

ANTH 200: Intercultural Relations

Tuesday and Thursday 11:00am to 12:15pm, Geology 101 (CRN 11916)

Professor: Dr. Sarah Taylor
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Course Description:

Examines anthropological perspectives on the contact of individuals and societies that have different cultural histories. Examples are drawn widely from varied contemporary contexts: family life, international business, health and health care, the movement of populations, education in formal and informal contexts, and cultural strategies for survival in the global village.

Learning Outcomes

There are three class objectives; exams and assignments will be related to them:

- a. Identify the role of culture in social and political variation;
- b. Learn about the importance of intercultural awareness in our increasingly multi-cultural world; and
- c. Learn strategies for avoiding or overcoming cross-cultural misunderstandings in a variety of contexts.

Required Texts:

Boulanger, Claire, ed. (2008) *Reflecting on America: Anthropological Views of U.S. Culture*. Allyn & Bacon. ISBN: 978-020-548143-9. **(Identified as ROA throughout the syllabus)**

Global Voices (2009) "The New Americans." A Public Television Broadcast Series. Chicago: Kartemquin Educational Films. Available for purchase as a digital mp4 file on iTunes (\$9.99 for the series or \$1.99 per episode) or as a DVD from Kartemquin Films (\$49.95).

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 12:30pm to 3:00pm and by appointment.

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Grading:

Exams	225 points x2	450 points
Fieldwork Project	100 points x3	350 points
Participation	200 points	200 points
Total		1000 points

Grade Scale:	
1000-930 = A	769-730 = C
929-900 = A-	729-700 = C-
899-870 = B+	699-670 = D+
869-830 = B	669-630 = D
829-800 = B-	629-600 = D-
799-770 = C+	599-0 = F

Points earned determine final letter grades. You can access all grades on Blackboard throughout the semester. Your total points should not be a finals week surprise!

1. Exams (450 points):

There will be **two equally weighted exams** during the term. Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions created from the previous chapters and short essay responses. The exam questions encourage you to think critically about what you have read and to bring together bodies of knowledge, theories, and concepts from different sections of the book, class lectures, and supplemental materials. Each exam is worth 225 points, for a total of 450 points. The exams are not cumulative: each one only covers the materials preceding it since the last exam. **It is expected that no make-up exams will have to be given.** However, if there should arise some unusual circumstance which requires you to miss an exam, you are required to let me know of the situation as soon as possible, and to provide a written and verifiable excuse. **Make up exams will be in essay form.** Missing the deadline for submitting the exam is akin to missing the class in which the exam takes place, and is not a valid excuse. Late exams will not be graded.

2. Fieldwork Projects and Reflection (350 points):

Each student is expected to complete three fieldwork projects throughout the semester. These projects are designed to give you an opportunity to understand the course concepts you are learning through your own personal experience. To receive full credit for each project, you must:

1. **Identify a field site.** This could take the form of
 - a. an ethnic performance or festival of some kind
 - b. a church, temple, mosque or other religious gathering that you have never attended
 - c. a business that caters to people of ethnic/cultural backgrounds other than your own.
2. **Submit a proposal.** Fieldwork always involves political and ethical issues. You should always give priority to the rights and expectations of the people you are working with. You will need my approval for your project. Your proposal will be 1 to 2 paragraphs that outlines what you plan to do, where you will do it, and who you expect that you will interact with.
3. **Conduct your fieldwork.** This step entails getting out there and doing what you outlined in your proposal. More information on methods will be provided in a handout.
4. **Write-up your report.** These should be written in a conversational style. Tell the story of what you did and how you did it. The purpose of the report is to discuss your experience. What worked? Were there awkward moments? What did you learn? Your write-up will be 3-5 pages long. See writing guidelines handout for more information.

Your proposals and write-ups will be submitted via Blackboard, and are due by 11:59pm on the dates listed in the syllabus. Your Reflection essay (50 points) is due the last week of the semester. This 3 page essay reflects on experiences you had during the semester and the cultural competence that you gained. See guidelines for details. No hard copies or emailed submissions will be accepted. Late submissions will not be accepted without prior arrangements for an extension. Given that I stop checking email around 5:00pm each day, extensions cannot be requested at 11:50pm on the day an assignment is due.

3. Participation (200 points):

Your participation grade is broken down into two sections: attendance and team essay questions. This class will consist of both lecture and discussions. Generally, I will spend the beginning of class lecturing on the week's topic to give us an introduction and overview. The latter part of class will be spent discussing the readings. The class as a whole is expected to participate in this discussion. The assigned readings must be completed before class. If it seems that the group is

having difficulty engaging a particular topic, I will give a pop quiz at my discretion. Your grade on a pop quiz will be your attendance score for the day. Should you miss a class, you will be responsible for the material covered. Please note that you do not begin the class with 200 participation points...you must earn them.

