultural Diversity (Group X) for all undergraduates. There are no prerequisites for this course.

**Learning Outcomes**

In this course, you will learn:
- To describe social and cultural aspects of diverse ways of life, past, and present.
- To demonstrate a cross-cultural perspective on values and behaviors across societies.
- To describe ethnographic methods: what ethnographers do, how they do it, and why.
- To engage in thoughtful, respectful discourse about cultural diversity.
- To contrast how and why sociocultural anthropology differs from other social sciences.
- To consider the benefits and challenges of Globalization.

**Required Technology and Materials, Overall Course Structure, and Policies**

**Technology:** At a minimum, this online course requires:
- Use of a computer/laptop and WIFI for assignments and remote/Zoom required exercises.
- Use of a word processing program that can open and edit Microsoft Word documents. UM provides Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus for free to UM students.
- Use of Adobe Acrobat Reader to open and save PDF files.

For student support, contact UMOnline Technical Support at umonline-help@umontana.edu or call 406-243 4999. Please remember to take the Moodle 101 Tutorial, access is on the course page.
Book/E-Book: (book is available for purchase at UC Bookstore and from Amazon or other online booksellers.)
  o Note: there is a slight pagination difference between the hard copy and E-book versions.

Additional readings and materials are posted in Moodle for each week they are assigned. These will include, among other guiding resources: at least one link to audio/video information and a Lecture, that lends additional thought to and summarizes the weeks’ topic and concepts, via narrated PowerPoint slides. Access to each weeks’ content and assignments is on a date-timed basis and will open each Monday. This is to provide opportunity for concentrated focus and productivity related to each weekly topic. Once the week is “open” it will remain open for the duration of the course, for your further reference and exam(s) preparation. However, submission of assignments must be accomplished by their relative due date. A full point will be deducted for late submissions unless previously authorized to submit later – see below for more information.

You will find this Syllabus, other reference, and guidance materials also located in Week 17 in the course Dashboard.

The following is the general assignment schedule per week and suggested study format, unless otherwise noted in the Schedule of Topics and Assignments document and also within the Weekly Guides located in Moodle per their respective weeks. If any changes are made to this schedule or a particular week, you will be notified through a course group email, with the change also noted in Moodle for that particular week(s). Unless otherwise noted, all materials are provided through Moodle.

NOTE: This course requires completion of the following weekly assignments: Discussion Post, Response-to Posts, 10-question Quiz, and a 2 page Essay. See the Schedule of Topics and Assignments for details. Please mark your personal calendars with a Reminder for due dates accordingly, and for which Group you belong to.

Monday: When the week’s course opens, please begin by Reading the Weekly Guide that summarizes and provides details for the week. The Guide is provided as a PDF within each week. Then, begin your Reading and Viewing of all other materials, in this sequence: assigned readings, media links, lecture, and any other assigned or guidance materials.

Wednesday: Per your Assigned Group, you may be required to post a Discussion (2+ paragraphs) regarding the assigned readings, media, lecture for the week via Moodle, and in relation to a topic prompt(s). Your post is due by 8 p.m. each Wednesday. Your ability to post will be closed at 8:15 p.m. and a full point will be deducted for postings after 8 p.m. Note: Discussion posts are to be typed single–spaced in the assignment space. Unless pre–arranged or authorized due to extenuating circumstances, no make–up for this assignment is permitted.

Sunday: If you were required to make a Discussion Post you are also in the Assigned Group where you are to read and Respond to at least 2 of your classmates’ Discussion Posts. This assists in creating a dialogue about the topic and for our collective learning from each other. Your Response Assignment is due by 8 p.m. each Sunday. Your ability to post will be closed at 8:15
p.m. and a point will be deducted for postings after 8 p.m. Unless pre-arranged or authorized due to extenuating circumstances, no make-up for this assignment is permitted.

Note: all students are welcome to view and respond to other students’ posts, however, only the Assigned Group for this assignment will be graded for their responses.

**Sunday:** Everyone will complete a 10 question Quiz each week. All the questions will cover the materials from that week’s reading, media link(s), lecture, and any additional materials assigned. Each Quiz is “open-book.” You must complete the Quiz by 8 p.m. each Sunday. Your ability to take the quiz will be closed at 8:15 p.m. and a point will be deducted for completions after 8 p.m.

**Note:** You cannot make up a Quiz, unless you have contacted me via email, and shared that there has been an emergency (with documentation) or other extenuating circumstances. Determination of an extension or override for access to the Quiz will be made upon review of your request.

**Sunday:** Per your Assigned Group you may be required to submit a 2 page essay that responds to a provided prompt(s) for the week’s topic. This requires you to critically read and consider all the materials in relation to the topic. Follow a general essay form, in a concise manner, that reflects an introduction and thesis statement (1 paragraph), body of support information (3+ paragraphs), and concluding paragraph. I expect you to summarize the topic(s) from knowledge found within the materials, but share what your original thoughts are about what you have learned (reflection writing) and how this learning pertains to the larger study and practice (reflexive writing) of Anthropology. If you refer to specific ideas, concepts, statements from the text, media(s), discussion posts, lecture or other materials, please cite your sources at the bottom of your last page.

Please submit/paste your single-spaced essay within the space provided for this assignment within Moodle. This is a 2-step process that entails writing directly in the space or “pasting” your text into the space (if you have created it in a word program, copy then and paste the text. Note – formatting may sometimes be altered, depending on the writing app you use). Your essay will be due by 8 p.m. Sunday and your ability to submit it will be closed at 8:15 p.m., with a point deducted for submitting after 8 p.m. Unless pre-arranged or authorized due to extenuating circumstances, no make-up for this assignment is permitted.

