

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

### **Instructor**

Andrew Carey  
acarey1@unm.edu

### **Office Hours:**

*by appointment*

*(please send an email to set up a time to talk via phone or skype, zoom, etc.)*

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

### **Required Textbooks**

1. Essentials of Cultural Anthropology: A toolkit for a global age (*Guest*)
2. Leaving Mother Lake (*Namu & Mathieu*)
3. Three additional articles (available on Learn)

**Assigned Readings:** In addition to the assigned textbooks readings for each week, you will also be assigned supplemental readings that present specific case studies from a variety of diverse cultures throughout the world. The supplemental readings are available in .PDF format on the **Learn** page for this course, which you can access under the **My Learn button** on your **My UNM** page. You are required to download the readings as assigned in the course schedule on your own time. Both the textbook readings **AND** the supplemental readings are required readings for this course.

**Changes in Course Schedule and/or Content:** Any changes made in the course schedule and/or course content will be announced in class. In addition, all students will be notified of any changes via email.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### ***Course Description and Objectives***

This is an introductory course that provides an overview of cultural anthropology as a subfield within the broader discipline of anthropology and as a research approach within the social sciences more generally. The course presents core concepts and methods of cultural anthropology that are used to understand the ways humans organize and experience their lives through distinctive cultural practices. More specifically, this course explores social and cultural differences, and similarities through a variety of topics such as: language and communication, economics, ways of making a living, marriage and family, social stratification, political organization, supernatural beliefs, sex and gender, and globalization. Each topic is explored via lectures, readings, films and discussions that focus on specific case studies that present a broad range of perspectives from various cultural groups.

### ***Student Learning Objectives***

By completing this course, you will:

SLO #1. Understand what socio-cultural anthropology is and how it is situated within the discipline of anthropology, as well as among the social sciences more generally.

*Assessment:* Exam questions will involve case studies and examples, and students will identify which field of anthropology the case studies belong to and why. (Corresponds to Core Area 4, Competency #2)

SLO #2. Become familiar with the methods and theories utilized in cultural anthropology.

*Assessment:* In an essay, students will analyze a cultural trait from different theoretical perspectives and describe the results. (Corresponds to Core Area 4, Competency #1)

SLO #3. Have a broader understanding of how cultural anthropology examines core social and cultural topics described in the course and how the topics can be used for cross-cultural analysis.

*Assessment:* Students will complete a research project on an occupational or recreational group of their choice and write a five page paper analyzing the language of the group in question. (Corresponds to Core Area 4, Competency #4)

SLO #4. Access resources and case studies that will offer new and/or varied perspectives on various social and cultural issues and world views that can facilitate increased inter- and intra-cultural understanding and appreciation.

*Assessment:* Over the course of the semester, students will read case studies of customs in different cultures and describe how that culture's customs work for those people compared to how their families customs work for them. (Corresponds to Core Area 4, Competency #3)

SLO #5. Gain a sense of how cultural anthropology can be applied to help resolve current social and cultural issues in various cultures throughout the world. In other words, you will be able to answer the question: “But what can you *do* with a degree in anthropology?”

Assessment: Students will write an essay describing the effects of Globalism in other cultures in the world and identifying how knowledge of anthropology might alleviate some of the worst effects. (Corresponds to Core Area 4, Competency #2)

## COURSE EVALUATION

Exams (3)	100 points each	<b>300 points</b>
Quizzes (13)	10 points each	<b>130 points</b>
Project (1)	100 points	<b>100 points</b>
Article response	33 points each (+1)	<b>100 points</b>
Participation	100 points	<b>100 points</b>
		<b>730 Total Points for the Course</b>

Letter Grades:

657-730 points.....	A
584-656 .....	B
511-583 .....	C
438-510 .....	D
0-437 .....	F

**Exams:** There will be 3 exams administered during the course. Each exam will cover material presented in the lectures, textbooks and assigned readings. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. The three exams will count for 40% of your final grade.

**Quizzes:** There are 13 quizzes, and each is worth 10 points, and each will cover the class materials for each week that there is not an exam.

**Make-up Exams:** You are expected to take the exams for this course when they are administered. I will allow you to make up an exam *only* in the case of a medical or family emergency for which you must **inform me in advance** of missing the exam. If you become extremely ill or encounter an emergency during the period of the exam, it is your responsibility to contact me within 24 hours to schedule a make-up exam. You will also be required to provide a form of written verification (e.g., doctor’s note, police report, hospital discharge form, etc.) in order to receive permission to take a make-up exam.

**Research Assignment:** One project will count for 14%% of the final grade. Grading is based on content, format and style. The project involves doing library or field research, summarizing the data collected, and presenting the results in a formal essay and necessary attachments.

**Writing Assignment:** Each student will read three articles over the course of the semester, and for each article, they will write a two page paper describing how that culture's customs work for those people compared to how their families customs work for them.

