Bemidji State University

ANTH 1110: Cultural Anthropology

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: *.*

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 08 - Global Perspective

This course is an introduction to the field of cultural anthropology. After an introduction of the four-field approach to understanding anthropology, the main focus of this course is to undertake a detailed introduction and a holistic understanding of the field of cultural anthropology.

Our goal, in this course is to undertake a critical analysis of the cultures we come from and use this theoretical framework to understand other cultures. To this end, we will study important aspects of the socio-cultural institutions that influence our value systems. We will examine political, social, religious, economic institutions in our culture and understand how these cultural systems influence communication, marriage, sex, gender, ritual, art and expression.

An underlying theme through this course is to undertake an analytical view of the interaction between our own culture and global cultures. Overall, this course should give students a critical perspective on cultural complexities, social diversity and develop a nuanced understanding of global inequities. [Core Curriculum Goal Area 8]

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/20/1997 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Cultural anthropology
2. Elements of culture
3. Family and kinship
4. Social and religious structures
5. Economic and political social structures
6. Comparative global cultures

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. describe and discuss basic theoretical principles of cultural anthropology.
2. explain basic strategies of cultural analysis within their own and global cultures.
3. demonstrate the basics of ethnographic research methods.
4. discuss the ethical concerns in anthropology.
5. develop a comparative understanding of global geo-political realities and inequities.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 08 - Global Perspective

1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
3. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted