

Cultural and Difference

ANTH 120

Self-Paced Online Course Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor Name: Catherine Gaither

Email: gaitherc46@uiu.edu

Telephone number: (303) 800-5537

Appropriate time to call: Between 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. (Central Standard Time). Leave a message with your name and specific information about why you are calling. I will return your call as soon as possible.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3 semester credits

Catalog Course description: This course pursues themes in cultural anthropology from a variety of domains to focus on how these compare, and especially, contrast in different cultures. Some of the topics to be addressed will include political systems, gender practices, religious beliefs, artistic performance and expression, and reactions to globalization. The main goals are for students to develop an appreciation of diversity among cultures and cultural groups, and understand differences in life conditions.

Prerequisites: None

TERM INFORMATION

Refer to myUIU or the color cover page attached to this course packet for your official term enrollment period.

You have six months from the begin date of your enrollment to complete this course. You should start working on your course immediately upon enrollment and be prepared to submit unit one (1) within the first 60 days of the enrollment period to avoid a potential administrative withdrawal.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THIS COURSE, THE STUDENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

1. Understand the concept of culture
2. Articulate knowledge of a variety of different cultural realities, and specific domains of social life within particular cultures

3. Understand some of the positive and negative implications of contact between cultures

INSTRUCTIONAL MODE

Online self-paced

HOW CREDIT HOURS ARE MET BY THE COURSE

As a requirement of HLC Accreditation, all UIU courses, regardless of meeting schedule or instructional mode, follow the Federal Credit Hour Definition. ***As such, each credit hour earned at UIU is equivalent to a minimum of 45 hours of student engagement.***

For more information on how specific instructional modes meet this requirement, please see *UIU's Policy Guidelines for Instructional Time Expectations*: [UIU Policies](#)

COURSE MATERIALS

It is the student's responsibility to make sure she/he has access to all required course materials by the start of the session.

Ordering Textbooks

Purchase your textbook through the online university bookstore, [MBS Direct](#), by phone at (800) 325-3252, or email: vb@mbsbooks.com.

Required Textbooks

The Challenge of Human Diversity: Mirrors, Bridges, and Chasms (3RD Ed.) by DeWight R. Middleton (2011, Waveland Press).

ISBN # 978-1577666752.

Required Writing Style & Citation

APA formatting is required for this course. You can find more information regarding APA formatting at <http://www.uiu.edu/support/academic-success/writing-center/resources.html>.

Recommended Resources

- American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5
- Cultural Anthropology - <https://culanth.org/>
- American Anthropological Association - <http://www.americananthro.org/>
- National Association of Student Anthropologists - <http://www.studentanthropologists.org/>
- Anthropology in the News - <http://anthropologyinthenews.tamu.edu/>
- Society for Applied Anthropology - <https://www.sfaa.net/>

- National Association for the Practice of Anthropology - <http://practicinganthropology.org/>
- Funding and support for anthropological studies - <http://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=1906>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA

The assignments in this course are structured to achieve the course learning objectives regarding understanding culture. They are also designed to stimulate critical thinking skills and to help you to write professionally.

Assignments

Short writing assignments

Each unit includes one or more short writing assignments. These are structured as a series of questions you must answer. Your answers should consist of complete sentences and proper grammar/syntax. The answers can be found in the assigned readings.

Cultural reflections assignments

These assignments ask you to go beyond simply answering questions. You are asked to reflect on the cultural significance of various topics. You should answer these in essay style using correct grammar and syntax. You should also cite any sources you use in order to address the questions posed and which support your viewpoint on the topic. You should cite the sources in text and provide a bibliography that conforms to the APA style.

Interactive assignments

These assignments ask you to gather data and research specific topics as if you were an anthropologist studying the topic. These assignments are structured to get you to observe cultural phenomena in your own culture and compare what you observe with the same phenomena in another culture. From these assignments, you will engage in participant observation and literature research, the creation of a research design, and the process of writing an ethnography. The assignments culminate in the Final Assessment, which is an ethnography written on one of the topics covered in the course. It is worth 150 points and will serve as the GenEd Task Assignment.

