Voyage: Spring 2015  
Discipline: Anthropology  
ANTH 1010: Introduction to Anthropology  
Division: Lower  
Faculty Name: Caleb Everett  
Credit Hours: 3; Contact Hours: 38  

Pre-requisites: N/a  

COURSE DESCRIPTION  

Cultural anthropology explores the extent of diversity in human behavior. Via the consideration of various types of human cultures in an array of ecologies, we will examine what it means to be shaped by cultural practice. We will come to better understand the ways in which individuals and communities are formed by culturally variable social, political, communicative, and economic practices. Students will be introduced to the primary theories and methodologies that anthropologists use in contemporary studies of culture. Throughout, we will focus on the diverse ways in which human experience takes shape in a variety of socio-cultural structures. The ports will provide excellent opportunities to witness and describe an assortment of phenomena discussed in the classroom setting. Basic anthropological principles acquired in class will allow students to more keenly understand, among other phenomena, witnessed patterns of kinship, religion and ritual. We will consider such facets of culture in large nation-states, as well as in some of the smaller cultures indigenous to the countries on our itinerary. Finally, we will consider ways in which some of these indigenous cultures are being transformed by globalization.

COURSE OBJECTIVES  

Students will come to recognize the extent of diversity in human cultures. This course should allow them to better contextualize what they experience in individual ports. It will enable them to understand the primary ways in which cultures vary, while more holistically appreciating the extent of cultural variation. One of the primary objectives of the course, however, is for students to gain a clearer understanding of their own cultures and to more clearly recognize the extent to which their life’s experience has been shaped by culture-dependent practices.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK
TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Ensenada- January 7:

A1- January 9: Lecture: What is culture? How many cultural and linguistic groups are there?
   How long has our species had culture? We examine these and other issues in our introduction to the anthropological study of human behavior.

A2-January 11: Lecture: Anthropology and culture
   Discussion: What does it mean to be shaped by cultural practice?
   Reading: Miller Chapter 1

A3- January 13: Lecture: Basic methods in the study of culture. A look at ethnographic and linguistic fieldwork
   Port preparation: Kinship patterns in Polynesian cultures
   Reading: Miller Chapter 2

Hilo: January 14

A4-January 16: Lecture: Economies and their modes of production, part 1
   Discussion: A consideration of the modes of production in our own cultures
   Reading: Miller Chapter 3

A5-January 19: Lecture: Economies and their modes of production, part 2
   Reading: Miller Chapter 3 (cont.)

Study Day: January 21

A6- January 22: Lecture: Consumption and exchange
   Reading: Miller Chapter 4

Discussion section 1, January 21st: What does it mean to “enact” gender
   Port preparation: Gender roles in Japanese society
**A7-January 24:** Lecture: Personality, gender, and identity over the life cycle  
Reading: Miller Chapter 6

Yokohama: January 26-27  
In-Transit: January 28  
Kobe: January 29-31

**A8-February 1:** Lecture: Birth and death  
Discussion: Recap of Japan field notes, key observations  
Port preparation: Major Chinese ethnic groups  
Reading: Miller Chapter 6

Shanghai: February 3-4  
In-Transit: February 5-6  
Hong Kong: 7-8

**A9-February 9:** Lecture: Disease, illness, and healing 1  
Port preparation: Traditional modes of healing, Vietnam  
Reading: Miller Chapter 7

Ho Chi Minh: February 11-16

**A10-February 17:** Lecture: Disease, illness, and healing 2  
Discussion: Recap of Vietnam field notes, key observations  
Reading: Miller Chapter 7 (cont.)

Singapore: February 19-20

**Discussion section 2,** February 21: Common kinship systems in America and in ports visited so far

**A11-February 22:** Lecture: Kinship and domestic life  
Reading: Miller Chapter 8

Rangoon: February 24-March 1

**A12-March 2:** Lecture: Kinship and domestic life (cont.)  
Discussion: Discussion of kinship based on field experience in Burma  
Reading: Miller Chapter 8 (cont.)

**A13-March 4:** Lecture: Social stratification  
Reading: Miller Chapter 9
Cochin: March 6-11

**Discussion section 3**, March 12th: How are our own cultures stratified ethnically?

A14-March 13: Mid-term exam

A15-March 15: Lecture: Politics and leadership  
Reading: Miller Chapter 10

**Discussion section 4**, March 17th: Examining field notes from India, hand in field assignment

Port Louis: March 18

A16- March 19: Lecture: Social order and social conflict  
Reading: Miller Chapter 11

A17-March 21: Lecture: Social order and social conflict 2  
Port preparation: Social conflict in South Africa  
Reading: Miller Chapter 11 (cont.)

A18- March 23: Lecture: Human communication  
Discussion: How variable are human languages?  
Reading: Miller Chapter 12

Cape Town: March 25-30

**Discussion section 5**, March 31st: Recap field notes from South Africa

A19-April 1: Lecture: Human communication 2. Language and thought.  
Reading: Miller Chapter 12 (cont.)

A20-April 3: Lecture: Religious practice  
Reading: Miller Chapter 13

A21- April 5: Lecture: Religious practice 2  
Discussion: Discussion of major religious practices observed so far on voyage  
Reading: Miller Chapter 13 (cont.)

Tema (Accra): April 7-9
Takoradi: April 10-11

A22-April 12: Lecture: Expressive culture  
Discussion: Recapping our field notes from Ghana  
Reading: Miller Chapter 14

A23: April 14: Lecture: The evolution of human cultures and languages

A24: April 16: Lecture: Culture, language, and cognition  
Discussion: How culture shapes our experience  
Reading: Everett & Madora article

Discussion section 6, April 18th: Review

April 19: Global Lens Exams and Study Day

Casablanca: April 20-24

A25: A Day Finals

April 29: Arrive in Southampton
FIELD WORK

FIELD ASSIGNMENT

The field assignment will involve the incorporation of your field experiences and field notes in several ports of call, as you demonstrate an understanding of basic forms of kinship system and other key components of culture. The assignment will be due the day of your fourth discussion section, as noted in the preceding schedule. It will entail about 5 pages of writing, as you answer the relevant questions.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING RUBRIC

Classroom lecture and discussion form a crucial component of the course, and so participation is graded. One of the components of the participation assignment your active participation in the discussion sections. The bulk of the course grade will come from three components: An assignment incorporating the field notes (the guidelines to these notes will be given at the outset of the course), a mid-term exam, and a final exam. As a lens course, there is no primary field lab component. The course grade is constituted in the following manner:

Classroom/discussion section participation and interaction 10%
Field assignment 20%
Mid-term exam 35%
Final (non-cumulative) exam 35%

RESERVE LIBRARY LIST

No reserve books are needed for this course.

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

AUTHOR: Everett, Caleb & Keren Madora
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Quantity recognition among speakers of an anumeric language
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Cognitive Science
VOLUME: 36
DATE: 2012
PAGES: 130-141
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

N/a
HONOR CODE
Semester at Sea students enroll in an academic program administered by the University of Virginia, and thus bind themselves to the University’s honor code. The code prohibits all acts of lying, cheating, and stealing. Please consult the Voyager’s Handbook for further explanation of what constitutes an honor offense.

Each written assignment for this course must be pledged by the student as follows: “On my honor as a student, I pledge that I have neither given nor received aid on this assignment.” The pledge must be signed, or, in the case of an electronic file, signed “[signed].”
Cultural anthropology, a major division of anthropology that deals with the study of culture in all of its aspects and that uses the methods, concepts, and data of archaeology, ethnography and ethnology, folklore, and linguistics in its descriptions and analyses of the diverse peoples of the world.