

COURSE SYLLABUS
ANTHR 2 – Cultural Anthropology
Section 71408, Fall 2018
Long Beach City College

Welcome to Cultural Anthropology! Here are a few things you should know about me:

First of all, **I care about you and your success**. Each of you has something special to offer in ANTHR 2. I have designed this course to be accessible for diverse students of various backgrounds. Your perspectives in this class will never be “wrong,” however I will ask you to support your opinions by correctly using anthropological concepts and ideas. My job is to support your success, so please never hesitate to contact me with questions.

Next, **I LOVE anthropology**. I am very lucky to teach a subject that I am so passionate about, and I hope throughout this session you will get to share some of my passion for anthropology. Together we will explore many aspects of cultural behavior and patterns on a global scale and within our own community. We will not just learn about diversity; we will celebrate it.

Finally, **I respect you**. I respect students as academics, professionals, and individuals. I will never ask you to do something that does not support your learning (I do not assign “busy work”). I am most impressed by students who work hard, especially if a skill or concept may not come naturally to them. Show me how hard you can work in this class and it will be a sign of strong potential for your future academic goals.



Professor M. S. Robertson

mrobertson@lbcc.edu

Phone: (562)938-4553

Office: T-2357

Class meetings: MW, 9:35-11:00AM, Room T-1328

Student Hours: MW 11:10AM – 12:40PM, T 10:30AM – 12:30PM

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the study of the concepts, theories, and methods used in the comparative study of sociocultural systems. This course includes a comparison of subsistence patterns, social structure, political organization, language, family, kinship, religion, and the arts as practiced by different cultures. It also explores social inequality, ethnicity, and gender and the application of anthropological perspectives to contemporary issues in the midst of culture change.

In other words: *We learn about the diversity of human cultures around the world.*

Student Learning Outcomes—After taking this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the origins and development of the human species from a cultural and technological perspective.
2. Compare and contrast variations in social customs unique to individual cultures.
3. Assess the importance of culture to the human species.
4. Analyze and evaluate the various theories set forth that explain the origins and development of human culture.

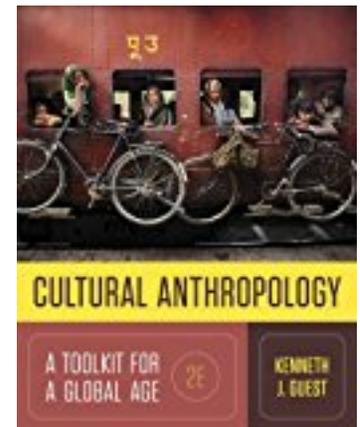
Textbook:

Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age, 2nd Ed. by Kenneth J. Guest. W.W. Norton Publishing, 2016.

The textbook is available for purchase at: LBCC Campus bookstores (LAC & PCC)

Important Links:

Course information can be found by logging in to Canvas at lbcc.instructure.com
Fall 2018 Calendar and Important Dates can be viewed from <https://www.lbcc.edu/academic-calendar>



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

When you have a question always ask!

Q: Do I need to come to class?

A: Yes, you need to be here and attendance is part of your grade. If a student is absent three times (or late 6 times) they may be dropped from the course or receive an automatic 0 participation grade. Please notify me in advance when missing class if possible. If you would like an absence excused, you must have documentation for an academically acceptable reason (illness, jury duty, etc.) Walking in to class late can be very distracting for me and other students, so please arrive on time and plan to stay the entire time.

Q: How do I contact my teacher?

A: When you email me, put your name, class section number and/or class meeting day/time in the subject line. If you do not identify yourself, I will reply asking what section you are in (this is not me trying to be rude, but to answer your question I need to know what class you are in).

Q: Why do you assign homework?

A: The homework is designed to help you get the most out of your reading and prepare you for the exams. I do not assign busy work. In past semesters students score higher on tests when they successfully complete the reading homework.

Q: What will we do in class, and what do I need to do before?

A: Class time will consist of lecture, discussion, and seminar. Be ready to take notes, work with a group, and answer questions. Come to class having already read the textbook material and completed the homework.

Q: What's your cell phone policy?

A: Please keep cell phones silenced and away during class time. They can be very distracting for you, me, and other students during class time and usually interrupt learning.

Q: Can I use my laptop to take notes in class?

A: Preferably not. However, students that insist on using a laptop/tablet in class are asked to sit in the front row to minimize distractions.

Q: Can I eat/drink in class?

A: To prevent a mess, food is not allowed in class. Drinks with lids are okay.

Q: Is the final exam cumulative?

A: Nope! Each exam only covers the material learned immediately before it.

Q: Is there anything else I should know about you and this course?

A: Come to class ready to learn & get the work done and I am a very reasonable teacher. Classroom disruptions (side conversations, cell phone usage, inappropriate commentary) negatively affect everyone's learning process. Our goal is to keep a collegial, open-minded, and respectful classroom culture, and maintaining positivity is part of that.

How Are Grades Calculated?*

Log in to lbcc.instructure.com and click "Grades" to see your scores (updated throughout the semester).

Exams	Weekly Journal	Research Paper	Participation	Grand Total
Exam 1 = 80 pts	15 Assignments @ 15 pts each	Full instructions will be distributed for this paper.	This grade consists of attendance, actively engaging in class, and working with peers.	
Exam 2 = 80 pts				
Final = 80 pts				
Total = 240 pts	Total = 225 pts	Total = 100	Total = 100	665 points

* The overall points in the class are subject to change slightly; if ever in doubt of your overall grade please see me for a grade check.

Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Lecture Title and Description	To-Do
1	8/27 8/29	<p>Title: Anthro—What?!</p> <p>Description: Let's explore what anthropology is and what topics we will discuss this semester.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read: Body Ritual Among the Nacirema PDF (Discuss on Wednesday) ✓ Log in to Canvas and download the Nacirema PDF Article
2	9/3 9/5	<p>Title: Tweet This—It Proves My Point</p> <p>Description: Hashtags, tweets, and twerking all show the nature of culture—it is always changing over time. This class will examine how and why cultural changes take place, and explore how much control YOU have amongst these changes.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Mental maps of reality, globalization, norms, cultural relativism, ethnocentrism, unilineal cultural evolution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No Class Monday, 9/3 ✓ Read Chapter 2: Anthropology and Culture (Before class) ✓ Week 2 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
3	9/10 9/12	<p>Title: The Good, Bad, and Ugly History of Anthropology</p> <p>Description: I would love to tell you that all Anthropology has been excellent, but history shows us otherwise. However, we can isolate some valuable lessons from our discipline's past mistakes.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Nancy Scheper-Hughes; Reflexivity; Research methods; rapport; AAA Ethical Guidelines; Ethnographic fieldwork.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Chapter 3: History and Practice of Anthropology ✓ Week 3 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
4	9/17 9/19	<p>Title: What Does the Rooster Say?</p> <p>Description: Human language is like no other animal communication system (even roosters!). We will examine some shared features across human languages and many of the differences that occur too.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Digital native; Laura Bohannon; Sociolinguistics; Descriptive linguistics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Ch. 4: Language and Communication ✓ Week 4 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).

5	9/24 9/26	<p>Title: <i>"Wait—We Didn't Evolve from Monkeys?!"</i></p> <p>Description: This lesson clarifies some of the most common misunderstandings of evolutionary theory... and no, we did not evolve from monkeys.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Bipedalism; Charles Darwin; Equatorial effect on skin; Creationism, Intelligent design, Evolutionary theory; Fossils.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Ch. 5: Human Origins ✓ Week 5 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
6	10/1 10/3	<p>Exam 1 on Mon. 10/1</p> <p>FILM - Race: The Power of An Illusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Bring a Scantron 882-E and pencil/eraser ✓ Exam 1 Post-Test Self-Assessment (Due Sunday after class).
7	10/8 10/10	<p>Title: Your Professor Addresses His White Privilege</p> <p>Description: Anthropologists explore race differently than many may expect. We will examine some history of racism and look at current issues faced by people of color. Let's also try and understand WHY race/racism is so hard to talk about.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Miscegenation; Hypodescent; Jim Crow Laws; Individual and institutional racism; White supremacy; Racist ideology; Phenotype; White privilege.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Ch. 6: Race and Racism ✓ Week 7 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
8	10/15 10/17	<p>Title: Earning a Living: Yams, Cows, and Cash</p> <p>Description: This lesson explores some ways that cultural groups subsist, or earn a living. The jobs and economy that we have in our culture are often seen as "normal," but by this point in the course you have probably re-thought your definition of normal.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Subsistence patterns; reciprocity, redistribution, market exchange; Transhumance; Neoliberalism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reach Ch. 12: Global Economy ✓ Week 8 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
9	10/22 10/24	<p>Title: "If You Like it, Put a Ring on It"—Or Give Them Cows</p> <p>Description: To celebrate marriage, some cultures exchange rings, while others give cows. Which would you prefer?</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Kinship; Bridewealth; Dowry; fictive kin; Patrilinealism and Matrilinealism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Chapter 10: Kinship & Marriage ✓ Week 10 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).