Here are some writing tips for you to follow with your writing assignments:

1. Anthropologists always protect the identity of their informants. Thus, you should not identify even yourself as an informant, and you should not provide personal details of, for example, how an informant might be related to you. Don't say, for example, I interviewed my sister...instead say, "A 21-year-old female living in

Denver, Colorado was interviewed regarding..." This maintains her anonymity and keeps your writing objective.

2. Keep your writing style objective. Don't use phrases like, I like, I think, I believe etc. These personal observations should be kept out of your writing. Instead, you should be saying something like, "The data demonstrate that the cultural norms reflected by this behavior include..." Keep it objective and professional. You are not required to write in the third person, but that may help.

3. You will provide references for each and every assignment. You will include in your assignments a references cited page and you will cite your sources in-text. You should remember that if it is not your original idea, you should be citing a source. You will use APA style in citing sources and providing a bibliography.

GenEd Task Assignment

The final assessment is worth 150 points. The final assessment will be an ethnography of one of the topics we have covered as well as a comparison with relevant cultures outside of your primary culture. A full explanation and instructions will be provided regarding how to accomplish this, but the following information is provided regarding the GenEd tasks that are relevant for this course:

GENERAL EDUCATION TASK

Upper Iowa's General Education courses reinforce those skills and competencies required for students' success beyond the classroom in the rapidly changing environment of the 21st Century. These skills and competencies include critical reading and thinking, effective listening, problem solving, and reasoning.

ANTH-120, Culture and Difference, has two General Education Task Categories: 1) Cultural Awareness & Sensitivity and 2) Behavioral Sciences.

Because this course addresses three GenEd tasks (two for cultural awareness and sensitivity and one for behavioral sciences), I will provide appropriate assignments and information that addresses those tasks throughout the curriculum. Accordingly, you will gain competency in each of those tasks. The Final Assessment for this course will be used to assess your competency in each of those tasks. The information below is provided so that you will understand the goals of the General Education tasks associated with this course.

GenEd Task Statement – Cultural Awareness & Sensitivity (Task 1)

Analyze some aspect of one or more cultures, sub-cultures or worldviews outside of your own primary cultural tradition. Compare the two and/or articulate the influence of one on the other.

The Task will have been completed when the student has accomplished each of the following particulars:

- The student identifies and accurately characterizes a non-Anglo-American cultural attribute or practice.
- The student identifies and accurately characterizes that attribute or practice's homologue in traditional American art or society.

- ☐ The student identifies significant points of comparison and/or difference between the two.
- ☐ The student uses logical reasoning and/or secondary source material to address the relationship between the two.

GenEd Task Statement – Cultural Awareness & Sensitivity (Task 2)

Identify and analyze one or more cultural features or practices existing outside the Anglo- American tradition. Taking into account the cultural context of the feature(s) or practice(s), explain why they exist and how it makes sense to the people involved.

The Task will have been completed when the student has accomplished each of the following particulars:

- The student identifies and accurately characterizes non-Anglo-American cultural features or practices.
- ☐ The student identifies and accurately characterizes why that feature or practice exists in the culture being addressed.
- ☐ The student identifies one or more reasons for the features or practices.

GenEd Task Statement – Behavioral Sciences

Use a theory or set of concepts to analyze a feature or consequence of a social institution, an interpersonal process, or an intra-personal state. A student will complete this task either in each of two separate disciplines or in sequence within a single discipline.

Criteria:

1. The student must explain a theory or set of concepts.
2. The student must use the theory or concept to accurately analyze a feature or consequence of a social institution, an interpersonal process, or an intrapersonal state.

GenEd Task Assignment

The final assessment will suffice for both the cultural awareness and sensitivity and the behavioral science categories. You will upload your completed final assessment to each of the GenEd task folders found under Assignments and to the Final Assessment folder found under Assignments. Thus, you will upload the same assignment to four different locations.

Turnitin

Turnitin is a tool for both teachers and students to ensure academic integrity by checking the originality of submitted papers to avoid issues of plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Students should be aware that Turnitin scans submitted work and compares it to ALL other sources on file.

