



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES
Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Cultural Anthropology

ANTH 102

Social and Cultural Diversity

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 4:10-5:00pm KKLT303

Tutorials: Please sign up for a tutorial using MyAllocator:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables/tutorial-sign-up>

There will be 9 tutorials for this course. Instructions will be posted on Blackboard. Once you have committed to a particular tutorial time you cannot change unless discussed with the course coordinator.

Names and contact details

Dr Jeff Sissons

Murphy Building, level 10, MY1017

E-mail: jeff.sissons@vuw.ac.nz

Tel: 463 6131

Dr Catherine Trundle

Murphy Building, level 10, MY1021

E-mail: catherine.trundle@vuw.ac.nz

Tel: 463 5134

Communication of additional information

Any additional course information will be posted on Blackboard and announced at tutorials. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

Prescription

This course introduces students to the study of social and cultural diversity by exploring culture and its role in our lives. Topics include ritual, symbolism, the body, exchange, belief, inequality, globalisation, kinship, gender and class. Case studies are drawn from New Zealand, the Pacific, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

Course content

Week 1: Introduction

What is culture? What is Cultural Anthropology?

Weeks 1-3: Ritual and Symbolism

Ritual: What is ritual? Why is ritual powerful? What are rites of passage?

Symbolism and Society: How are social boundaries related to bodily boundaries? How do colour, space, body decoration and speech produce social boundaries?

Weeks 3-4: Religion and the Supernatural

What is animism? What is totemism? How do shamans and priests differ? How can we discover the deep meanings of Myth?

Weeks 5-6: Art and Aesthetics

What is art? Why is body art political? Why do people build monuments? Is tourist art really art?

Weeks 7 to 9: Kinship

Week 7: Marriage -- Basic concepts and diverse forms: Can we define marriage? What different forms does it take? Why do some cultures think that an ideal marriage has more than two spouses?

Week 8: Relations of blood and love: What is *descent*? Are 'blood ties' universally the same? Are biological ties and love important aspects of kinship for all cultures?

Week 9: Gender and Kinship: What is gender? How are kinship and gender connected? How do gender ideals and practices shape family life?

Weeks 10 and 11: Gifts and Exchange

Week 10: Gift Exchange, Power and Prestige: Why do people give gifts? Do gifts build social connections or enhance social difference through gift exchange and redistribution?

Week 11: Global Markets, Class and Inequality: What sort of exchange relationships and power relations emerge with a market economy? Are these relationships really exploitative, as Marx argued? And what happens to capitalist exchange relationships when they go global?

Week 12: Conclusion

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. have a functional understanding of key concepts in anthropology.
2. have a knowledge of a range of ethnographic material illustrating social and cultural diversity.
3. have the ability to draw connections between ethnography and theoretical concepts and among ethnographic cases.
4. have the skills in critical reading, bibliographic research and citation, and the clear presentation of ideas, in oral and written form.

Teaching format

This course involves three one hour lectures a week and 9 one hour tutorial sessions.

Participation in tutorials is an essential part of this course. Tutorials will **not** be a summary of reading or review of the lectures, but discussions and activities intended to help you: learn to use the concepts presented to analyse both ethnographic materials and your own experience; understand the principals of holism and comparison and apply these to understanding social and cultural diversity; develop skills in analysing and synthesising data and concepts from various sources; and improve your critical reading and your ability to put your ideas into words.

To gain full value from the course you should attend all lectures and tutorials.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. attend a minimum 7 of the 9 tutorials so they will have the opportunity to develop oral communication and teamwork skills as required for CLO 4.
2. submit a credible attempt at the two assignments to ensure they can develop the skills associated with CLO 4, and can demonstrate they have a functional understanding of the key ideas associated with CLOs 1-4

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

The expectations are that students will work 10 hours per point, therefore a 20-point course equates to 200 hours over the trimester. This includes scheduled contact time, individual or group study, and work on assessment tasks.

