

**RIO HONDO COLLEGE – DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**Anthropology 102 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**  
Fall 2012–16 Week Track / M–W / 9:40 AM–11:05 AM / Science 334 / CRN# 70024

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

(Updated 8/20/2012)

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION** Santiago Andres Garcia, MA / [sgarcia@riohondo.edu](mailto:sgarcia@riohondo.edu) / Office Hours: M–W 1:00 PM–2:00 PM, Room: Administration 200A / [www.santiagoandresgarcia.com](http://www.santiagoandresgarcia.com)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION (3.0 UNIT)** Anthropology 102 (Rio Hondo College) examines the human cultural experience. By way of the lesson plan (see below), students learn of the diverse cultural practices that have, and continue to shape the world we live in. The course aims to challenge students to reflect on their own identities, and ask how they themselves integrate, and contribute to their own relevant settings. In addition to learning about the theories and methods important to cultural anthropology, the course looks at cross-cultural diversity. Students familiarize themselves with how people in different parts of the world obtain their food, exchange goods, organize themselves, strive for power, raise children, and worship. The class emphasizes how cultural anthropology can help address modern social, political, and environmental issues that threaten the body, basic human rights, and peace. Although the course is suited for anthropology majors, those with an interest in anthropology, or anyone with a desire to further their understanding of human culture, can benefit by taking this course.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES** The objective of the class aims to allow students a thorough understanding of cultural anthropology, anthropological theory, and the research methods that apply. By the end of this course, students that have attended regularly shall be able to (1) Identify the major, *universal*, components of culture in different global settings; (2) Describe the concepts of ethnocentrism, relativism, etic, and emic perspectives; (3) Describe the major issues affecting ethnic and indigenous populations today; and (4) Explain how cultural anthropology can help address contemporary problems.

**EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY AND SYLLABUS LAW** Quiz taking adheres to a strict exam schedule. In the case of an absence whereby a student misses a quiz, a student may turn in the one extra credit assignment allowed, to make up for the missing quiz points. In the case of the final poster presentation, only students who miss the last day due to documented illness, car accident, or death in the family, are entitled to reschedule the presentation. With regard to the syllabus, the instructor reserves the right to change the lesson plan at any time, and changes as the course moves occur commonly.

**STUDENT LOGIN** To view the syllabus online and download any required class readings visit the following website <http://www.santiagoandresgarcia.com> and click on the "Student Page" link.

**ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION** In order to comprehend the course topics students must attend EVERY class meeting and participate in all classroom discussions and activities. Roll **WILL** be taken daily, and attending class does amount to earning 100 possible points, 20% of one's' final grade.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK** *Cultural Anthropology: An Applied Perspective*, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Gary Ferraro and Susan Andreatta, Wadsworth CENGAGE Learning, USA, ISBN: 9781111301514

**CHEATING, PLAGIARISM, & SEXUAL HARASSMENT** See Rio Hondo College catalog.

**COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS**

**WEEK # 1** Chapter 1 What is Anthropology?

8/20/2012 Monday

- Physical Anthropology
- Archaeology
- Linguistics

8/22/2012 Wednesday (Summary #1 Due)

- Cultural Anthropology
- Guiding Principles
- Contributions of Anthropology

## **WEEK #2** Chapter 2 The Concept of Culture

8/27/2012 Monday

- Culture Defined, Culture is Shared, Culture is Learned
- Culture is Taken for Granted
- Culture Influences Biological Process

8/29/2012 Wednesday (Summary #2 Due)

- Cultural Universals
- Culture Is Adaptive and Maladaptive
- Cultures Are Generally Integrated
- Cultures Change

## **WEEK #3** Chapter 3 Applied Anthropology

9/3/2012 Monday

- Applied Versus Traditional Anthropology
- Recent History of Applied Anthropology
- Special Features of Anthropology

9/5/2012 Wednesday (Summary #3 Due)

- Examples of Applied Anthropology
- The Greater Use of Anthropological Knowledge
- Caution! All Cultural Data Are Not Worth Applying
- Career Opportunities in Anthropology

## **WEEK #4** Chapter 4 The Growth of Anthropological Theory

9/10/2012 Monday (Quiz #1 on Chapters 1, 2, and 3)

- Evolutionism, Diffusionism, and American Historicism
- Functionalism, and Psychological Anthropology
- Neoevolutionism

9/12/2012 Wednesday (Summary #4 Due)

- French Structuralism, and Ethnoscience
- Feminist Anthropology, and Cultural Materialism
- Postmodernism, and Concluding thoughts on Anthropological Theory

## **WEEK #5** Methods in Cultural Anthropology

9/17/2012 Monday

- Preparing for Fieldwork
- Stages of Fieldwork
- Data-Gathering Techniques

9/19/2012 Wednesday (Summary #5 Due)

- The Pains and Gains of Fieldwork
- Recent Trends in Ethnographic Fieldwork
- The Ethics of Cultural Anthropology

## **WEEK #6** Chapter 6 Language and Communication

9/24/2012 Monday

- The Nature of Language
- The Structure of Language
- Language Change

9/26/2012 Wednesday (Summary #6 Due)

- Are Some Languages Superior to Others?
- Language and Culture
- Nonverbal Communication

## **WEEK #7** Chapter 7 Subsistence Patterns

10/1/2012 Monday (Quiz #2 on Chapters 4, 5, and 6)

- Human Adaptation
- Environment and Technology
- Major Food-Gathering Strategies

10/3/2012 Wednesday (Summary #7 Due)