Grading Scale

This course will use the following grading scale:

Letter Grade	Percent	Points
A	93-100%	744 – 800
A-	90-92%	720 – 743
B+	87-89%	696 – 719
B	83-86%	664 – 695
B-	80-82%	640 – 663
C+	77-79%	616 – 639
C	73-76%	584 – 615
C-	70-72%	560 – 614
D+	67-69%	536 – 559
D	63-66%	504 – 535
D-	60-62%	480 – 503
F	0-59%	0 – 479

Grading Criteria

The course letter grade will be based on the following grading criteria:

Table 1: Course Activities and Points

Activity	Points
Short Writing Assignments - 11	310
Cultural Reflections Assignments – 5	140
Interactive Assignments – 4	200
Final Assessment	150
Total	800

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D	63-66%	504 – 535
D-	60-62%	480 – 503
F	0-59%	0 – 479

GRADES AND FEEDBACK

There are a total of six (6) units in this course. You should upload completed assignments to the appropriate Turnitin-enabled folder under Assignments. Once you have uploaded your completed assignment, please send me an email (gaitherc46@faculty.uiu.edu), and I will grade it and return your grade and my feedback within one week of receiving your notification that you have completed the assignment. Your work will be graded based upon your writing skills (correct grammar/syntax – 10%) as well as your content (90%). Remember that you will have six months to complete the entire course, so you should plan your time frame for each unit accordingly.

COURSE SCHEDULE

You are strongly encouraged to complete the units in the order they are shown below. Completing units out of sequence could result in a loss of points and a reduced grade.

Unit	Topics of Study	Activities	Assessments
Unit 1	The Focus and Role of Anthropology Studying Other Cultures	Read the course syllabus Text Readings: Introduction: The Challenge of Diversity Chapter 1: Culture Shock	Unit 1: Short Writing Assignment #1 and #2 Unit 1: Cultural Reflections Assignment Unit 1: Interactive Assignment

Unit	Topics of Study	Activities	Assessments
Unit 2	Brain, mind, and evolution Social Race Thoughts, Emotions, and Culture Channeling behavior	Text Readings: Chapter 2	Unit 2: Short Writing Assignment #1 and #2 Unit 2: Cultural Reflections Assignment Unit 2: Interactive Assignment
Unit 3	Lived differences Culture as Adaptation Culture as Meaning Culture as System	Text Readings: Chapter 3	Unit 3: Short Writing Assignment #1 and #2 Unit 3: Interactive Assignment
Unit 4	Mirrors and Chasms Colonialism and Racism The Noble Savage Indigenous Response and Resistance Images and Myths Native Resurgence and Political Actions Ethics	Text Readings: Chapter 4	Unit 4: Short Writing Assignment #1 Unit 4: Cultural Reflections Assignment Unit 4: Interactive Assignment

Unit	Topics of Study	Activities	Assessments
Unit 5	The Comparative Perspective Early Comparisons Survival Tasks and Sociocultural Complexity Controlled Comparisons: McWorld Comparison in Applied Anthropology	Text Readings: Chapter 5	Unit 5: Short Writing Assignment #1 and #2 Unit 5: Cultural Reflections Assignment Unit 5: Interactive Assignment
Unit 6	Global Issues	Text Readings: Chapter 6	Unit 6: Short Writing Assignment #1 Unit 6: Final Assessment

LIBRARY RESOURCES

As a student of Upper Iowa University, library resources (online journal databases, e-books, newspaper access, citation help, etc.) are available. If travel to the campus is not feasible, you can access the library through the University's website. Go to: www.uiu.edu/library. If you need assistance locating information or using the library's resources, please contact the library at library@uiu.edu, Phone: 563-425-5270.

To use any of the materials listed on the site, you can log in using your myUIU username and password. If you need help with your myUIU login credentials, please contact the UIU Help Center Desk at helpdesk@uiu.edu, Phone: 563-425-5876.

ATTENDANCE

Even though you do not attend a regular classroom in the traditional sense and keep up with a set schedule of assignments, it should be pointed out how important it is to keep yourself on a regular schedule. It is too easy to set work aside and decide to do it later. Suddenly, the need to complete assignments and meet deadlines can become stressful and, at times, impossible. The key would be to set time aside on a regular basis and submit work in a timely manner.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL (W)

If you wish to withdraw prior to the last day of the enrollment period you must contact your advisor by phone or in writing. After your original six month

enrollment period, you no longer have the option to withdraw from the course. You must finish the course or have a final grade assigned based on the coursework submitted. Please contact the financial aid office if you have questions about course withdrawal's effect on your financial aid award.

ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL (AW)

A grade of AW (administrative withdrawal) is recorded for any course from which a student is administratively withdrawn. **At least one complete unit must be submitted to the instructor within the first 60 days of the enrollment period** or the student will be administratively withdrawn from the course.

INCOMPLETE

Students will automatically receive an 'I' (incomplete grade) at the end of their original six month enrollment period if:

- ☐ A minimum of one unit of course work has been submitted for grading per guidelines **AND**
- ☐ All course units and exams are not completed and submitted **OR**
- ☐ A course withdrawal has not been initiated.

Incomplete grade details

- ☐ When an incomplete grade is issued, the student will receive another six month enrollment period to complete the course.
- ☐ Students do not have the option to withdraw from a course after the initial six-month enrollment period has been completed.
- An 'I' grade posted to the student's official record will be replaced with a final letter grade; however, the incomplete will remain on the official transcript as a notation.
- ☐ If the course is not completed by the end of the incomplete period, the instructor will assign a final course grade (A-F) based on work completed in relation to the total course requirements.
- ☐ After that point, credit may be earned only by reenrolling and repeating the course in its entirety.

Note: Students are not reported as enrolled during the incomplete period and are not eligible for student loan deferment.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the policy of Upper Iowa University to ensure equal access to educational and co-curricular activities to students with disabilities as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. A student seeking accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services (CDS) as early in the term as possible. In order to

receive accommodations, students must disclose their disability to the CDS by completing a *Voluntary Disclosure Form*, as well as providing appropriate documentation. The *Voluntary Disclosure Form* is available in the CDS' office or online at www.uiu.edu/disability services. Students will be given a *Request for Accommodations Contract* during their initial appointment with the CDS. **This appointment will be in person for Fayette campus students and over the phone for Center, Self-Paced, or Online students.** It is the student's responsibility to provide the instructors with a copy of the *Request for Accommodations Contract*. (For Center, Online, or Self-Paced students, these contracts are emailed out to instructors by the CDS for the student). Additionally, students should work cooperatively with their instructors throughout the term to make sure that appropriate accommodations are being made. You can contact the CDS, Vickie Houser at (563) 425-5949, houserv@uiu.edu, or stop by her office in the Student Center, Office of Student Development, Room 229.

USE OF ENCYCLOPEDIA IN WRITING

Encyclopedias of any kind, including the very popular Wikipedia and/or dictionaries can be useful to help gather background information and to point the way to more reliable sources. However, they are not considered appropriate sources for papers at the graduate or undergraduate level.

WRITING PROFICIENCY

You are required to use the APA Manual, 6th ed., as a writing guide. All sources used in your papers must be cited where appropriate in the text of your work and in a reference list at the end of your work. For a sample APA formatted paper and additional resources visit the Writing Resources link under Course Home in PLS.

CHEATING, ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Because cheating, academic dishonesty and plagiarism constitute a denial of the University's and the offender's own integrity, they will not be tolerated.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- ☐ The use of unauthorized books, notes or other sources in the giving or securing of help in an examination or other course assignments.
- The copying of other students' work or allowing others to copy your work. The submission of work that is not your own or allowing others to submit your work as theirs,
- ☐ The submission of the same work for two or more classes without the approval of any instructors involved.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- ☐ Sharing academic materials knowing they will be used inappropriately,

- Accessing another person's work without permission,
- ☐ Providing false or incomplete information on an academic document,
- ☐ Changing student records without approval,
- ☐ Obtaining and using texts or other materials intended for instructor use only.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- The presentation of another's published or unpublished work as one's own,
- ☐ Taking words or ideas of another and either copying them or paraphrasing them without proper citation of the source,
- ☐ Using charts, graphs, statistics or tables without proper citation.

Detected cheating or plagiarism will result in consequences that may, at the professor's discretion, include course failure. In addition, an offender can be reported to the Faculty/Student Conduct Board for possible further disciplinary action.

www.uiu.edu/policies

COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

In recognition of the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code), Upper Iowa University reminds both faculty members and learners that a willful infringement of the law may result in disciplinary action. The University library has available materials discussing the "fair use" concept, along with criteria and guidelines for reproduction and use of copyrighted materials.

This syllabus is tentative and subject to change.

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