

## **Anthropology 104 Online: Lifeways in Different Cultures: A Survey of World Societies**

<b>Instructor</b>	Alan Aycock, Ph.D.
<b>Office</b>	Golda Meir E-178
<b>Phone</b>	414.229.5136
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:aycock@uwm.edu">aycock@uwm.edu</a>
<b>Office hours</b>	See contact info below

<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	Michelle Zanskas
<b>Email</b>	mzanskas@uwm.edu

### **How much of this course is online?**

This course is offered entirely online. All course materials will be accessible online for reading and viewing, and all assignments, including quizzes, exams, and writing assignments will be completed and graded online. This is a huge advantage for you: you have a lot more flexibility and convenience in a course like this, plus we can take advantage of the many resources available online.

### **What is this course about?**

In this course we'll look at a wide range of cultures around the world and you'll learn to see these cultures as anthropologists do. Here are some examples of what's in store for you.

We'll look at how the ancient Hebrews dealt with leprosy, how to manage polyandrous families in Tibet, how to behave during competitive feasting in the Amazon, how hunter-gatherers make a living in Southern Africa, what role a "third sex" played among the Plains Indians, how body art defines the person in America, how to bribe a police officer in Bolivia, what it means to be a good sport in the Pacific Islands, what are the proper techniques of being a Christian snake-handler in West Virginia, how Hmong American healers do their work in Illinois, how to arrange a marriage in India, how people get bewitched in Africa, how hip-hop made it to Japan, how to be a successful crack dealer in Spanish Harlem, and much much more.

For a more formal statement of **Learning Objectives**, please see the Word doc by that title in the Content area of our D2L site.

### **How do I get in touch with the instructor?**

Probably the fastest and most effective way of getting in touch with me is via email, since I will answer you within 12 hours at the maximum even on the weekend, and normally in less time than that. Make certain, however, that you put "**Anthro 104**" as your subject header: I get a ton of email each day, and it's easy to overlook something important!

In addition, I am on the UWM campus from 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. every weekday in the Learning Technology Center, in Golda Meir E-178. You can simply drop in if you like, and I'll be glad to see you. However, I'm not always free, so you may wish to call ahead (229-5136) to find out if I'm immediately available, or whether we need to make an appointment for another time.

### **Where do I buy the textbook required for this course?**

*There is no textbook* for this course. All reading and audiovisual materials will be made available to you online, free of charge. What a deal, huh?

### **What computer skills and resources do I need for this course?**

**Skills:** you will need basic word processing skills, the ability to send and receive email, and a simple understanding of how to access and browse Web sites, including our course Web site on Desire2Learn (D2L). You will have to be able to receive email via your ePanther email account, but you can if you wish forward your ePanther email to a private account. Just a word of caution: checking your email and our course Web site regularly is very important to your ability to do well in this course.

**Resources:** you will need routine access to a computer that has a broadband connection (such as Roadrunner or DSL) or a campus network connection to the Web. If you don't have your own computer, you will need to use one of the campus lab computers, or perhaps a computer in the public library.

Dialup access is **NOT** sufficient to pass this course! Dialup access is **NOT** sufficient to pass this course!

The computer you use must have a basic word processing package such as Word for Windows. You will also have to be able to view PowerPoints, Adobe PDF files, Windows Media (.wmv) files, and Flash Media (.swf) files. All of these types of files, however, can be viewed using free downloads, and I will let you know where to get these free downloads.

### **How much time will I be expected to spend online each week?**

All of your videos, readings, lectures, and assignments will be accessed and completed online. You should plan to spend approximately **4-5 hours per week** on this course (remember, you're not physically attending a class or spending time traveling to and from campus!). Here is how your time will be allocated during most weeks:

- an hour viewing a video online
- another 1-2 hours reading anywhere from one to three short assigned articles (these articles are available online and can be printed out)
- a half hour viewing or reading 2-3 short lectures (you can access them either in Word or via PowerPoint; some may be in voiceover PowerPoint)
- a half hour preparing for your weekly online quiz, then actually taking it online
- an hour posting your weekly assignment (either a response posting or a project posting, as defined below) online

It will be *up to you* to organize your time effectively to get your work done. This can be difficult to do in an online course, though I'll try to help you keep up to speed. But I have to tell you that if you have the slightest tendency to put things off or to be disorganized – especially where computers are concerned – this course may not be suitable for you.

### How will I be graded on my work in this course?

1. You will have an online quiz (true/false and multiple choice) each week based on the readings, videos, and lectures for that week. Each quiz will be worth 3 points. Since I will automatically drop three of your lowest quiz scores, there will be an overall total of 10 required quizzes worth a total of 30% of your course grade. These quizzes will be cumulative; each week I will ask you a couple of questions from previous weeks' quizzes as well as quiz questions from the current week's work.
2. There will be a midterm online exam worth 14.5% of your course grade, and a final cumulative online exam worth 14.5% of your course grade. Both these exams will be true/false and multiple choice. Both exams are required.
3. You will make brief (approximately 300 words) online postings to the class discussion forum or bulletin board on 9 occasions during this course, in other words just about one short posting each week. Each of these postings will be worth 2 points. Your short postings – which I refer to in this syllabus as “response postings” – will draw on the ideas and examples in your readings, lectures, and videos for a particular week. Since I will automatically drop 1 of your lowest response postings, there will be an overall total of 8 required response postings worth a total of 16% of your course grade. For a more formal statement of how you will be graded, see the **Rubric** Word doc in our D2L course site.
4. You will post slightly longer (approximately 500 words) assignments – which I refer to as project postings – to the class discussion forum or bulletin board on 4 occasions during this course. In other words, on weeks when you're not doing a short response posting you'll be doing a longer project posting. Each of these postings will be worth 5 points. These project postings will call for you to perform brief “fieldwork” activities such as interviewing a relative, describing a celebration in which you have participated, or identifying the cultural patterns you see in a mall. Each of the project postings will also involve a response to someone else's posting. No project posting grades will be dropped, so there will be an overall total of 4 required project postings worth a total of 25% of your course grade. For a more formal statement of how you will be graded, see the **Rubric** Word doc in our D2L course site.
5. You will post a self-introduction, worth 5%, so can get acquainted online. There will also be 2 extra credit anonymous surveys available for you to complete during the course, one about four weeks into the course, and one near the end. Each of these extra credit surveys will be worth 2 points, for a total of 4 extra credit points.

