

Midland College
Master Syllabus

ANTH 2351: Cultural Anthropology

**Core Curriculum Course*

Required Participation: For online classes, students MUST actively participate by completing an academic assignment by the official census date. Students who do not do so, will be dropped from the course.

Course Description: Students will study human culture in historical perspective by examining the development of culture as well as comparing present cultures. Major topics to be examined are anthropology and its subfields; the characteristics of culture; language and communication; social, personality, and gender identity; patterns of subsistence and exchange; sex, marriage, and the family; kinship and other methods of grouping; politics, power, and violence; spirituality, religion and the supernatural; mechanisms of change; and global challenges and the role of anthropology.

Text: Will be current. Students should contact their instructor prior to purchasing the text and supplies to confirm required course materials.

Students Learning Outcomes:

- To gain an understanding of world cultures throughout time and over space.
- To become familiar with what cultural anthropologists do and the methods they use.
- To master basic information regarding the components of culture which include subsistence, traditions, kinship, language, economics, religion, etc.
- To develop an appreciation of cultural diversity by comparing and contrasting world cultures.
- To demonstrate, through discussion, writing, and panel presentations knowledge of problems that occur in cultures when change, conflict, and/or disruptions are introduced from various sources.
- To evaluate and describe cultural components important to a group's survival.
- To think critically about the relationship between power and culture in an increasingly globalized world.

Inclusion of Core Curriculum Objectives:

Critical thinking skills: Concepts, models, and theories within the Anthropological discipline are presented, compared, analyzed, and evaluated. This is accomplished through class discussion, panel presentations, written assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Communication skills: Students are required to participate and are evaluated on the following:

Class discussions
Group panel presentations of ethnographic articles
Creation of power point presentations regarding cultures
Essay questions on exams
Quizzes about ethnographic readings

Empirical & Quantitative skills: Analysis and interpretation of data regarding both past and present cultures are woven throughout the textbook and the ethnographic reader and are integrated into virtually every facet of the course, including class discussions, group panel presentations, written assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Social Responsibility: In an increasingly globalized world the importance of understanding intercultural differences between world cultures allows the student to step outside of their own ethnocentrism and develop an appreciation for cultural diversity around the world. These concepts are included in class discussions, panel presentations, written assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:

- Involvement with the material is essential - students must read, take notes, and ask questions.
- Students must come to class, be on time and stay for the full duration of the class.
- Students are expected to be able to read, write, and understand Standard English; the course is based on extensive amounts of material given in lecture, audio visual aids, and assigned readings.
- A schedule of classroom events will be given to each student at the beginning of each semester. It is the student's responsibility to know exam dates and when other assignments are due.
- If a student is absent when exams or assignments are due, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor.
- It is also the responsibility of the student to know their progress in the course.
- If the student takes the initiative the instructor will advise them on their progress in the course.
- Instructors cannot drop students with a "W" this must be accomplished officially by the student.
- Students must turn off their cell phones and i-pods, remove sunglasses, earphones, etc., upon entering the class.
- Excessive talking or other inappropriate behavior will result in the student being asked to leave the classroom.

Scholastic Dishonesty & Academic Misconduct: Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on an exam will receive an "F" for the course and will be dealt with according to Midland College policy (see the *Midland College Handbook*).

Evaluation of Students:

- Tests will consist of questions based on assigned reading material and lectures. A variety of testing methods may be used including essay exams, multiple choice and short answer questions. Some evaluation must be completed through writing.
- The grading system used in class will be discussed during the first week of the class. Grades are determined by the method determined by the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to know their individual instructor's grading policy
- Make Up exam policy is at the discretion of the instructor, except when the student is absent on official College business or activity. The testing center may be used for make-up exams.

Non-Discrimination Statement:

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following individual has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Tana Baker

Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer

3600 N. Garfield, SSC 131

Midland, Texas 79705

(432) 685-4781

tbaker@midland.edu

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must visit www.midland.edu/accommodation and complete the Application for Accommodation Services located under the Apply for Accommodations tab. Services or accommodations are not automatic, each student must apply and be approved to receive them. All documentation submitted will be reviewed and a "Notice of Accommodations" letter will be sent to instructors outlining any reasonable accommodations.

Division Information: *Social & Behavioral Sciences; MHAB 176; 685-6829*