ANTHROPOLOGY IN FILM

BROADCAST TITLE: Anthropology in Film
COURSE NUMBER: ANTH 500 S
REFERENCE NUMBER: 200704
CREDIT HOURS: 3 Undergraduate or Graduate Credit Hours
DESCRIPTION: An introduction to world cultures, past and present, and to human nature through the use of classic ethnographic films. Focus is on the development of a cross-cultural understanding of the central problems of human existence, and how different people at different times solve them.
TUITION AND FEES: Undergraduate: $291.00
Graduate: $306.00
ORIENTATION: Friday, January 23, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, January 24, 1:00 p.m.
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Frances Kostarelos
OFFICE HOURS: E2563A, ext. 6986
Hours will be posted by the first week of the Winter term. Students are encouraged to schedule meetings to discuss their concerns about the course during office hours and by appointment.
DISCUSSIONS By appointment
EXAMS: Take home Midterm & Final Exams
For students taking this class at a distance, please refer to the page, "Special Instructions for Distance Learners" contained in this packet.
Required:

*Anthropology in Film: Student Packet*


Recommended:

**VIDEOTAPES:**
26 one-half hour tapes

**VIEWING:**
- GSU Library
- Jones Intercable on Southern Suburbs - Channel 29
- RMI Media Productions
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

COURSE SYLLABUS

Index Number: ANTH 500

Course Title: Anthropology in Film: Anthropology in Film

Credit Hours: 3.0 credit hours

Trimester: Winter 1998

Professor: Frances Kostarelos completed her Ph.D. in Social Anthropology at the University of Chicago. Her professional affiliations include the American Anthropological Association, the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, the Society for Applied Anthropology, and the Society for Urban Anthropology. Her book, Feeling the Spirit: Faith and Hope in a Black Evangelical Storefront Church was published by the University of South Carolina Press in 1996. Her current research and writing are concerned with cosmology and practice among Eastern Orthodox Christians in North America, and race and ethnicity in North America.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to world cultures, past and present, and to human nature through the use of classic ethnographic films. Focus is on the development of a cross-cultural understanding of central problems of human existence and how different people at different times solve them.

EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES:

This course introduces the study of Social Anthropology. Participants will be encouraged to critically examine concepts and methods social anthropologists use to interpret cosmology, collective action, and human organization. The course offers students the opportunity to:

1. Study social theory and anthropological constructs as they relate to the interpretation of collective human development and transactions.

2. Study the dialectical relationship between collective symbols, values, precepts, and economic production in various cultures.

3. Examine the concept of culture as an analytical tool for interpreting human solidarity, adaptation, conflict, and change.

4. Examine the concepts and methods guiding anthropological field research.

5. Develop critical and analytical writing skills.
INTRODUCTION:

Anthropology in Film is a series of 26 half-hour television programs designed to introduce cultural anthropology. These are professionally done films which detail the lives of people in varied cultures. Students in the telecourse will be watching each of these programs, gathering further information and insights from the three required textbooks.

Anthropology in Film: Student Packet


The television programs are enjoyable -- suitable for other members of your family. They were not intended to provide the kind of depth that you will gain by careful and critical recording of required cover texts. In addition, the topics covered often elicit emotional responses in viewers. Expect this, and remember that these feelings were experienced by people who ultimately became the founders of the discipline of anthropology.

VIEWING THE VIDEOTAPES:

The 26 half-hour videotapes are available from:

- GSU Library (on-site viewing or check out)
- Jones Intercable on Southern Suburbs - Channel 29
- RMI Media Productions (see the pages in your student packet)

CONTACTING THE INSTRUCTOR (Submitting Coursework):

Direct all questions concerning assignments and course material to:

Professor Frances Kostarelos  
Division of Liberal Education  
Governors State University  
University Park, IL 60466  
(708) 534-6986

Any questions about the process of taking a telecourse should be directed to the Office of Media Based Instruction - (708) 534-4088.
ASSIGNMENTS:

1. View each of the 26 half-hour videotape programs.


3. The textbooks are extraordinarily detailed, and you are not expected to memorize them. However, you will be expected to watch the programs carefully and integrate the program and the two textbooks as completely as possible to the assignments. Were the course being offered in the classroom, you would be participating three hours each week in school and studying/writing three hours each week at home. Pace yourself accordingly.

Maintain a viewing journal. After you watch a show, reflect on what it addressed. What questions did it bring up in your mind, and how did your questions relate to each of the course questions? What topics do you need to clarify by reading in the textbook? The purpose of keeping the Journal is to keep examples and insights at hand for final essays.

4. Graduate students will also write a critical book review.

GRADING POLICY:

Mid-term = 50 points
Final = 50 points

A = 100 - 90  B = 89 - 77
C = 76 - 65  D = 64 - 49
F = 48 - 0

ESSAYS

1. A mid-term essay is required for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Write an essay in which you first elucidate the nature of culture as it is presented in Haviland's Cultural Anthropology chapter 2, in the Anthropology in Film lesson 2, and video program 2. Second, discuss how this conception of culture is used in analysis of:

   A. human psychology (based on video program 5 and 6, Anthropology in Film Study Guide lessons 5 and 6, and Cultural Anthropology Chapter 5)

   B. patterns of subsistence (based on video program 7 and 8, Anthropology in Film Study Guide lessons 7 and 8, and Cultural Anthropology Chapter 6)
Your essay must be about 1500 words in length and typed.

Format: APA style, Chicago style, or MCA style. See Fulwoiler and Hayakawa, The Blair Handbook, 2nd edition for discussion about these styles and writing in the social sciences.

The essay is due in class no later than February 18, 1998.

2. A final essay is required for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Write an essay in which you use the concept of culture to analyze the problem of natural and economic resource distribution.

Your essay must be based on careful viewing of video programs and Anthropology in Film Study Guide lessons 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, and reading of Cultural Anthropology Chapter 2, 6, 7, 8, and 12.

Your essay must be about 1500 words in length. See format instructions above.

The essay is due in class no later than Friday, April 17, 1998.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSIGNMENT
20 points

First, read carefully and critically Paul Rabinow’s Reflections on Field Work in Morocco, (the text is available in the GSU bookstore). Second, write an essay that considers the problems this text seeks to address regarding participant observation research and the role of the anthropologist while conducting field research. You should view this essay as an opportunity to think about the issues of ethnocentrism, cultural relatively, the nature of culture and the individual, and ethics. You may also include summaries of ethnographic material presented on the films you have viewed for this course as it relates to these issues and this book.

Your essay must be about 1500 words in length and typed. See format instructions above.

Essay is due on Friday, April 17, 1998.

Please send all work to:

Professor Frances Kostarelos
Division of Liberal Studies
College of Arts and Sciences
Governors State University
University Park, Illinois 60466-0975