### Point Value of Assignments

13 online weekly quizzes	Only the highest 10 grades will be counted	30%
2 online exams	Midterm and final exams each worth 14.5%	29%
9 short response postings	Only the highest 8 grades will be counted	16%
1 personal intro; 4 project postings	All 5 grades will be counted	25%
Extra credit	Midcourse and end of course anonymous surveys	<u>(4%)</u>
Overall	Total possible percentage	= 100%

## Grading scale

Percentage	Grade
95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
0-59	F

## University Policies and Procedures

Information regarding the following campus policies is available at  
<http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/SyllabusLinks.pdf>:

- Students with disabilities
- Religious observances
- Students called to active military duty
- Incompletes
- Discriminatory conduct (such as sexual harassment)
- Academic misconduct (cheating and plagiarism)
- Complaint procedures
- Grade appeal procedures
- Final examinations

## Schedule of Readings, Assignments, and Exams

### Lectures, Video, & Readings

### Assignments

#### Week 1: Jan 24 – Jan 29

Lecture: What is culture?  
Lecture: Gender and sexuality  
Video: *Paris is Burning*

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)  
Introduce yourself (5 pts)  
Post short response (2 pts)

#### Week 2: Jan 30 – Feb 5

Lecture: Anthropology of the body  
Reading: Miner, Body Ritual Among the Nacirema  
Reading: Goffman, Territories of the Self

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)  
Post Project assignment (5 pts)

#### Week 3: Feb 6 – Feb 12

Lecture: Doing fieldwork  
Reading: Chagnon, Doing Fieldwork Among the Yanomamo  
Reading: Sterk, Tricking and Tripping: Fieldwork on Prostitution  
Reading: Benedict, Fact versus Fiction

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)  
Post short response (2 pts)

#### Week 4: Feb 13 – Feb 19

Lecture: Language and anthropology  
Video: *That's Not What I Meant!*

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)  
Post short response (2 pts)

#### Week 5: Feb 20 – Feb 26

Lecture: Exchange and reciprocity  
Video: *The Feast*  
Reading: Lee, Eating Christmas in the Kalahari  
Reading: McNamara, Learning How to Bribe a Policeman

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)  
Project assignment (5 pts)

#### Week 6: Feb 27 – Mar 5

Lecture: Making a living  
Video: *Fast Food Women*  
Reading: Bourgois, Crack in Spanish Harlem

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)  
Post short response (2 pts)

#### Week 7: Mar 6 – Mar 12

Lecture: Women and men  
Video: *Paradise Lies at the Feet of the Mother*

Take midterm exam (15 pts)  
no later than March 14

**Week 8: Mar 13 – Mar 19**

Lecture: Families and Marriage

Video: *Dadi's Family*

Reading: Goldstein, When Brothers Share a Wife

Reading: Yuan and Mitchell, Land of the Walking  
Marriage

Reading: Nanda, Arranging a Marriage

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

Post short response (2 pts)

**Week 9: Mar 20 – Mar 26**

***Spring Break! Spring Break! Spring Break! Spring Break! Spring Break!***

**Week 10: Mar 27 – Apr 2**

Lecture: Politics and political organization

Video: *Ongka's Big Moka*

Reading: Van den Berghe, The Modern State: Nation-BUILDER or  
Nation-Killer?

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

Post short response (2 pts)

**Week 11: Apr 3 – Apr 9**

Lecture: Ritual and symbol

Video: *Kinaalda*

Reading: Dubisch, Run for the Wall: An American Pilgrimage

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

Project assignment (5 pts)

**Week 12: Apr 10 – Apr 16**

Lecture: Magic, witchcraft, and sorcery

Video: *Jero Tapakan*

Reading: Gmelch, Baseball Magic

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

Post short response (2 pts)

**Week 13: Apr 17 – Apr 23**

Lecture: Trance and possession

Video: *Holy Ghost People*

Reading: Sosis, The Adaptive Value of Religious Ritual

Reading: Sullivan, On Dance and Difference

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

Post short response (2 pts)

**Week 14: Apr 24 – Apr 30**

Lecture: Colonialism and resistance

Video: *Trobriand Cricket*

Reading: Turner, Kayapo Resistance

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

Project assignment (5 pts)

**Week 15: May 1 – May 7**

Lecture: Adapting to change

Video: *Between Two Worlds*

Reading: Williams, Why Migrant Women Feed Their Husbands  
Tamales

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

Post short response (2 pts)

**Week 16: May 8 – May 12**

Lecture: Anthropology and the modern world

Video: *The Merchants of Cool*

Reading: Condry, Japanese Hip-Hop

Reading: Brennan, Globalization, Women's Labor, and Men's  
Pleasure

Reading: Kottak, Teleconditioning and the Postmodern  
Classroom

Take weekly quiz (3 pts)

No posting!

**Final exam week: May 13 – 19**

Review all lectures, readings, and videos

Take final exam (15 pts)

no later than May 21