

Syllabus: “Introduction To Cultural And Social Anthropology”
ASB 102
Glendale Community College

Instructor: Dr. Ibrahim Naim
Classroom Location: HU-101
Office Hours: By appointment!!!
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Textbooks: “**Cultutral Anthropology: The Human Challenge” 12th Edition.** (Optional)
“**Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology” 13th Edition.**
“**Guests of the Sheikh: An Anthology of An Iraqi Village”.**

Overview: In this class you will learn about the principles of Cultural and Social Anthropology, with illustrative materials from a variety of cultures. You will also learn about the nature of culture, social, political and economic systems, religion, aesthetics, language, and global economy and its effects on native cultures.

Grading: The grade for this class will be based on the following criteria:

a. Attendance: All students are expected to come to every class session ON time, and remain the entire class period. Attendance will be taken daily. Each student will receive 10 points for every class attended, for a total of 100 possible points. Students with perfect attendance will receive 25 extra points at the end of the semester. A total of 2 absences will result in the loss of 25 points from your overall total; and 3 absences will result in the loss of 50 points from your overall total attendance points.

Attendance Policy: Attendance will be taken every class period, as it will be counted as part of your total points for the class. You are encouraged to attend class regularly, as materials will not be repeated and some topics will be covered in class that are not in your textbook or notes. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to inform me of your absence, and to obtain notes for the missed class from a classmate. I will not repeat the contents of the entire lecture.

b. Participation: Students are expected to be ready for class by reading assigned materials and being ready to participate in class discussions. The success of this class depends to a very great extent on your participation. In other words, I want to discuss the topics, ideas, readings, movies, and videos with you. If you are not comfortable talking in class, or you missed an appropriate moment to bring up a point, give me a written question or comment after class and I will respond to it at the beginning of the next class.

c. In-class Presentation or Research Paper (100 points each): Students are expected to give a short 15-minute presentation or write a research paper about one aspect of Cultural and Social Anthropology that is of interest to them, and that has not been discussed in details in class. Students will sign up for their presentation or paper and must stick to their choice.

I. Presentation requirements:

- *Your presentation should be about 15 minutes in length.
- *The topic of the presentation must be approved by the instructor.
- * *On a topic/concept/culture NOT discussed in class.
- *You may use photos, slides, articles and “short” videos (MAX. of 5 minutes.)
- *Provide outline of the presentation to the professor on the day of the presentation.
- *Remember to speak SLOWLY and LOUDLY enough to be heard by all.
- *Must present on date signed up for.
- *May present with another student if interested in the same topic.

II. Paper requirements:

- * The topic of the presentation or research paper must be approved by the instructor.
- *Must be at least 6-pages long.
- *On a topic/concept/culture NOT discussed in class.
- *MLA or AP style.
- *The Deadline to turn in the paper will be Thursday, November 19th.
- *Late papers will lose 10 points for every class it is late. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

Possible Topics:

- *Culture of original homeland (Irish, German, Chinese, Mexican, etc.)
- *Cultural/religious events: Quinceneras, marriage ceremonies, Mardi Gras, Christmas.
- *Jobs/Careers: Nanny; military (navy, marines, army); medical (nursing, midwifery)
- *Visiting or experiencing other cultures: Hawaii, Europe, Africa, South America, Etc.
- *Hobbies/sports: karate, cars, bodybuilding, travel, hunting, soccer, art, cooking, graffiti.
- *Special interest groups/organizations: clubs, community organizations.

d. Exams: There will be 4 standard exams, each worth 100 points. The fourth exam will be the Final Exam. All exams will include multiple choice, fill in the blanks, and short essay questions. Questions will be based on lecture material, class discussions, videos and readings. Students will be provided a study guide and will have a review session before each exam day.

Make-Ups: You are strongly encouraged to take all exams during their scheduled times. Make-up exams are only given in very special circumstances. If you will miss an exam, you need to contact me **ON THE DAY OF THE EXAM** and inform me of your plans. **IF YOU DO NOT CONTACT ME ON THE DAY OF THE EXAM, YOUR GRADE WILL BE LOWERED BY 10 POINTS FOR EACH DAY YOU WAIT.**

There will be a total of 600 possible points for this class:

Exams: 400 points + **Presentation or Research Paper:** 100 points + **Attendance:** 100 points.