**Please Note:** All assignments will also be evaluated on both grammatically correct/functional writing and content. This includes mechanics, clarity, punctuation, and the use of concise accuracy of your insightful understandings of the information you are presenting. All essays with citations must be written according to the format/style of your discipline (for example: MLA, APA, Chicago). To obtain this information, consult your Advisor and or the UM Writing Center.

**Exams.** This course is delivered in three parts, with two Mid-Term Exams consisting of 50 questions each and is “open-book” style. There are no Discussion, Responses, Quizzes, or Essay required during Mid-Term weeks. The first exam covers topics from weeks 1-5; second exam covers weeks 7-12, and the Final exam covers weeks 12-15. Week 16 is reserved for Prep for the Final Exam and its submission. The Final Exam includes: a 50 question exam (open-book style) and must be completed no later than FRIDAY, April 30 by 8 p.m. No exceptions will be permitted. Please, take note and plan accordingly.
Participation: As this is an online class, your attention to and completion of weekly assignments and due dates/times are crucial to your overall comprehension of the course theme and specific topics—which will be necessary for successful weekly, mid-term exams, and final exam completion. Remember, all assignments must be submitted by their due date and time. You may submit your assignments before the due date, if you are prepared to do so. Note: if you are required to also submit a Response-to Post you must wait until at least Thursday evening to complete this assignment, as the Discussion Posting deadline is by 8 p.m. each Wednesday.

If an illness or medical related emergency prevents an on-time submission notify me immediately and provide documentation (such as a doctor’s note), if appropriate, and by all means contact me directly to discuss your situation. There may be possibility for you to submit the assignment(s), typically within 1 week, beyond its original due date. If you do not contact me to make these arrangements you will forfeit points for that assignment, and any associated assignment.

Scheduled athletic participation, religious observance, and other such circumstances reflected in the Academic Catalog which may conflict with a submission time requires a student to plan accordingly. This requires you to contact me with details of the circumstance—in advance and as soon as is possible—to discuss submission of your assignment(s). This may mean you complete assignments in advance of the scheduled week, due date and time, or within 1 week past its due date.

Accessibility. This course is designed with accessibility in mind. Any students who need further accommodations should notify me in the first week of the term (or within 1 week of your enrollment in the course), and also contact Disability Student Services directly with any questions about access and your rights as a student. Please email me a copy of the confirmation letter issued by DSS after your visit with them. If any barriers to accessibility come to your attention during the semester, please contact me immediately, and contact advisors at the DSS office. Additionally, each student enrolled in this course is expected to access and become familiar with the Moodle 101 materials. This information is provided within your student Moodle dashboard. Please note: spotty WIFI service is a challenge to many, if not most, students and even faculty. This is not an adequate excuse for late assignment submissions. Please plan to get your assignments submitted early if this is an issue you are dealing with.

COVID related news: For those students who are local to the UM-Missoula campus. There is high demand for spaces on campus to accommodate students with inadequate WIFI in their homes or quick turnarounds between face-to-face and remote classes. A list of remote learning spaces with the days and times available for student use will be posted on the Keep on Learning website. There will be signs posted outside of specific buildings and rooms to indicate their availability.

Academic Honesty – Code of Conduct. All students are expected to practice academic honesty. All work submitted during this course must be your own. Submitting another person’s work (either borrowed language or ideas) is Plagiarism. Please familiarize yourself with what this means and entails within the Student Conduct Code. Additionally, there is increased sensitivity to student, faculty, and staff conduct pertaining to DEI—diversity, equity, and inclusion. The University of Montana is committed and aspires to:

- Respect the dignity and rights of all persons.
- Practice honesty, trustworthiness, and academic integrity.
- Promote justice, learning, individual success, and service.
Act as good stewards of institutional resources.
Respect the natural environment.

Please familiarize yourself with the **UM Diversity** information. As well, see UM’s Catalog for additional information on these and associated topics and policies.

**Evaluation and Grades**

All course work is evaluated and graded each Monday, typically, and per a points system that is converted to a final letter grade. Extra credit is available with this course, but only rarely and with great consideration.

Course grades are drawn from:
- Weekly Participation and Posting of: (per your Assigned Group)
  - Discussions regarding provided materials and any additional assignments and per prompts.
  - Response to 2 other student Discussion Posts.
- Submission of 2 page Essay, per prompt(s) (per your Assigned Group).
- Weekly Quizzes (everyone).
- Participation and Completion of 2 Mid-Term exams. Each includes:
  - 50-question Exam, that is Open-Book.
- Participation and Completion of 50-question Final Exam, that is Open-Book.

**Points Per Assignment:**

All assignments are manually graded per the course rubric for written Posts, Responses, and Essays, and system graded for the weekly Quizzes, Mid-Terms and Final Exams. Grading: 10 maximum points are possible per assignment (the Discussion/Response post are graded as one assignment) and reflect three criteria: Completion of assignment, timeliness of submission of assignment, and the adequacy of your response(s). Exercise-type assignments have various point awards. Exams are 50 maximum points each.

Note: the point conversion to a final grade overall reflects:

- A = 100–90%
- B = 89–80%
- C = 79–70%
- D = 69–60%
- F = below 60%

If you are taking this class as Pass/No Pass, a Pass > 69%