Attendance (135 points)

Attendance is mandatory, and a sign-in sheet will circulate at the beginning of each class. Your active presence in class each day earns you 5 points. We will meet twenty-nine times during the semester. In order to earn all 135 points, you may miss no more than two classes. Forgetting to sign in is equivalent to an absence. If a pop quiz is given, your score on the quiz will be your attendance score for the day. Sleeping, texting, web surfing, and wearing ear buds are all grounds for losing attendance points.

Team Essay Questions and Active Engagement (65 points)

Each student will be assigned a team in the first week of the semester. You will work with your teams before each exam to develop essay questions from the course content. Time will be allotted in class; however, you will need to communicate with your teams outside of class as well. You should plan to arrive in the class each time ready to share your opinions and be an active participant. Your ability to do so will be reflected in this score.

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for knowing and following the Student Code of Conduct http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch8_05.htm and the Student Academic Honesty policy http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch2_17.htm.

If you keep up with the reading, pay attention and take notes during lectures, and study before the exams, there is no reason you should not succeed in this class. In other words, there is no reason to cheat. This class is designed for students to work on their own and to follow a code of ethics that holds you, the student, personally accountable. If I observe any collusion between students, **both parties fail the assignment!** Similarly, plagiarism is unacceptable and will be taken seriously. Instances of cheating and plagiarism are immediately reported to the Dean of Judicial Affairs. Please take the class seriously, do your work honestly, and we will all enjoy a rewarding semester.



Class policies and etiquette:

- Handouts for each PowerPoint presentation will be posted on Blackboard. These are meant to supplement your notes. They cannot make up for being in class. Some films are available online, while others can be found in the library. All information covered in the texts, all PDFs of readings on BB, and material from films and lectures presented in class are fair game for the exams. I encourage you to contact other students via the discussion forum in BB to ask questions on any material you miss.

- I will respond to all emails as quickly as possible, however it will take up to 24 hours. Any message received after 5:00pm will not be read until the following day. Similarly, emails received on weekends will not be read until the following Monday. If you need immediate assistance, you can contact me during office hours. At this time, I will be available on

Blackboard IM, via email, or via phone, and I will respond to your question right away. If you feel that you need an immediate response from me, calling my office is the best way to reach me.

- All exams and assignments will be submitted via Blackboard. As a student in this course, you are responsible for your own learning. Below, you will find a quick guide to how to ask for help with course materials and other technical problems. Just as it is my responsibility to provide the materials, information, and feedback to teach you, it is your responsibility to access the information, process the feedback, and be aware of what this course requires.

<i>If your problem is related to...</i>	<i>Then...</i>
Understanding course content, requirements, or due dates	Post in "Ask a Question" forum for any questions about assignments, due dates, or materials for the course. Alternatively, you may raise the question in class. If something is unclear to you, there are probably other students with the same question.
Personal matters	Contact me. Please note that the ONLY personal problems or inquiries that are not appropriate to post publicly are to be sent to me, such as disability accommodations or extenuating personal situations that will affect your ability to succeed in the course (death in family, serious illness, etc.). All non-personal questions about the course should be posted in the "Ask a Question" Forum. Please do not email me with questions that can easily be answered by the syllabus.
Connecting to the internet, such as problems with logging into your ISP (Internet Service Provider), connecting to websites, launching web browser software	Contact your ISP
Connecting to the WSU Blackboard website, accessing your course(s), submission of assignments or file attachments in course Please note...if you get an error message you need to take a "screen shot" and you MUST contact the help desk.	The Help Desk Call them 24/7 at (316) 978-HELP Screen Shot: For Mac Users hold Command + Shift + 3 For Windows Users either use the PrtScn/SysRq or Alt + PrtScrn/SysRq
You are unexpectedly logged out of Blackboard during an exam	Return to Blackboard immediately, directly via http://blackboard.wichita.edu to resume the exam. It is advisable to ALWAYS log in via this website in order to avoid being automatically logged out every 20 minutes when you access Blackboard through MyWSU.

- This class will emphasize discussion, participation, and sharing of different perspectives. While dissent from the prevailing notions presented in the readings and class discussions is accepted (and even encouraged!), it must be expressed in a manner respectful to the authors we are reading and to other members of the class.

- This class runs from 11:00am to 12:15pm. This means that I am entitled to use the entire class time to present information; it is therefore unacceptable for students to interrupt the lecture and discussion by shuffling papers, packing book bags, and other similarly disruptive activities associated with the end of class.
- Lastly, your success in this class is my main objective for the semester. Should you experience unexpected academic, personal, or work related issues that affect your participation in the class please contact me right away. I will not always be able to accommodate you; however the earlier you discuss the situation with me the more likely it is that I will be able to assist.