10	10/29 10/31	<p>Title: Where's Your Other Half?</p> <p>Description: Cultural Norms guide our behavior based on sex, but how can we be creative agents with our gender roles? Furthermore, how can cultural norms change in the case on gender nonconformity?</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Sex; Gender; Gender performance; Hijra; Ann Fausto-Sterling; Intersex; Two-Spirit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Chapter 8: Gender Roles ✓ Week 11 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
11	11/5 11/7	<p>Title: <i>"Don't Make Them Drink the Tea."</i></p> <p>Description: Sexual consent is a topic often not discussed on college campuses. So let's discuss it together.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: DOMA; Yes Means Yes; Transgender; Alfred Kinsey.</p> <p>Exam 2 on Wed. 11/7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Ch. 9: Sexuality ✓ Scantron 882-E and pencil/eraser ✓ Exam 2 Post-Test Self-Assessment (Due Sunday after class).
12	11/12 11/14	<p>Title: Opiates of the Masses?</p> <p>Description: This lesson explores some functions of religion and belief systems. What do you think the purpose of religion is? Spiritual guidance? Answering life's difficult questions? Or dulling the inevitable pain of our lives?</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Symbol; Rite of Passage; Karl Marx; Magic; Pilgrimage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No class Monday, 11/12 ✓ Read Ch. 15: Religion ✓ Week 13 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
13	11/19 11/21	<p>Title: "I've Got the Power!"</p> <p>Description: For anthropologists, politics and power go hand in hand. There are many laws in our culture telling us how to behave. Consider this—Who has the power to create cultural change?</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Band; Tribe; Chiefdom; State; NGO; Social Movement; Framing process; Militarization and constructing soldiers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Ch. 14: Politics ✓ Week 14 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).

14	11/26 11/28	<p>Title: The Kid Sneezed in My Face...</p> <p>Description: What do you need to be healthy? Sleep? Water? Vitamins? What you think you need is likely to be different than someone of another cultural group.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Illness narrative; Illness vs. Disease; Kuru Health; Mayan Childbirth; Ethnopharmacology; Anne Fadiman research; Ethnomedine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Ch. 16: Health and Illness ✓ Week 15 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
15	12/3 12/5	<p>Title: Building Walls: Bridges and Barriers</p> <p>Description: This lesson unpacks some reasons why people migrate around the world—either by force, necessity, or choice. We will also understand some of the reactions to migration in different cultures with specific focus on our own nation.</p> <p>Keywords to know before class: Pushes and pulls; Bridges and barriers; 1st, 1.5, 2nd generation immigrant; Refugee; remittance; Guest worker programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Ch. 13: Migration & Social Class ✓ Week 16 Journal Entry due in Canvas (Due Sunday after class).
16	12/10 12/12	<p>Title: For the Next Time I See You...</p> <p>Description: The class is nearly complete, but it's likely you and I will meet again. What will you remember about cultural anthropology next time I see you?</p> <p>FINAL EXAM, Wed. December 12th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Scantron 882-E and pencil/eraser

Note: The schedule above typically goes unchanged throughout the course, but slight adjustments might be made as necessary.

Reminders for Students

Throughout this semester students will receive reminders through Canvas that will go directly to your personal email. Please check your email is current so you do not miss anything, because it is your responsibility to be aware of all deadlines, announcements, and messages.

For students wanting something more, I will be using [remind.com](https://www.remind.com) this semester to send text message reminders. If you want, sign up for this free service (standard text messaging rates apply) and you will receive text messages from me with important reminders and announcements. Your phone number will be kept confidential, and you can unsubscribe any time (feel free to browse the privacy policy here: <https://www.remind.com/privacy-policy>)

Interested in friendly reminders from me so you stay on top of the workload? If yes, visit this link from your smartphone <https://www.remind.com/join/8b7ebc> you can text message @8b7ebc to 81010.