**Class participation:** You are expected to attend class and discuss the material of the week, particularly the supplementary readings. You will get three absences without penalty, but each additional absence will knock 5 points off your participation grade. Likewise, you must take part in class discussion.

**Extra Credit:** You can earn a maximum of 20 extra credit points that count toward your final point total for the semester. Extra credit points will be added to your total points earned at the end of the semester to determine your final grade. In order to receive extra credit, you must complete an extra credit assignment as described in the Extra Credit Options handout that is available on the course Learn website. You can choose from a list of several extra credit assignment options that detail what is required for each assignment. Each extra credit assignment is worth 10 points. Extra credit assignments will be accepted up to the last regular class period on May 7. You can receive **no more** than a maximum of 20 extra credit points for the course. Refer to the Extra Credit Options handout for more details.

**Grading:** You can email or arrange to meet with me at UNM's main campus (if you live nearby) to find out how you are doing in the course at any time throughout the semester. If you are receiving the NM Lottery Scholarship, please check with me by mid-term to monitor your grade so that you are not at risk of losing the scholarship at the end of the semester. Your final grade will consist of your 3 exam scores, 3 article scores, your project score, and your participation scores plus any extra credit points.

## **COURSE POLICY**

**Withdrawal:** In accordance with University of New Mexico policy, you can withdraw from this course at any time before April 16. After that date, you may still withdraw from the course with permission from the dean. No withdrawal will be accepted after the last day of instruction of the semester, prior to final exam week. **Note: Faculty and instructors are NOT responsible for dropping students who do not attend. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their own progress in the course and to submit a withdrawal request only if necessary.**

**Incomplete:** Only under special circumstances will a grade of Incomplete (I) be granted to a student in this course. If you will not be able to complete the final course requirements, you must meet with me as soon as possible to make arrangements. You must also provide written documentation that verifies why you will not be able to complete the course requirements on time. An Incomplete grade must be completed within one year of the last day of class or it is automatically converted to a final grade of F. An Incomplete will not be given to any student because they have fallen behind in the course materials and/or they want to repeat the course for a better grade.

**Accommodation of Learning Disabilities/Special Needs:** If you have a learning disability or special need that would affect your ability to master the material presented in this course and/or take the exams as described above, please email or see me as soon as possible to arrange for special accommodations. Students with disabilities must officially register with UNM Valencia's Equal Access Service (EAS) prior to receiving special accommodations in this course. The EAS is located in the Advisement and Counseling area of the Student Services Building. Talk to Jeanne Lujan at 925-8910 or [jmlujan@unm.edu](mailto:jmlujan@unm.edu).

**Dishonesty in Academic Matters:** According to UNM policy, each student enrolled in this course is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. UNM reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in this course may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: dishonesty in (cheating on) quizzes, tests or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others (plagiarism) and hindering the academic work of other students.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

## WEEK 1

**Jan. 17 - 22 What is Cultural Anthropology?**

Assigned Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 1*

## WEEK 2

**Jan. 23 - 29 The Concept of Culture and Why Cultural Anthropologists Study It**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 2*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 1-21

## WEEK 3

**Jan. 30 - Feb. 5 Theories and Methods Used in Cultural Anthropology**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 3*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 22-38

## WEEK 4

**Feb. 6 - 12 Language and Communication**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 4*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 39-54

**\*\*\*Article Report #1 Due Feb. 12**

## WEEK 5

**Feb. 13 - 19 Race and Racism**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 5*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 55-75

## WEEK 6

**Feb. 20 - 26 Ethnicity and Nationalism**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 6*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 76-89

**\*\*\*EXAM #1 Feb. 26**

WEEK 7

**Feb. 27 - Mar. 5      Gender**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 7*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 90-108

WEEK 8

**Mar. 6 - 12      Sexuality**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 8*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 109-125

WEEK 9

**Mar. 13 – 19      Spring Break!**

WEEK 10

**Mar. 20 - 26      Kinship, Family, and Marriage**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 9*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 126-138

WEEK 11

**Mar. 27 – Apr. 2      Class and Inequality**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 10*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 139-164

**\*\*\*Article Report #2      Due Apr. 2**

WEEK 12

**Apr. 3 - 9      The Global Economy**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 11*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 165-183

**\*\*\*EXAM #2      Apr 9**

WEEK 13

**Apr. 10 - 16      POLITICS AND POWER**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 12*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 184-209

**\*\*\*      Apr. 16 -- Last day to drop with a W**

WEEK 14

**APR. 17 - 23      Religion**

Reading:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 13*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 210-225

WEEK 15

**APR. 24 - 30      HEALTH AND ILLNESS**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 14*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 226-248

**\*\*\*Article Report #3      Due Apr. 30**

WEEK 16

**May. 1 - 7      ARTS AND MEDIA**

Readings:

1. Cultural Anthropology: *Chapter 15*
2. Leaving Mother Lake: p. 249-264

**\*\*\* Class project Due May 7**

**MAY. 8 - 14      FINAL EXAM**