The design of the course is based upon an assumption that students will need to spend a minimum of 13 hours a week. This workload is in accordance with the guidelines put forward by the University.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Culture and Ethnography Essay (max. 1200 words)	35%	1, 2,3,4	Friday, 12 August
2 Tutorial presentation (5 minutes)	15%	1,2,3,4	In tutorials throughout the trimester.
3 Final examination (2 hours)	50%	1,2,3,4	Date to be advised

Assessment One

Culture and Ethnography Essay

Assignment weighting: 35%

Word Limit: 1200 words.

Due: 4pm, Friday, 12 August 2016, SACS Essay Box, Level 9, Murphy Building

An assignment information sheet will be available on blackboard from the first week of the trimester.

Assessment Two

Key concept presentation

Assignment weighting: 15%

Tutorial presentation (5 minutes)

Due: in tutorial throughout the seminar.

An assignment information sheet will be available on blackboard from the first week of the trimester.

Assessment Three

Final Exam

Assignment weighting: 50%

A final 2-hour exam will be held between 21 October and 12 November, date to be advised.

The examination will be designed to enable evaluation of your knowledge and understanding of the course material in relation to the aims and objectives outlined above. More information will be available closer to the exam during lectures, tutorials and on Blackboard. The exam will consist of short answer and multiple-choice questions. It will cover all material from lectures, readings, tutorials, and AV presentations. To do well you will need to demonstrate proficiency with both theory and ethnography.

Submission and return of work

Assessments one and two must be submitted via ***Turnitin*** on Blackboard before placing it into the Essay Box on Level 9, Murphy Building on the due date. This is to ensure that all work is properly recorded when submitted, and that you are credited with timely submission. At 4 pm every day the box will be emptied, the assignments date-stamped and recorded, then handed over to the appropriate markers. Unless you have followed this procedure the Programme will accept no responsibility for pieces of written work claimed to have been handed in.

Note: ***You must keep a copy of every written assignment***

All written work submitted for assessment in ANTH 102 must have a School Assignment Cover Sheet. A sample is included at the end of this Course Outline. Further copies can be found on the reception counter at the Administration Office, and on the Assignment Box, on level 9 of Murphy Building.

Assignments will be returned at tutorials. Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between 11.00am and 3.00 pm only from Monday to Friday.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions are possible if you are having serious difficulties in completing your work. You must contact the course coordinator before the due date if you think you will need an extension. Please note that you might be asked for written justification, e.g., a medical certificate, death notice, or letter from a counsellor

Penalties

Penalties will apply for lateness in presenting assignments. 5% of the value of the assignment will be deducted from the piece of work per day (e.g., on a 20 mark assignment you would lose 1 mark for each late day).

Assessment will not be accepted for marking or for receiving comments more than seven days after the due date or seven days after an approved extension date. To meet mandatory course requirements work must still be submitted.

Set texts

There is no set text or book of student notes for this course. All essential readings will be placed on Blackboard by the Course Coordinators.

Recommended reading

The blog, *Savage Minds* often includes interesting posts and debates among anthropology students: <http://savageminds.org>

At Home in the World, by Michael Jackson (1995, Duke University Press). This is a very readable memoir of Jackson's fieldwork with Warlpiri people in Australia.

The Journal, *Anthropology and Humanism*, often includes some good poems.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student feedback in recent years indicates students appreciate the variety of content covered and the lecturing styles. In response to feedback we have shifted the date of the first assessment forward to ensure more time for preparation and discussion of it in tutorials. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

School Contact Information

Head of School:	Prof. Brigitte Bonisch-Brednich Phone: 463 6528, Email: Brigitte.Bonisch-Brednich@vuw.ac.nz
International Student Liaison:	Dr Hal Levine, MY1023 Phone: 463 6132, Email: hal.levine@vuw.ac.nz
Maori and Pacific Student Liaison:	Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101 Phone: 463 5432, Email: trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz
Students with Disabilities Liaison:	Dr Sarah Wright, MY1102 Phone: 463 5874, Email: sarah.wright@vuw.ac.nz
School Manager:	La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918 Phone: 463 6546, Email: lachelle.pretorius@vuw.ac.nz
School Administrators:	Suzanne Weaver, Gill Blomgren, Debbie Evans, MY921, Phone: 463 5317; 463 5677; 463 5258 Email: sacs@vuw.ac.nz
School of Social and Cultural Studies:	www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs