ANTH 11 - SECTION #2074  
MAGIC, RELIGION, & WITCHCRAFT  
EL CAMINO COLLEGE: SPRING 2010

Carefully read this entire syllabus. Please be sure to bring it to every class meeting as we will be referring to it throughout the semester. Changes will be made as needed.

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Mannen  
VOICE MAIL: (310) 660-3593 ext. 3577  
CAMPUS EMAIL: amannen@elcamino.edu

OFFICE: ART #330 B  
HOURS: MTWTh 8:45am - 9:15am  
T 2:00pm - 3:00pm  
W 11:00am - 12:00pm

REQUIRED TEXT:  

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  
This course is a cross-cultural and evolutionary survey of the supernatural. It includes an examination of magic and witchcraft practices, and the different functions they play in various societies including hunting and gathering groups, tribal level, and state level societies. Additionally, religious beliefs, symbolism and ritual are explained from an anthropological perspective.

COURSE OUTLINE OBJECTIVES:  
1. Discuss cross-culturally the functions of supernatural belief.  
2. Compare and contrast one’s own religious practice, beliefs and institutions with those of selected others such as shamanistic, individualistic or communal religions.  
3. Analyze anthropological methodologies for the study of various types of religions, including shamanistic, individualistic or communal religions.  
4. Understand the diverse ways in which various religious structures reinforce the values emphasized by different cultures.  
5. Describe the evolution of religious beliefs and evaluate the evidence of religion by early humans, tribal societies, and modern societies.  
6. Apply anthropological theories when analyzing the unknown aspects of nature and the spirit world.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME (SLO): Students will demonstrate a conceptual understanding of the supernatural by (1) defining the terms “animism” and “animatism”; (2) outlining and explaining each of the characteristics of animistic beings; and (3) providing one culturally relevant example for animism and another one for animatism.
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The following course outline serves as a guide and is subject to change. Listen for announcements and watch the board for daily class updates!
Last day to drop the course with a “W” is Friday, May 14th

COURSE OUTLINE:

The Anthropology of Religion
Weeks 1-5  Read Ch 1: The Anthropological Study of Religion
                       Read Ch 2: Mythology
                       Read Ch 3: Religious Symbols

                Wed, March 17          EXAM 1 (Ch 1-3) ______

Ritual, Altered States & Practitioners
Weeks 6-9   Read Ch 4: Ritual
                       Read Ch 5: Altered States of Consciousness & Religious Specialists
                       Read Ch 6: Religious Specialists

                Wed, April 21          EXAM 2 (Ch 4-6) ______

Magic, Divination & Supernatural Entities
Weeks 10-13 Read Ch 7: Magic & Divination
                       Read Ch 8: Souls, Ghosts & Death
                       Read Ch 9: Gods & Spirits

                Wed, May 19           EXAM 3 (Ch 7-9) ______

Witchcraft, Religion & Change
Weeks 13-16 Read Ch 10: Witchcraft
                       Read Ch 11: The Search for New Meaning

Week 16          FINAL EXAM  (Ch 1-11)
              Date:  Wednesday, June 9
GRADEDING PROCEDURES:
Your final course grade will be based on 340 points by evaluating the following items:
Three Exams (midterms) @ 75 points each
   *Lowest Score Dropped: 75 x 2= 150 points
Final Exam 100 points
Accountability Assignment 15 points
Essay Assignment 25 points
Current Event Assignment 50 points

EXAMINATIONS: Three exams (midterms) worth 75 points each will be given. The lowest score will be dropped at the end of the semester. The exams are based on lecture, handouts, videos, & assigned reading. They may consist of any combination of true/false, multiple choice, matching, short-answer, fill-ins and/or brief essay questions. ALL written responses on exams must be PRINTED NEATLY. Points will be deducted from answers that are not clearly printed and legible. Students are required to bring a scantron (Form #886-E) and a sharpened #2 pencil.

NO MAKEUP EXAMS: UNDER ABSOLUTELY NO CONDITIONS MAY EXAMS BE MADE UP. All exams will be taken on the date and time assigned. No exceptions will be made. This applies equally to all students regardless of employment responsibilities, domestic situation or campus activities. A missed exam will be the score that is dropped! Do not plan on skipping ANY exams. This way IF an emergency comes up there will not be any problems dropping that score.

FINAL EXAM: The final exam is worth 100 points and will cover material presented throughout the semester. If you decide not to take the final exam you will receive an F for the course. Students are required to bring a scantron (Form #882-E) and a sharpened #2 pencil. NO STUDENT IS EXCUSED FROM THE FINAL EXAM!

ASSIGNMENTS: All out-of class assignments must be typed in assigned format. El Camino College provides free writing and Internet assistance in the Writing Center located in Humanities 122. These assignments will be used as a springboard for class discussion to help students think about the assigned reading, process information and help prepare for exams. These activities CAN NOT be made up.

Accountability Assignment: This is designed to get students acquainted with some of the basic information and guidelines for this class as well as to instill a sense of personal responsibility. Students must take ownership & action to strive for success.

Essay Assignment: This paper is meant to develop an understanding of the class material. Specific instructions will follow.

Current Event Assignments: This paper should help students see the practical applications of anthropology as it relates to real-world events.

GRADING SCALE:
CURRENT
EVENT  EXAMS  SEMESTER TOTAL  GRADE
45-50  68-75  305-340 points  100-90% A Excellent
40-44  60-67  271-304 points  89-80% B Good
35-39  53-59  237-270 points  79-70% C Satisfactory
30-34  45-52  204-236 points  69-60% D Passing
0-29   0-44   0-203 points    59-0%  F Failing
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY & CLASSROOM POLICIES
Professor Mannen asks that you behave in a manner which shows respect for her and for your classmates. Mrs. Mannen will behave in a manner which shows respect for you. With this information in mind, please pay attention to the following classroom rules:

1. No private conversations (text, spoken or written) during class.
2. No reading of or studying of other materials during class.
3. No tardiness. If you cannot regularly make it to class on time, you should not take this class or you should talk to Professor Mannen.
4. Please turn off ALL electronic devices during class. Thank you.
5. Please wait to be called on to participate in class discussion.
6. Any violation of these policies will result in the loss of any extra credit opportunities.

If you violate these rules and do not respond to warnings from Professor Mannen, more extreme action will be taken. Please refer to the ECC catalog, “Standards of Student Conduct”, for information regarding students’ and professors’ rights.

ATTENDANCE: This is a lecture course; regular attendance therefore is essential. If you plan to take a vacation or will be required to travel out-of-town for business purposes during the semester, discuss this with the instructor immediately after this class meeting or when the condition arises. If you have more than 4 unexcused absences you MAY be dropped from the class or lose eligibility for extra credit points. *Excused absences/tardies include a doctor/dentist visit with verification including your first and last name, the date and phone number on official stationary or a court date with a copy of your official court document.

PUNCTUALITY: If you have more than 3 unexcused tardies you will NOT be eligible for ANY extra credit.* If you are late you MUST be sure to sign in on the “Late Attendance” roster at the end of that class period to avoid being marked absent. If you are tardy/absent it is YOUR responsibility to check with ANOTHER STUDENT after class to determine what notes or handouts were missed.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY: If you decide to withdraw from the class be sure to follow the proper DROP procedure or you will remain on the class roster and you will receive an "F" for the class. Leaving class early and arriving very late is counted as an absence. If you cannot avoid leaving early inform the instructor, sit near the door and try not to be disruptive on your way out.

*If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.