

Intro to Social and Cultural Anthropology
 Anthropology 120, section 1; Room: HSS 135
 Wednesday nights, 7 to 9:45

Teaching Assistant: Lupita Ochoa
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Required Texts

Ferraro, Gary

2006 *Introduction to Anthropology*. Wadsworth: Belmont, CA

This textbook is bundled together with:

Lee, Richard

2003. *The Dobe Ju/'hoansi*. Wadsworth: Belmont, CA

Aug 30	Introduction to the course Film: <i>Under the Men's Tree</i> (MacDougall, 16 min.; can be viewed in the Media Access Center [3rd floor, library] MAC #92949)
Sept 6	Ferraro, Ch. 1 "What is Anthropology;" Lee, "Appendix A," pp 207-212 Film: <i>Killing Us Softly 3</i> (Kilbourne, 34 min.; AV #89960)
13	Ferraro Ch. 2 "The Concept of Culture;" Lee, Chs. 1 and 2, pp. 1-22 Film: <i>N!ai: Story of a !Kung Woman</i> (Marshall 59 min.; AV# 85688)
20	Ferraro Ch. 7 "Getting Food;" Lee Ch. 3 and 4, pp. 23-58 Film: <i>Fast Food Women</i> (Lewis, 29 min.; AV#85421)
27	Ferraro, Ch. 8 "Economics" Film: <i>Advertising & the End of the World</i> (Jhally, 47 min.; AV# 87342)
Oct 4	Quiz 1; Ferraro Ch. 4 "Growth of Anthropological Theory"
11	Ferraro Ch. 3 "Applied Anthropology;" Film: <i>Aids in the Barrio</i> (Biella, 30 min.)
18	Ferraro Ch. 11 "Sex and Gender;" Lee, Chs. 5 and 6, pp. 59-90. Film: <i>Sincerely Yours</i> (Phakathi, 52 min.; AV #11141)
25	Ferraro Ch. 9 "Marriage and the Family" Film: <i>The Child the Stork Brought Home</i> (Goslinga, 56 min., DER)
Nov 1	First extra credit paper due; Ferraro Ch. 6 "Language" Film: <i>Yeah You Rite!</i> (Alvarez and Kolker, 29 min.; AV #84165)
8	Quiz 2; Lee, Ch. 7, 8, 9 10, pp. 91-150.
15	Ferraro Ch. 14 "Religious Beliefs," and "Baseball Magic" (which is in Ferraro, after p. 430) Film: <i>Yo soy hechicero/I am a Sorcerer</i> (Stanford and Drufovka, 47 min.)
22	Thanksgiving break – no class
29	Ferraro 13 "Social Stratification" Film: <i>Friendly Ghosts</i> (Lindburgh, 14 min.)
Dec 6	Ferraro Ch. 16 "Culture Change, Globalization" Film: <i>Death By Myth</i> (Marshall, 86 min.; AV #66238)
13	Lee, Chs 11, 12 and 13, pp. 151-206.
20	In-class Final Exam; second extra credit paper due (regular classroom, from 7 to 8:30)

Course Goals

Social-cultural anthropology is the study of human groups, subsisting in historical and environmental circumstances only partly of their own making. This course investigates the variety of physical and intellectual adaptations that groups make to their worlds. A general textbook, Gary Ferraro's *Cultural Anthropology: An Applied Perspective*, gives an overview, exploring culture-ways from dozens of different human groups across the globe. Ferraro first introduces how anthropologists - students of culture - have sought, by conducting ethnographic field research, to make sense of different societies over the last hundred years. He then discusses different aspects of cultural adaptation - with chapters on culture theory, applied anthropology, food and subsistence, economics, marriage and kinship, sex and gender, supernatural beliefs, social stratification and culture change. Ferraro's perspective is particularly interesting because he emphasizes the relevance of anthropological knowledge in applied settings. A second textbook, Richard Lee's *The Dobe Jul'hoansi*, is an in-depth ethnography (an anthropologist's analysis) of one culture, the Bushmen or *San* of Southern Africa. Lee's chapters on culture, adaptation to the environment, social organization, religion and culture change, will be read along with the same chapter topics in Ferraro.

From this class, the student will gain an overview of world cultures, the incredible variety of lifestyles, subsistence strategies, and ideas that people have adopted in sustaining and reproducing humanity. An enduring focus of the class will be to explore how the modern world, shaped by global capitalism, has transformed the human universe, and why the study of culture is important even in a time of war.

Copies of the textbooks are on *Reserve* in the basement of the library.

Grading:

2 Extra Credit papers on topic selected from the texts may supplement the grade. An **A** in them will contribute an additional 1/2 grade point each. Two **As** will raise the grade a full grade point. They are due on Oct. 4 and Dec. 20.

2 Quizzes, 30 points each - 60% of grade – Oct. 4 and Nov. 8

Quizzes are multiple choice, with sample questions available on the web. See the class web page for a link. Quiz questions are based on the films as well as the readings. Quizzes are not cumulative. If you miss a quiz for a medical reason, bring a doctor's note and you may write an 8-page paper based on a topic of your choice in one of the chapters to make up the grade. Grading for the quizzes and final are "on the curve."

Final Exam, 40 points - 40% of grade – Dec. 20

The final exam is multiple choice, with many questions from the quizzes as well as new ones based on earlier readings, films and the latest material.

Attendance is mandatory, the entire class period, the entire semester. You must initial the sign-up sheet each week to be considered present. The sheet will be passed out either at the beginning or ending of class. One absence is permitted; the next two subtract a third of a grade point each until 4 absences (including the one permitted) are reached. *The student will be dropped with a grade of F after missing four classes.*

Please DO NOT inform me or Lupita if you are going to miss class. On other subjects, email, telephone, or come by the professor's office – SCI 388 – during office-hours: the phone there is (415)405-0536. For information about your extra credit papers and the pre-quiz study sessions, email TA, Lupita Ochoa at gochoa@sfsu.edu.