

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Social Science
Revision Date: 07-01-25

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number: ANTH1020

Course Title: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Prerequisite: None

Catalog Description: This course introduces students to the field of cultural anthropology, which is the comparative study of humanity and the ways in which different groups of people live, communicate, organize their societies, and create meaning. The course will cover the main topics of contemporary cultural anthropology including culture, language, economic and political systems, kinship, gender, ethnicity, race, religion, and globalization.

Credit Hours: 3.0

Class Hours: 45

Lab Hours: 0

Total Contact Hours: 45

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Course will:*

- A. Develop students' ability to use a holistic and interdisciplinary perspective characteristic of anthropology to better understand the world in which they live.
- B. Develop students' understanding of ethnographic field methods and approaches traditionally used to study cultures and groups.
- C. Help students learn the importance of cultural relativism and increase their appreciation for human variation to better enable them to function effectively in an increasingly diverse and global society.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES

A. Student Learning Outcomes: *Student will be able to:*

- 1. Draw upon the ethnographic record to gain a greater appreciation for the diversity of humankind and its cultures across time and space.
- 2. Gain an understanding of a wide range of topics that underscore the human condition including culture, language, ethnicity, race, gender, social structure, sociopolitical organization, marriage, and kinship.

B. General Education Learning Outcomes

- 1. GELO #3: Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

Outcome: Evaluate the validity of arguments, alternatives, data, outcomes, and/or impacts of actions.

Outcome: Acquire and integrate knowledge and construct relationships across disciplines.

- 2. GELO #4: Global Awareness and Citizenship

Outcome: Explain the connections between historical and recent events and current global situations related to political systems, economic systems, social systems, and /or environmental issues.

Outcome: Discuss issues from a global perspective.

- 3. GELO #5: Analytical, Quantitative, and Scientific Reasoning

Outcome: Understand and create logical arguments supported by quantitative and scientific evidence and communicate those arguments in a variety of formats.

IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE (*course outline may provide more detailed information*)

- A. Culture and ethnology
- B. Ethnographic techniques and field methods
- C. Applying anthropology
- D. Language and communication
- E. Race, ethnicity, and multiculturalism
- F. Adaptive strategies
- G. Political systems
- H. Sex and gender
- I. Kinship and descent
- J. Marriage and the family
- K. Art and religion
- L. The modern world system

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Required textbook:
 - 1. *Perspectives: An Open Invitation to Cultural Anthropology*, 2nd edition.
Open Source Textbook link: <https://perspectives.americananthro.org/>
- B. Other required readings will vary from term to term, and may include:
 - 1. Short monographs
 - 2. Autobiographical memoirs
 - 3. Scholarly articles, and other primary or secondary sources related to various aspects of recent World History.These will be supplied by the instructor unless otherwise specified in the syllabus.
- C. Student purchase of examination books (“blue books”) may be required for exams.

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

- A. Methods of presentation typically include a combination of the following:
 - 1. Lectures
 - 2. Class Discussion
 - 3. Individual/Group Projects
 - 4. Video Clips
 - 5. Student Presentations
 - 6. Guest Lecturers

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of the following:
 - 1. Written examinations
 - 2. Quizzes
 - 3. Research papers
 - 4. Book reviews
 - 5. Short papers based on readings
 - 6. Class discussions
 - 7. Student Presentations (Group and/or Individual)
 - 8. Other interactive activities
 - 9. Attendance
 - 10. Specific weighting of these assessment modalities is detailed in the course policies. The instructor may also require other types of graded work, as long as it is not inconsistent with the parameters defined in the “Methods of Evaluation” section.

B. SCC GRADING SCALE:

A+	95-100	C+	75-79	F	59 or less
A	90-94	C	70-74		
B+	85-89	D+	65-69		

B 80-84 D 60-64

VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- A. In order to receive a passing grade in the course, students must complete the work assigned by the instructor in a satisfactory manner and within time frames allowed.
- B. Regular attendance, reading, examinations, written assignments, discussion, and respectful behavior are all required course components.
- C. In most cases, a minimum grade of C is required to transfer to four-year institutions. It is up to the student to be aware of academic issues such as this.