

ANTH 200 - Lecture

CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR: *Ms. Sharonne Specker*

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course provides students with an overview of social and cultural anthropology – its origins, its distinctive methods and concepts, and its place in the contemporary world. In this course, you will learn how to think about contemporary events from an anthropological perspective and how to better understand yourself in relation to others. You will also learn to appreciate the diversity of topics that contemporary socio-cultural anthropology explores and the extent to which it can help you better understand a world where peoples and societies are increasingly interconnected. By the end of the course students should:

- have a greater degree of familiarity with the field of socio-cultural anthropology & be conversant with some of the key concepts, theoretical orientations, & methods used by anthropologists;
- understand the historical developments that have shaped the subfield of sociocultural anthropology;
- get a better sense of what the “comparative method” is;
- learn to challenge their cultural biases and ethnocentric assumptions;
- demonstrate greater awareness of the cultural & social bases of human prejudice & discrimination;
- gain a better understanding of Indigenous peoples, histories and cultures, and the impact of colonization on individuals, families and communities;
- learn to think about contemporary events from an anthropological perspective & apply anthropological theories & concepts to real-world problems;
- use anthropological concepts and gain skills for critically reading & visually analyzing the world around us;
- understand the ethical standards that anthropologists uphold.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Because this is an introductory course, it will offer the opportunity to exercise a wide variety of skills that are crucial in students' academic and professional careers. These include critical reading, analytical thinking, intercultural communication and the ability to undertake effective secondary research using online and traditional research sources. In addition, the course will provide students with a supportive environment to develop effective communication skills.

Tutorial's Description and Objectives

Anthropology 200 tutorials complement Anthropology 200 Lectures. Tutorials aim to facilitate group discussions, have students engage in problem solving activities, use concepts learned in the ANTH 200 lectures to think critically about films, and actively participate in a variety of learning strategies.

Note: Tutorial sections are only offered in the Fall and Spring terms. During the Summer term the tutorial and lecture are combined into ANTH 200-A01.

Skills Development

Skills developed in the Anthropology 200 Tutorial are similar to those developed in the Anthropology 200 Lectures, with an added emphasis on communication, collaboration and critical reflection in smaller group sizes. Students will develop their skills in academic writing, including research and argumentation and will learn to access and critically evaluate information that bears on anthropological topics from scholarly and popular sources, including electronic (web) sources, video and audio sources, and printed sources. Additionally, students will improve their communication and media literacy skills through group discussions, peer-review, group work and research exercises.