

Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: ANTH-600 Cultural Anthropology

Department: Social Sciences

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
ANTH-600	Cultural Anthropology	5
Semester Offered	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Spring	42	Graduate Standing
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
Social Sciences	Upper Division	English

Course Description

Procreation beliefs, Shelter, Food, Childhood, Initiation Rituals, Sexual Maturation, Courtship and Marriage, Gifts and Exchanges, Power and Authority, Livelihoods, Religion, Friendship, Death.

Instructor

Dr Peter Loizos

Course Aims and Objectives

This course aims to introduce students to an understanding of the importance of cultural differences, by examining two societies in depth, and two other cultural regions through selected topics. The in-depth studies include the Christian fishing community of Mukkuvar, in Kerala, S. India, and an examination of the condition of children in Bangladesh. The other two regions are Papua New Guinea, and Europe. The course also engages with dynamic change in cultures, and emphasizes the non-static, and non-bounded character of cultural systems, and their propensity to incorporate new ideas, new products, and new practices by contact with change agents from other cultures. The course works thematically through certain issues which occur universally, driven by biology, in the human life cycle, but stresses the different ways these present themselves in different cultures. At the start are beliefs about human conception and reproduction. Food, shelter, childhood, initiation, sexual maturation, courtship and marriage, initiation rituals, the character of exchange systems, [social and economic] with a focus on the giving of gifts; politics, religion and the management of death complete the course.

Teaching Methods

Interactive lectures; student summary presentations of required readings; discussions; films where appropriate;

Course Teaching Hours

42 hours. The course is delivered during the Spring semester in 14-weeks (3 hours/week).

Evaluation and Grading

Mid-term unseen examination: 50%
Final unseen examination: 50%

Readings and Resources

Required Textbook

C.Busby. 2000. The Performance of Gender: An anthropology of everyday life in a South Indian Village. Athlone Press

T.Blanchet Lost Innocence, Stolen Childhood.

Recommended Reading

Various journal articles and book chapters