Important Resources for Students

- ✓ **The LBCC Student Technology Help Desk (STHD)** is available to support all LBCC students! The STHD supports accessing and successfully using Long Beach City College technology. We are staffed with knowledgeable and friendly student team members to provide peer support. We are available via phone, email, and in-person. **Phone:** (562) 938-4250 • **Email:** sthd@lbcc.edu • **In-Person:** Note our schedule at www.lbcc.edu/sthd All assistance provided is FREE for Long Beach City College students. For more information about the Student Technology Help Desk (STHD), including our policies, hours, and services, please visit us at: www.lbcc.edu/sthd
- ✓ **Emergency Response Message:** Contact the Police Department for questions or problems regarding security, lost and found items, thefts or other crimes. The LAC office is located in Building X (south of Lew Davis Street). Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm. After business hours call the General Service number (562) 938-4910 or 911 for an emergency. <http://www.lbcc.edu/CollegeSafety/>
- ✓ **Long Beach City College DSPS:** If you are a student with a disability and you have need of special services, notify me at the beginning of the semester. LBCC is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities, upon request of the student (in a timely fashion) and upon verification of a disability. All course material and videos are universally accessible (ex. Closed Captions). <http://www.lbcc.edu/DSPS/>
- ✓ **LBCC Student Health Center:** Primary Care Services Provided: California State law requires all students to pay a \$19 health care fee per semester. This fee is used to fund on-campus health services and to protect students in the event of an on-campus accident. The following primary care services are FREE: Urgent Care, UTI Testing, Pregnancy Test, STI Testing (LB Department of Public Health), Birth Control Counseling, Stop Smoking/Substance Abuse Education, Over the Counter Medication, Health Care Referrals. <http://www.lbcc.edu/studenthealth/>
- ✓ **LBCC Mental Health Services:** LBCC's Student Health Services and Mental Health Services helps students meet the personal challenges associated with identifying and accomplishing academic, career, and life goals. Counseling is provided by mental health professionals and by graduate interns under the supervision of a licensed clinician. The following services are FREE: Short-Term Counseling (6-8 sessions) for: Mental Health, Anxiety and Panic Disorders, Depression, Eating Disorders, Relationship Issues, Academic Stress, and more. <http://www.lbcc.edu/PsychServices/>
- ✓ **Long Beach City College Counseling:** The Department of Counseling and Student Development believes that it is essential to use your time at Long Beach City College effectively to make your dreams a reality. All of us need to achieve balance in our lives to be successful, and student life poses special challenges of planning deadlines, course-work, job and/or other responsibilities. Make an appointment by calling: (562) 938-4561 or <http://www.lbcc.edu/counseling/index.cfm#academiccounselingcomponent>

- ✓ **Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS):** EOPS is a state funded retention and support program. The mission of EOPS is to identify and assist students who are affected by social, economic, educational, or language disadvantages. Phone: (562) 938-4273, or visit <http://www.lbcc.edu/eops/>
- ✓ **LBCC Veteran Services Office:** Our mission is to provide a caring, supportive environment for veterans and their dependents where we can assist them with the services they need to receive VA benefits, assist with proper enrollment, and receive other resources necessary to become a success at Long Beach City College. Phone:(562) 938-4162, or visit <http://www.lbcc.edu/veterans/>
- ✓ **Sexual Harassment & Sexual Violence (Title IX):** Long Beach City College provides a safe environment that supports learning and encourages all students to pursue their goals and successfully achieve them. This means the College does not tolerate sex discrimination—including sexual harassment and violence—and is committed to empowering all students and employees to take actions to eliminate sex discrimination on campus and to know how to get help if sex discrimination occurs. We take all complaints about sexual harassment and sexual violence very seriously. To learn more about the process to file a complaint, you can contact the Title IX Coordinator, at TitleIX@lbcc.edu You can also learn about the complaint process at <https://www.lbcc.edu/title-ix>
- ✓ **Writing and Reading Success Centers:** Offers assistance in reading, writing, and vocabulary. *Contact information:* LAC – E09L, (562) 938-4520 or PCC – EE206, (562) 938-3991.
- ✓ **Learning & Academic Resources Department/LAC Multidisciplinary Success Center:** Provides free tutoring, computer usage to write papers and for other services, will provide help to students who need assistance using the computers. Enroll in Learn 810 Study Skills Course or Learn 11 – Learning and Study Skills course. Attend a Study Skills workshop, watch videos and talk with teachers about alternate ways to study and learn more in less time. *Contact information:* LAC – L212 (562) 938-4474 or PCC – EE206, (562) 938-3991. Tutoring is free for all students taking at least one class at LBCC. Tutoring is offered at both campuses for a variety of subjects, including math, accounting, economics, physics, geology, chemistry, biology, anatomy, physiology, philosophy, psychology, and foreign languages (including Spanish, Japanese and German) and much more. Don't see your class subject listed? Come talk to us. We may still be able to help! LAC, L-203. PCC, EE-206 (562) 938-4474 LAC in L-203, (562) 938-3991 PCC in EE206; tutoring@lbcc.edu
- ✓ **Student Hours Policy:** I have an open-door policy, meaning you can come visit me in the office any time you need. I will drop whatever I am doing to have a conversation. We can talk about my class, another class, college in general, or just whatever is on your mind that day. I also have light snacks and water bottles in my office (for free) if you are ever on campus but do not have money for a snack/drink between classes. Feel free to come in, no questions asked; just respect this policy for students who are truly in need.

Academic Honesty Policy: Students are expected to abide by ethical standards in preparing and presenting material which demonstrates their level of knowledge and which is used to determine grades. Standards include, but are not limited to the following areas: 1) All work must be your own. This includes: passing off as one's own the ideas or words of another and/or using creative production without crediting the source. You may study together but make sure to use your own words in completing assignments, 2) Be honest in your academic performance. Cheating and plagiarism are a disservice to student, instructor, and classmates. Conduct yourself collegially and your chances of success are significantly increased.

