

Course Code/Title:**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIO-CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY****ANTH 1001 A**

Instructor	Sardar Saadi
Term	FALL 2024
Course Delivery	In-person lectures
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.

Official Course Description

What does it mean to be human? Anthropologists have approached this question by using the ethnographic method to understand the diverse ways people create shared worlds of meaning. In this course students will learn how culture shapes experience, and how ethnography describes this process.

Additional Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the central concepts, theories, and debates in Social and Cultural Anthropology. The main goal of this class is to assist students in seeing the world from an anthropological perspective. This means not only making the strange “familiar” but also making the familiar “strange” in an attempt to challenge the “naturalness” of our own beliefs and practices.

Throughout the course of this class we will explore a variety of issues concerning the social and cultural dimensions of human existence, including: language and communication, economy and politics, and inequality and system of hierarchy such as race, class and gender. Upon the completion of this class, student will gain a critical and enhanced understanding of both others’ and their own experiences as cultural beings.

General Course Learning Outcomes

This course aims to introduce students to foundational concepts, theories, and methods in socio-cultural anthropology. It prepares students to develop the basic skills to “see like an anthropologist.” By looking at historical and contemporary examples of cultural and economic structures, students are expected to apply their analytical skills to understand their own and other cultures, and to question beliefs and practices that may seem natural to them. The readings that we use in this course, such as the “in/equality” book, can play the role of a lens through which to examine gender, kinship, societal organization and structures, migration, community, identity, and politics.

Specific Course Learning Outcomes

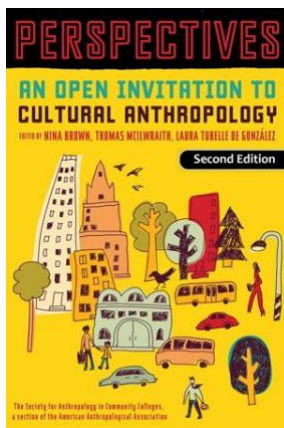
By successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss and understand the history/significance of Anthropology as a science and academic discipline and the key theoretical and conceptual ideas in its development
2. Develop a critical perspective on intersecting forms of power and oppression both locally and globally
3. Appreciate the complex diversity of human cultures
4. Acquire skills for critical thought and expression of one’s ideas in academic prose
5. Read ethnographies and identify the authors’ use of theory and ethnographic evidence
6. Practice ethnographic fieldwork and take fieldnotes of their observations
7. Plan, organize, and write an anthropological essay based on course materials and other sources

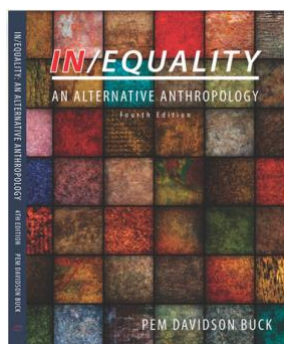
EVALUATION

10%	Attendance & Participation	
30%	Short Assignments	
	Short Assignment #1— What is Culture?	<u>September 26 – 11:59 PM</u>
	Short Assignment #2— Ethnography Practice	<u>October 10 – 11:59 PM</u>
20%	Take Home Mid-Term Exam	<u>October 31 – 11:59 PM</u>
40%	Final Essay (Two Components)	
	Essay Outline (10%)	<u>November 14 – 11:59 PM</u>
	Essay (30%)	<u>December 5 – 11:59 PM</u>

TEXT



Nina Brown, Thomas McIlwraith, Laura Tubelle de González.
Perspectives: An Open Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, 2nd Edition. The American Anthropological Association, 2020.
<https://pressbooks.pub/perspectives/>



Buck, Pem Davidson. 2020. *In/Equality: An Alternative Anthropology.* Enhanced 4th edition. CAT Publishing.

Perspectives is available online. In/Equality and all other required and optional course materials will be posted on Brightspace