

## Master Syllabus

### 1. Course Information

College: Liberal Arts  
Department: Sociology/Anthropology  
Course Title: Comparative Nonwestern Cultures  
Course Designation and Number: CST 241  
GE Area(s): (List all area(s) that apply.)

II. Cultural-Social Foundations - The Non-Western World  
VI. College Component

Writing Intensive:  Yes  No

For WI Courses:  All sections  Selected sections are WI

Method(s) of Instruction:  Lecture  
 Discussion  
 Web-enhanced  
 Web-only  
 Other (in class essays)

Includes Lab:  Yes  No

Prerequisites: None

### 2. Objectives

GE Program Objectives:

- ...to develop skills and knowledge that will form the basis for lifelong learning.
- ...sharpen critical thinking, problem-solving and communication skills.

GE Area II Objectives:

- a. Describe and analyze historical-social elements of western culture.
- b. Describe and analyze historical-social elements of nonwestern culture.
- c. Describe and analyze the global interdependence of groups and of individuals.

GE Area VI Objectives:

- a. communicate with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields and non-specialists
- b. understand important relationships and interdependencies between the student's major other academic disciplines, world events, or life endeavors
- c. additionally meet the objectives of Area I, II, III, IV, or V

Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes:

Comparative Nonwestern Cultures exposes students to the diversity of cultures around the world. Various sociocultural elements of nonwestern cultures are examined, including social and political organization, religion and worldview, kinship patterns, sociolinguistics and so on. The course emphasizes a relativistic, holistic outlook in examining the multiplicity of world cultures.

Area Two learning outcomes assessed:

Students describe and analyze historical-social elements of western culture, as well as elements of nonwestern culture. Students will also describe and analyze the global interdependence of groups and of individuals.

Area Six learning outcomes assessed:

Students in this class focus upon the diversity of cultures around the world, including social and political organization, religion and worldview, kinship patterns, and sociolinguistics. This allows the students to understand relationships and interdependencies in world events or life endeavors.

For WI Courses: WAC Objectives:

- To improve students' writing proficiency-their ability to develop and transmit information for an appropriate audience in an organized, coherent fashion while writing with appropriate style and correct grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling.
- To encourage students to use writing as a learning tool to explore and structure ideas, to articulate thoughts and questions, and to discover what they know, thereby empowering students to use writing as a tool of discovery, self-discipline, and thought.
- This writing intensive course requires three essay exams as well as six in-class essays. The in-class essays will involve discussion prior to writing down the responses. The three exams will constitute 80% of the course grade, and the in-class essays will be worth 20% of the final grade.

3. **Suggested Course Materials**

Text: C.P. Kottak, Mirror for Humanity, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.; Annual Editions: Anthropology 01/02;  
Films: Trobriand Cricket; N!AI: Story of a !Kung Woman; Faces of Culture: Religion and Music

4. **Suggested Methods of Evaluation**

Three essay exams worth 80% of the course grade; 6 in-class essays worth 20% of the final grade.

5. **Grading Policy**

(This section is to be reproduced on all master syllabi exactly as it appears here.)

All GE courses are graded A-F.

WI component is graded Pass/Unsatisfactory. (Include only for WI courses.)

6. **Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Week 1  | Introduction, The Anthropological Perspective<br>Read K #s 1, 2 (K=Kottak)<br>Annual Ed. 1 - "Doing Fieldwork among the Tanomamo"<br>4 - "Eating Christmas in the Kalahari" |
| Week 2  | Adaptation, Subsistence, Economic Anthropology<br>K - 5<br>Annual Ed. 13 - "Life without chiefs"  |
| Week 3  | Political Anthropology, Social Organization<br>K - 7, 8<br>Annual Ed. 36 - "Growing up as a Fore"   |
| Week 4  | Exam 1 will cover the above<br>Marriage, Family, Kinship<br>K - 6 / Annual Ed. 15 - "When brothers share a wife"<br>18 - "Arranging a marriage in India"                    |
| Week 5  | Language and Culture: K - 4 / Annual Ed. 10 - "Shakespeare in the bush"<br>Religion, World View   |
| Week 6  | K - 10 / Annual Ed. 28 - "Secrets of Haiti's Living Dead"<br>Anthro. Of Art.  |
| Week 7  | Annual Ed. 29 - "Body Ritual among the Nacirema"<br>Exam 1 will cover weeks 4-6   |
| Week 8  | Psychological Anthro.<br>Annual ed. 26 - "Psychotherapy in Africa"<br>Culture Change  |
| Week 9  | K - 12 / Annual Ed. 32 - "A Pacific Haze: Alcohol and Drugs in Oceania"<br>Anthropology in the Modern World<br>Annual Ed. 34 - "The arrow of disease" / K - 11, 13          |
| Week 10 | Contemporary societies<br>Annual Ed. 35 - "Drought follows the plow" / K - 14<br>Exam 3 (on Nov. 20) will cover weeks 7-10  |

7. **Other** (This section is to be reproduced on all master syllabi exactly as it appears here.)  
Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:

- Instructor name, office hours, and contact information
- Office of Disability Services information
- Information on how grades will be determined
- Attendance policy