

**Anthropology 2**

Dr. Blair Gibson

Office: ArtB 330 D

Faculty web page: [www.elcamino.edu/faculty/dbgibson/](http://www.elcamino.edu/faculty/dbgibson/)**Cultural Anthropology**

Phone: 660-3593 x 3580

Office hrs: MW 1:30-2:30 PM; TTh 8:30-9 AM; 2-2:30 PM;

F 11:30-12:30 PM

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email: [dbgibson@elcamino.edu](mailto:dbgibson@elcamino.edu)

**Course description:** This course represents a sampling of the subject matter of some of the subfields of socio-cultural anthropology. The aim of the course is to impart the fundamental understandings of the subject matter and convey some of the accomplishments of the field, as well as the concepts and methodologies employed by anthropologists in doing their work. Two case studies of specific cultures will be examined as a way of demonstrating the differing ways anthropologists go about the study of culture.

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**Course resources:** Syllabi and handouts can be viewed on the class web page, accessed through my faculty index page. A copy of the textbook is on reserve in the library in the reserve reading area. The textbooks have their own web pages with resources.

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**Course Objectives / Student Outcomes**

The following are what you should be able to do after completing this class

1. Compare and contrast the various subsistence strategies which are practiced cross-culturally.
2. Analyze and describe the various kinship and marriage systems which exist cross-culturally.
3. Evaluate the various levels of social and political organization which exist cross-culturally.
4. Identify the various economic systems which exist cross-culturally.
5. Compare and contrast the role that religious belief systems play in affecting behavior cross-culturally.
6. Assess the current effects of the industrialized world on the developing nations and on the indigenous peoples of the world.

Required Course Texts: *Cultural Anthropology*, 7th ed. Raymond Scupin  
*Friend by Day, Enemy by Night*, Lincoln Keiser  
*Neither Man nor Woman*, Serena Nanda

Course requirements: 2 midterms, 5 quizzes, final exam

**Grading:** quizzes 14%; midterms 57%, final 29%

Point breakdown : quiz #1: 20 pts., subsequent quizzes: 10 pts. ea., exams 100 pt. ea.,

**Extra credit:** Students are encouraged to do extra-credit assignments. See the relevant handout, and below under “Attendance,” for details and restrictions.

\*\*\*If you have any special problems that may affect your course participation or achievement I will be sympathetic if you discuss them with me at the beginning of the term, not at the end.\*\*\*

**The tests and quizzes:** These are multiple choice and, with the exception of the quizzes, non-cumulative. The tests and the first quiz are Scantron exams that cover the information from the lectures, texts, and the films that will be shown. Bring form 882 ES to the exam, and a pencil. Quizzes cover just the reserve and ethnography readings, and don't require a Scantron form. Under no circumstance will I administer an exam to a student before the date published in the syllabus.

**How the tests are scored:** Only points are awarded on an exam. The instructor will provide a grade scale when handing back the exams. The top of this scale will be set by the highest score achieved on the exam, and the boundaries of grade categories will descend in 10% increments from this score. Periodically throughout the semester 'progress report' scales will be provided as well.

**Make-ups:** Exams, with the exception of the final exam, may only be made up under the following conditions: 1) the reason for missing the exam is a very serious crisis or a school-sanctioned activity, and is documentable – **a family vacation is not an allowable excuse** 2) the instructor has been contacted on the day of the crisis or before. 3) Documentation of the problem is furnished to me prior to taking the make-up. Make-ups may only be taken in my office during my office hours. I will not turn back test results until all make-ups have been completed. I will only delay turning back exams to students one class meeting to allow time for make-ups. Make-ups are not permitted for quizzes under any circumstances, including arriving late for class on the day of the quiz.

## Student Conduct

**Student responsibilities:** *Full participation* is expected from the participants in this course. This responsibility entails attending class meetings and reading the assigned materials. There are consequences for not living up to these responsibilities:

**Attendance** - I take attendance at the beginning of the period. I don't adjust attendance retroactively, so if a student is late and misses roll, it is the student's responsibility to seek a correction on the day of the tardy. A student who is absent on a given day is still responsible for what transpired in class on that day. Missing class often means not receiving materials, like study guides and guidelines for assignments. The student is to come to the instructor's office during the office hour to obtain any handout or unclaimed work a student has missed due to an absence. Attendance will figure into my grading at the end of term if the grade is borderline. **I consider absences exceeding a week to be excessive. Absences totaling in excess of two weeks will disqualify one from receiving extra credit.** I have a highly negative opinion of those who are habitually late to class. Using this as an excuse for the

accumulation of unexcused absences will hurt, not help your cause. Each tardy will count as 1/2 of an unexcused absence.

**Unrighteous behavior** - If you wish for me to waiting for you at grade time with vengeance in my heart, then do any of the following 1) leave the classroom while lecture is in progress, and for added effect, cross directly in front of me to make sure I lose my train of thought. **If you do this I will change your status to absent, and deduct 20 points from your score.** 2) read a newspaper, talk to your neighbor, show off your laptop computer, or sleep while lecture is in progress. 3) take a cell phone call while class is in progress. These are all effective ways of communicating to me your interest level in the class, and your respect for me as a teacher.

Cheating: I don't fool around with those who cheat.

**Drops** - Generally speaking, I will automatically drop anyone with two consecutive week's worth of absences. I may also drop anyone whose point total falls to more than 30 points below passing (after discussing the situation with the affected student). However, oversights occur, so ultimately it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the class if the student wishes to do so.

**Incompletes** - An incomplete will only be given to a student caught in the throes of a crisis not related to class performance. I will not give an incomplete if the student has missed or cannot take the final at the scheduled time except in cases of medical or family emergency.

**Grade Reporting** – If you wish to know your grade ahead of official reporting, bring me a grade card at the final exam, or send an email to me.

Week	Topics	Readings
1	Anthropology: the nature of the field.  Culture: what is it?	Scupin: Chpt. 1 Chpt. 6: 139-140: 'Materialism vs. Culturalism.'  Scupin: Chpt. 3
2	Research design, methodologies, problems, and ethics Reserve reading: Brink and Saunders "Culture Shock"; Keiser: Chpt. 8: "The politics of fieldwork;" Nanda: Epilogue: Fieldwork among the Hijras	Scupin: Chpt. 8
<b>Quiz #1 Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> on class policies, Culture Shock, and the above readings in Keiser and Nanda.</b>		
3 & 4	The anthropology of the mind	Scupin: Chpt. 4; Chpt. 6: 128-132
5 - 6	Linguistic anthropology	Scupin: Chpt. 5

**6 Midterm 1 on Thursday, October 8th**

7 Family-level foragers and horticulturalists Scupin: Chpt. 8  
Chpt. 6: 133-135 'Twentieth Century Evolutionism'  
'Steward and Cultural Ecology'

8 - 10 The local group Scupin: Chpts. 9 & 15: 391-409

9 **Quiz #2 on Keiser: Chpts. 1-4, on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>** Scupin Chpt. 14: 354-55

10 **Quiz #3 on Keiser: Chpts. 5-7, on Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**

11 Chiefdoms Scupin: Chpt. 10; Chpt. 14: 366-67

Reserve article: Chiefdoms, Confederacies, and Statehood in Early Ireland

**12 Exam #2 on Thursday, November 19th**

13 State level organization: primitive states and empires. Scupin: Chpt. 11

14 Industrial states, gobalization, and peasant societies Scupin Chpts. 12, 13, 14: 364-5 & 15  
Nanda: the entire book

15 **Quiz #4 on Nanda, Chpts. 1-5, Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**16 Final on Thursday of the last week of class – December 11th**