Instructor: Denver Lewellen, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: Available upon request

REQUIRED TEXT: *THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF RELIGION, MAGIC, AND WITCHCRAFT*
By Stein and Stein

This class will provide a cross-cultural perspective on supernatural beliefs, rituals, and practices as they occur within a diverse set of societies. Students will be introduced to core concepts and terms of the field of cultural anthropology as a way to study and interpret a wide range of religious, ritualistic, and healing practices.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: There will be regular exams and one final exam. The three regular exams are each worth 25% of the final grade. These 3 exams will consecutively cover information from lectures, videos, and all the chapters in the introductory test and assigned additional readings. The final exam will be worth 15% of the final grade. It will be a comprehensive review of the entire course. Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions with extra-credit options (either multiple choice or short essay). Students are required to take each test. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.** Students who miss an exam will be allowed to make-up points by completing a five-page research paper on an approved topic. This paper will be due within two weeks of the missed exam. The research paper option is a one-shot deal. If the same student misses another exam then he or she will not have an option to make up points in any way. Throughout the course, participation and open discussion related to readings and lectures is encouraged.

Attendance in this class is required. If a student is absent more than twice, his or her final grade will go down a full grade for each absence after the second absence. More than four absences will result in an automatic withdrawal from the course.

At the beginning of the semester, students will be assigned to a working group. Each group will be responsible for presenting a chapter to the class. A one-page, double-spaced outline of the presentation will be due the week before the presentation is made. The presentation (including the outline) will account for the remaining 10% of the final grade.
Class lectures, videos, and other materials presented in class will highlight and supplement information provided in the textbook. Un-graded pop-quizzes may be given to assess students' understanding of the material. Prior to each exam a review of the material will be given in class.

Course Outline:

EXAM #1
February 21, 2006 Assigned chapters:
   1. The Anthropological Study of Religion
   2. Mythology
   3. Religious Symbols

EXAM #2
March 28, 2006 Assigned chapters:
   4. Ritual
   5. Altered States of Consciousness
   6. Magic and Divination
   7. Souls, Ghosts, and Death

EXAM #3
April 25, 2006
Assigned chapters:
   8. Gods and Spirits
   9. Witchcraft
   10. Syncretism and Religious Movements

FINAL EXAM
Date to be announced

PLEASE TURN OFF CELLPHONES AND PAGERS PRIOR TO ENTERING THE CLASSROOM
DO NOT ORDER FOOD TO BE DELIVERED TO THE CLASSROOM