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Course Schedule:

Week 1: August 19-21 ~ Introduction

T Syllabus review, class structure

Th Introducing Intercultural Relations

Week 2: August 26-28 ~ Understanding the Usans

T BB: Miner “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema”

Th ROA: Introduction and “Usans: ‘The Real People’ confront globalization” ~ DUE: Fieldwork Proposal #1

Week 3: September 2-4 ~ Myth and Ritual and Us

T ROA: Chapters 2, 3, 4, and 5

Th Discussion: Approaching Culture

Week 4: September 9-11 ~ Economy, Power, Social Structure

T ROA: Chapters 7, 9, and 10

Th Review ~ Team Essay Development

Week 5: September 16-18 ~ Making it in Mainstream America

T ROA: Chapters 11, 13, and 14 ~ DUE: Fieldwork Write-up 1

Th BB: Ehrenreich “Nickel and Dimed” ~ Discussion: Culture and Subculture

Week 6: September 23-25 ~ Talking and Thinking about Culture

T ROA: Chapters 15, 16, and 17

Th Discussion: Cultural Competence ~ DUE: Fieldwork Proposal 2

Week 7: September 30-October 2 ~ Intercultural Encounters

T BB: Ethnic Conflict ~ Film: “The Lost Boys of Sudan”

Th Film: “The Lost Boys of Sudan”

Week 8: October 7-9 ~

T Guest Speaker: International Relief Committee

Th Review ~ Team Essay Development ~ EXAM 1

Week 9: October 14-16 ~

T No Class (Fall Break!)

Th TNA: Episode 1

Week 10: October 21-23 ~

T TNA: Episode 2

Th DUE: Fieldwork Write-up 2

Week 11: October 28-30 ~

T TNA: Episode 3

Th Review ~ Team Essay Development

Week 12: November 4-6 ~

T TNA: Episode 4

Th Discussion: Applying Relativism

Week 13: November 11-13 ~

T TNA: Episode 5

Th DUE: Fieldwork Proposal 3

Week 14: November 18-20 ~

T TNA: Episode 6

Th Discussion: Putting it all together

Week 15: November 25-27 ~ THANKSGIVING

T TNA: Episode 7

Th No Class (Thanksgiving!)

Week 16: December 2-4 ~ Conclusions

T Review ~ Team Essay Development

Th No class (American Anthro Meeting) ~ DUE: Fieldwork Write-up 3

Week 17: December 7-13

EXAM 2 ~ DUE: Fieldwork Reflection

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University Policies

Inclusive Excellence

Wichita State University is committed to achieving “Inclusive Excellence” and institutional strength through curricula, co-curricula, and other practices, which promote and encourage the intermingling of its students, faculty, and staff from different backgrounds, in a challenging intellectual and multicultural climate that is marked by respect and appreciation for the spectrum of human diversity. The University is also committed to an “all-inclusive” diversity and does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, disability, religion, national origin, or military status.

Disabilities

If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, or learning disability that may impact on your ability to carry out assigned course work, I encourage you to contact the Office of Disability Services (DS). The office is located in Grace Wilkie Annex, room 150, (316) 978-3309 (voice/tty). DS will review your concerns and determine, with you, what academic accommodations are necessary and appropriate for you. All information and documentation of your disability is confidential and will not be released by DS without your written permission.

Counseling & Testing

The WSU Counseling & Testing Center provides professional counseling services to students, faculty and staff; administers tests and offers test preparation workshops; and presents programs on topics promoting personal and professional growth. Services are low cost and confidential. They are located in room 320 of Grace Wilkie Hall, and their phone number is (316) 978-3440. The Counseling & Testing Center is open on all days that the University is officially open. If you have a mental health emergency during the times that the Counseling & Testing Center is not open, please call COMCARE Crisis Services at (316) 660-7500.

Copyright Notice

Course materials prepared by the instructor, together with the content of all lectures presented by the instructor, are the property of the instructor. Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor is prohibited. Unless explicit permission is obtained from the instructor, recordings of lectures may not be modified and must not be transferred or transmitted to any other person, whether or not that individual is enrolled in the course.

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Wichita State University’s General Education Program

What is the mission of general education?

The mission of general education is to provide a well-rounded education that enables you to live the fullest most meaningful life possible, regardless of your particular career preparation.

What is the overall goal?

The goal of general education is to enable you to live a rich, meaningful life by developing: an informed appreciation of the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences; an ability to intelligently follow and participate in current events; and a sensitive and tutored appreciation of diverse cultures and ways of living.

What are the expected outcomes?

Embedded throughout general education and furthered in the major are the skills that enable graduates to contribute productively to society and the on-going culture. Therefore, upon graduation the faculty expects you to:

- Have acquired knowledge in the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences
- Think critically and independently
- Write and speak effectively
- Employ analytical reasoning and problem solving techniques

Definition of a Credit Hour

3 credit hour class: Success in this 3 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction and preparation/studying or course related activities for a total of 135 hours.