The grading scale is as follows:

A:	540-600 points
B:	480-539 points
C:	440-479 points
D:	380-439 points
F:	0 -379 points

Cheating/Plagiarism/Conduct: ANY and ALL issues dealing with these items will be dealt with according to the most current student handbook policies.

Withdrawal/Failure:

During the first week of classes, I will drop students who do not attend, as others may be waiting to enroll. After the first week of classes, YOU are responsible for your class status. If you wish to drop, you will need to turn in a withdrawal slip at the office of Admissions and Records. When the process is completed, you will receive a grade of “W” for the semester

Special Accommodations:

If you need any special accommodations in order to be able to fully participate in class, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 623-845-3084 or the TDD line at 623-845-3086.

If there is anything I can do to make your experience in this class a very positive one, please feel free to inform me.

Concerns/Problems:

Misunderstandings between students and faculty sometimes occur. If you have any questions about the course, presentation of class material, or grades, please see me to discuss it. Usually, a short conference is enough to take care of the problem.

If after our meeting you are not satisfied, please follow the current GCC Student Handbook procedures. You may also contact the Social Sciences Department Chair, Hannes Kvaran at 623-845-3574.

ASB 102 Tentative WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<u>WEEK of:</u>	<u>Lecture Topic</u>
August 24	Introduction
	The Exploration of Cultural Diversity
August 31	Culture
September 7	Culture & Ethnicity and Race
9/7---Labor Day-----No classes!!!	
September 14	Ethnicity & Race/Exam Review

First Exam, Thursday, September 17th!!!

Notes packet, lectures, and videos

September 21	Language and Communication
September 28	Adaptive Strategies and Economic Systems
October 5	Kinship, Descent and Marriage

Second Exam, Thursday, October 15!!!

Notes packet, lectures, and videos

October 12	Kinship, Descent and Marriage
October 19	Political Systems Of Bands and Tribes
October 26	Chiefdoms and States
November 2	Gender/ Exam review & Student Presentations

Third Exam, Thursday, November 19th!!!

Notes packet, lectures, and videos

November 9	Religion
November 16	World System, Industrialization & Stratification (All papers due Thursday 11/19-NO exceptions!!!)
November 23	Cultural Exchange, Creativity & Survival
November 26-29	(Thanksgiving Recess-No classes)

November 30 Student Presentations/Final Exam Review

Final Exam: Thurssday, December 10th !!!

Notes packet, lectures, and videos

Note: Course content may vary from the course outline and the course calendar to meet the needs of this particular class. Changes will be announced in class!

Official Course Description: MCCC CD Approval: 04/25/95

ASB102 19956-99999

LEC 3 Credit(s) 3 Period(s)

Introduction to Cultural and Social Anthropology

Principles of cultural and social anthropology, with illustrative materials from a variety of cultures. The nature of culture; social, political, and economic systems; religion, aesthetics and language. Prerequisites: None.

[Go to Competencies](#) [Go to Outline](#)

MCCC CD Official Course Competencies:

**ASB102 19956- Introduction to Cultural and Social Anthropology
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1. Define anthropology as a discipline. (I)
2. Define culture. (II)
3. Define and contrast ethnocentrism and cultural relativity. (II)
4. Explain the relationship between cultural areas and natural environment. (III)
5. Define elements of an economic system in relation to societal types. (IV)
6. Define politics and the basic mechanisms of social control. (V)
7. Define the concepts of social organization and its parts. (VI)
8. Explain the relationship of kinship to descent. (VII)
9. Analyze the defining characteristics of marriage. (VIII)
10. Identify gender issues as they relate to culture. (IX)
11. Contrast nonverbal communication and language, and describe the structural components of language. (X)
12. Explain the functions of religion in culture. (XI)
13. Explain the impact of culture on the individual personality. (XII)
14. Describe the relationship of art and culture. (XIII)
15. Explain the ways in which cultural change occurs and the principles of cultural evolution. (XIV)
16. Compare and contrast developed and underdeveloped societies. (XIV)