Course description: This course represents a survey of the subject matter of various subfields of cultural anthropology, largely through case analyses in specific regions. The aim of the course is to impart an impression of the subject matter and accomplishments of the discipline, as well as the concepts and methodologies employed by cultural anthropologists in doing their work.

Course objectives: 1. Identify the fields of anthropology and major subfields of cultural anthropology and explain which aspect of the human condition each field addresses. 2. Identify and explain each of the major concepts that make up the anthropological perspective. 3. List and assess the different methodologies utilized by cultural anthropologists in the field. 4. Analyze the changes exhibited in the ethnographic description of non-Western social groups from the 19th century to the present. 5. Analyze each aspect of culture (learned, shared, symbolic, patterned, adaptive, ever-changing) and discuss the major theoretical schools associated with each perspective. 6. Assess the importance of language in human communication and outline and explain each of the approaches used to the study of human languages. 7. Compare and contrast the various subsistence strategies (modes of production) utilized by human societies as they interact with the environment. 8. Compare and contrast the systems of exchange typical of foragers, pastoralists, horticulturalists, and agriculturalists. 9. Assess the importance of surplus in the development of social stratification. 10. Describe and analyze the major kinship systems and types of marriages present in humans societies, and reflected by cross-cultural studies. 11. Evaluate the importance of gender studies in anthropology and identify the socioeconomic factors that influence the status of women in societies around the world. 12. Describe and analyze the various levels of sociopolitical organization achieved by human societies. 13. Assess the criteria for social stratification and the potential for social mobility. 14. Compare and contrast the characteristics and functions of religious beliefs and practices by making reference to the level of political organization (band, tribe, chiefdom, state) achieved by a society. 15. Evaluate the factors that account for the emergence of Movements of Revitalization in modern as well as in traditional societies. 16. Assess the effects of European expansion and colonization, industrialism, and globalization on developing nations in general and on indigenous groups in particular.

Student Learning Outcomes: SLO #1 Holism: On an objective exam students will demonstrate an understanding of the holistic approach in anthropology by identifying the appropriate definition. SLO #2 Subsistence Strategies: In an in-class objective assignment, students will demonstrate their understanding of subsistence strategies by identifying three of the four types recognized by anthropologists and by explaining five features that correspond to each. SLO #3 Political Organization: In an in-class objective assignment, students will demonstrate their understanding of political organization by identifying the four types recognized by anthropologists and by explaining three features that correspond to each.
**ADA Statement:** El Camino College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Special Resources Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations contact the Special Resources Center.

****A student who has a special situation or challenge that could impede their participation in the class should discuss it with me at the beginning of the semester, not at the end**********

**Course Texts:**  *Cultural Anthropology, 9th* ed. Raymond Scupin;

*Friend by Day, Enemy by Night*, Lincoln Keiser

*Math Samoan Chief*, Fay G. Calkins

**Course requirements:** 1 midterm, 3 quizzes, final exam. **Grading:** quizzes 23%, exams 77%

Point breakdown : quizzes: 60 pts., midterm 100 pts., final 100 pts. = 260 pts.

**Extra credit:** Earning points through extra-credit assignments are permitted in this class up to a cap of 40 points. The privilege of earning extra credit points will be lost if students accrue tardies and absences exceeding the equivalent of two weeks of instruction. All extra credit work must be performed or submitted by Thursday of the 14th week. See guidelines and below for limitations.

**The tests and quizzes:** these are multiple choice and, with the exception of the quizzes, non-cumulative. The tests cover the information from the lectures, texts, and films that will be shown. Quizzes cover just the reserve and ethnography readings. Make-ups are not permitted for quizzes under any circumstances, including arriving late for class on the day of the quiz.

**Class Policies and 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 misses roll, it is the student's responsibility to seek a correction on the day of the tardy. A tardy counts as ½ of a class period. 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 graded work. 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, that is within 3% of the boundary of a higher grade. The college considers absences exceeding a week's worth of classes in a regular term (=3 hrs) to be excessive. Students who have not gone over this limit and are within 3% of an upper boundary will automatically receive the higher grade. Missing in excess of two-week's worth of classes will result in the ending of the privilege to submit work for extra credit.
Consecutive absences of 1 1/2 weeks duration will result in the student being dropped unless the instructor is notified.

**Make-ups:** Exams may only be made up under the following conditions: 1) the reason for missing the exam is very serious and 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 has been furnished to me prior to taking the make-up. Make-ups may only be taken in my office during my office hours. I do not hand back text results until all make-ups are complete, and I will not delay handing back the exams for more than one class meeting. Therefore, the makeup has to have been taken before the class meets a second time after a test. No make-ups are possible after a test has been handed back.

**Cheating:** I don't fool around with those who cheat. Cheating includes copying off another's test or lifting material from a source, especially the internet. Learn the consequences at your peril!

**Unrighteous behavior** - If you don’t wish to lose points or have me to waiting for you at grade time with vengeance in my heart, avoid following behaviors: 1) Leaving 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. This guarantees an unexcused absence for that day. 2) Laptop computers – using a laptop in the classroom has not proven to be a study aid to students, but has proven to be a major source of distraction for everyone in the vicinity, especially me. Their use is not permitted – no exceptions! 3) Cell phones. Use of a cell phone for any purpose while a lecture or film is in progress is not allowed. A student will be asked to leave the class for the day if this policy is violated. Leaving for the bathroom with a cell phone in hand falls under both this directive, as well as 1) above.

**Drops** - Generally speaking, I will automatically drop anyone with 1 1/2 consecutive weeks’ worth of absences up to the final drop deadline. Oversights do occur, so ultimately it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the class if the student wishes to do so. Please contact the instructor to discuss any situation that contributes to excessive absences to avoid being dropped.

**Incompletes** - an incomplete will only be given to a student caught in the throes of a crisis not related to class performance.

**Gradebook warning:** I use Gradebook to post your grades. Do not pay attention to the final grade calculated Gradebook prior to the end of the semester. It will display a failing grade until all scores have been posted.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>Anthropology: the nature of the field.</td>
<td>Scupin: Chpts. 1</td>
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<td>(2)</td>
<td>Culture: what is it?</td>
<td>Scupin: Chpts. 3, 6, &amp; 7; <em>Asian Values From</em></td>
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<td><em>Catcalls to Kidnapping</em>; Keiser: Chpt.8</td>
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3) **Quiz #1** Tuesday February 2nd on class policies (syllabus), *Culture Shock, Asian Values, From Catcalls to Kidnapping*, & Keiser Chpt. 8

Research design, research methodologies, problems and ethics

(4 & 5) **The anthropology of the mind**
Scupin: Chpt. 4; Chpt. 6

**Test #1** Thursday February 18th

(6 & 7) **Linguistic anthropology**
Scupin: Chpt. 5

(8) **Family-level foragers & horticulturalists**
Scupin: Chpts. 7 - 12

(9 - 11) **The local group**
Keiser: the entire book

(10) **Quiz #2 on Tuesday March 29th on Keiser Chpts. 1-4**

(11) **Test #2 on Thurs. April 7th**

(12 - 13) **Chiefdoms**
Calkins: The entire book

(12) **Quiz #3 on Thursday April 14th on Calkins Chpts 1-9**

(13) **Quiz #4 on Tuesday April 19th on Calkins Chpts. 10-19**

(14) **Historic and modern Hawaii**
Chpt. 13

(15) **State level organization**
Scupin Chpts. 7-12

(16) **Latin American peasants: historic and modern Maya**
Scupin: Chpt. 14

(16) **Final Thursday May 12th during the class period**