

Anthropology 2H

Honors Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

3 units; 3 hours lecture

Recommended Preparation: English 1 or eligibility for English 1A or qualification by appropriate assessment
Degree applicable Transfer CSU, UC

This honors course, intended for students in the Honors Transfer Program, will provide students with an introduction to culture theory as well as to the cross-cultural understanding of human behavior. Emphasis will be placed on subsistence strategies; marriage and kinship institutions; levels of sociopolitical organization; religious systems; and the effects of cultural change, mainly as the result of European expansion, industrialization, and globalization. This course is enriched through extensive, rigorous reading, writing, and research assignments.

Note: Students may take either Anthropology 2 or Anthropology 2H. Duplicate credit will not be awarded.

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).
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. Discuss reciprocity, redistribution and market system, and how they relate to subsistence strategies and social complexity.
9. Compare and contrast the political economies of societies with Big Men with those of chiefdoms.
10. Describe and analyze the major kinship systems and types of marriages present in human 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.

17. Analyze and evaluate the ethical issues anthropologists encounter, and professional ethical obligations that must be met in the study of and application in cultural groups different from their own.

18. Conduct scholarly research independently to enrich multiple reading and writing tasks.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Holistic Approach

On an objective exam, students will demonstrate an understanding of the holistic approach in anthropology by identifying the appropriate definition.

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.

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 Resource Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Special Resource Center.

Student Code of Conduct

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/2019-policies/AP%205500%20Student%20Conduct%20.pdf>

Student Rights and Grievances Procedure 5530

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/boarddocs/AP%205530%20STUDENT%20%20RIGHTS%20AND%20GRIEVANCES.pdf>