- Major Food-Gathering Strategies Cont.
- Food Production Strategies and Experience
- The Triple Alliance and the *Mexica*: A Case of Food, Commodities, and Wealth

## **WEEK #8** Chapter 8 Economics

10/8/2012 Monday

- Economics and Economic Anthropology
- The Allocation of Natural Resources
- Distribution of Goods and Services

10/10/2012 Wednesday (Summary #8 Due)

- Distribution of Goods and Services Cont.
- Globalization of World Economies
- Video: Ongka's Big Moka

## **WEEK #9** Chapter 9 Marriage and the Family

10/15/2012 Monday

- Marriage and the Family
- Mate Selection
- The Role of Romantic Love and Courtship

10/17/2012 Wednesday (Summary #9 Due)

- Economic Considerations of Marriage
- Marriage: Continuity and Change
- The Family Structure

## **WEEK #10** Chapter 10 Kinship and Descent

10/22/2012 Monday (Quiz #3 on Chapters 7, 8, and 9)

- Kinship Defined
- Principles of Kinship Classification
- The Formation of Descent Groups

10/24/2012 Wednesday (Summary #10 Due)

- Residence Patterns: Where do Wives and Husbands Live?
- Different Systems of Classification
- Kinship and the Modern World

**WEEK #11** Chapter 11 Sex and Gender

10/29/2011 Monday

- Human Sexuality
- Gender Roles
- Gender Stratification

10/31/2012 Wednesday (Summary #11 Due)

- Gender Ideology
- Exploitation Caused by Gender Ideology
- Gender in the United States

**WEEK #12** Chapter 12 Social Stratification

11/5/2012 Monday

- Dimensions of Social Inequality
- Types of Societies
- Racial and Ethnic Stratification

11/7/2012 Wednesday (Summary #12 Due)

- Race and Ethnicity in the United States
- Race and Intelligence
- Forms of Intergroup Relations
- Theories of Stratification

**WEEK #13** Political Organization and Social Control

11/12/2012 Monday

- No School
- No School
- No School

11/14/2012 Wednesday (Summary #13 Due, and Quiz #4 on Chapters 10, 11, and 12)

- Types of Political Organization
- Band Societies
- Tribal Societies
- Chiefdoms
- State Societies

**WEEK #14** Chapter 14 Belief Systems

11/19/2012 Monday

- Defining Religion
- Functions of Religion
- Types of Religious Organizations

11/21/2012 Wednesday (Summary #14 Due, and **last day to turn in EXTRA CREDIT**)

- Globalization of World Religions
- Religious Change in the Age of Globalization
- Religious Change and Technology

**WEEK #15** Chapter 15 Art, and Chapter 16 The Modern World Order, Global Challenges, and the role of Applied Anthropology.

11/26/2012 Monday

- What is Art?
- Differences in Art Forms
- The Functions of Art
- Graphic and Plastic Arts
- Music, Dance, and Verbal Arts

11/28/2012 Wednesday (Summary #15 Due)

- The Growth of the Modern World
- Sustainable Developmental Practices
- Cultural Survival of Indigenous People
- Climate Change and Applied Anthropology

**WEEK #16** Finals Week!

12/3/2012 Monday (Quiz #5 on Chapters 13, 14, 15, and 16)

- Poster Presentations

12/5/2012 Wednesday

- Poster Presentations Cont.

### **COURSE GRADING SCALE & POINTS BREAKDOWN**

<b>Academic Tasks</b>		<b>Possible Points</b>
Chapter Summaries (15)	x10	150
Quiz's (5)	x25	125
Final Poster Presentation		100
Classroom Participation		100
<b>Total Class Points</b>		<b>475</b>

**EXTRA CREDIT** 3-4 page, double-spaced, informative/COMPARATIVE paper on the subsistence practices of two or more cultural groups from any part of the world. A minimum of two must be written about in order to compare and contrast. 25 points possible, **extra credit is due November 21, 2012, no exceptions!** Other topics relevant to Cultural Anthropology may be chosen, however, please make sure to discuss these topics with the instructor prior to commencing the assignment.

## CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

1. Engage your classmates through dialogue and intellectual conversations; though be respectful and mindful of people's social identities, gender, age, and physical disabilities.
2. Please have all of your electronic devices turned off. It is also recommended that you keep your valuable (expensive) gadgets out of public view. Theft does occur.
3. **ABSOLUTELY NO TEXTING DURING CLASS.** You will be asked to put your phones away during class if this behavior is observed. Please do this during breaks only.
4. When asking a question raise your hand. No shouting or talking out loud. Refer to the instructor as "Instructor Garcia," "Mr. Garcia," "Professor Garcia," or "*Profe*," is fine also.
5. When emailing ANY instructor, myself included, be professional and clear in your message. "Hey what's up professor?" will not get you a timely response.
6. For this class, laptops for taking notes will not be allowed. THEY ARE a distraction for everyone, including the instructor. As an alternative, lectures can be voice recorded.
7. Assert yourself politely in class. Greet your classmates with "Good morning, how are you?" Give yourself time throughout the day to eat healthy, complete homework, and prepare for class.
8. Practice good hygiene; remember that the classroom is a *shared* space of learning. Arriving to class under the influence of drugs or alcohol is prohibited; **REMAIN** home, for your own safety and the safety of others.

**What do you as a student receive in return?** A passionate instructor knowledgeable in the disciplines of Mexican culture and history, Mexican-American history, and the four-fields of Anthropology. You will learn in my class, you will be challenged to think beyond the norm, and you will do so with new material. My goal is to aid your learning, teach you, bring out the best in you, and prepare you for what is a long but rewarding educational experience. **See my Teaching Philosophy.**