Course Orientation and Syllabus
Cultural Anthropology (on-line)
College of the Canyons

Summer 2014
ANTHRO-103-10168 Cultural Anthropology
06/10/2014 – 07/11/2014

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*Please contact your instructor if you experience any difficulties getting started with this course.
Welcome to Anthropology 103, Cultural Anthropology (on-line) at College of the canyons. Please read the information below, in order to become familiar with the course and its requirements. Additional information, including assignments, dates of quizzes and examinations, and all deadlines will be found in the course learning modules. This is an on-line course using Blackboard 9. If at any time you have questions about the course please email me at edueric.paison@canyons.edu. I will respond to email communications as quickly as possible, usually the same day as they are received, however depending on when you send me your question/comment, it could take up to 24-48 hours to receive a response. Just be certain to plan ahead in order for me to respond before you miss a due date/time.

The class begins on Monday June 09, 2014 and ends on Friday July 11, 2014. As this class is entirely on-line, there will be no on-campus
meetings. Furthermore, this class will be covering the material presented in a full sixteen-week semester lecture class, thus it is fast paced and requires regular attention to assignments and online participation (several times a week), and the completion of reading assignments (both from the text and from online sources which will be supplied)—as well as the submission of assignments and online discussion boards on a regular basis.

You should allow as much time for studying and class preparation for this class just as you would for a traditional face-to-face class. This means planning ahead to give yourself an adequate amount of time for online participation. Online participation in discussion boards is mandatory and will be worth a large part of your final grade.

The course Blackboard site be available by 8:00 am on the morning of the first day of class. If you are unable to access the course please contact me at eric.paison@canyons.edu Please give the system at least until 9:00 am to become available before panicking and emailing me, just in case there is a delay (in fact, don’t ever panic, just communicate with me as soon as an issue arises… if it can be fixed, I will fix it—whatever “it” is!).

Logging onto Blackboard

http://www.canyons.edu/offices/Distance_Learning/blackboard/login.asp
and then follow the directions given there. Enter your username and password. Once you are logged on, be sure and check your email address in Blackboard. This is part of the initial log on process. Also, be sure to change your password from “Student” as this will not work.

Adds: Any waitlisted or other student wishing to add this class should email me at eric.paison@canyons.edu before the add deadline shown in the College Catalogue. I will send you an add code for registration if there is an opening at the time. Be sure are that you have registered and paid all fees prior to requesting an add code. It also may take one to two days before your Blackboard account is created. Due to the shortened length of this course an its demands, I will only be adding for the first four or five days of class. There is a lot to complete and once the first week is passed, my opinion is that it would be too difficult for students to “catch-up” after that point. I will of course take individual cases into consideration.

About Anthropology

Cultural Anthropology is one of the four subfields of Anthropology, the others being Archaeology, Physical (or Biological) Anthropology, and Anthropological Linguistics. Some anthropologists consider Applied Anthropology to be a fifth subfield. Cultural anthropology is focused on the study of contemporary and historically recent cultures from around the world. The major concepts of Cultural Anthropology will be introduced in this class, along with a brief overview of the greater discipline of Anthropology and its sub-disciplines.

Please keep an open mind and understand that this course is not designed to challenge your
personal belief system. We will be discussing various topics such as religion, politics, and sexuality. The information presented in our course text is designed for you to gain knowledge about many different cultural practices, none presented as better that the other. Therefore, if you in fact have any issues with any of the topics discussed, please contact me and I will attempt to clarify what it is that may be an issue to you. Again, just be open minded towards ideas that you may be unfamiliar and uncomfortable with, and you will gain valuable knowledge about other cultures and your fellow human beings—guaranteed!

**COURSE WEBSITE**

[http://bb.canyons.edu](http://bb.canyons.edu)

Please visit the Blackboard tutorial for a better understanding of what to expect in this course and how to navigate the software. Generally, everything you will need to complete this course successfully will be available for you on the course web site, as well as the distance learning home page.

**Learning Modules**

The learning Modules section of our Blackboard site is our classroom. All assignments will be found there and that is where you will submit them as well. No assignments received by email or other means will be graded unless otherwise stated—all written assignments are to be submitted into the drop-box link provided!

**Course Text**

*Required Text (2):*

Butler, Octavia E.
1993       Parable of the Sower. New York: Grand Central
ISBN: 13 9780446675505

Haviland, William A., and Harald E.L. Prins, Dana Walrath, Bunny Mc Bride
ISBN: 978-0495-81082

*Note: Beware not to order the “International” edition if you choose not to purchase the text on-campus. It is based on British Anthropology, not American Anthropology, which is what we will be studying!*
GENERAL INFORMATION

Remember, this course will cover the same material as taught in 16wk in a traditional, on-campus, face-to-face lecture class. You must have a reliable PC or Mac laptop or desktop computer. Students are discouraged in using smart phones or tablet PCs (e.g. iPhones, iPads, Galaxy tabs, etc…). Software compatibility issues are the biggest concern. It is the “students” responsibility to complete and submit all assignments on time. Issues with software or hardware are not a valid excuse.

Please be certain to update your email address with the one you will be checking regularly. This should be the same address you use for all campus business, such as admissions and records, and financial aid. This course is totally on-line, and therefore a valid email is mandatory—it will be our primary mode of communication!

Internet Explorer is currently the preferred web browser. For word processing a program such as Microsoft Word or files converted to Adobe .pdf format seem to work best when submitting your assignments to the drop box. You will need to know how to attach files to emails and other types of programs for this class.

For any problems regarding online classes and computer related issues, as well as general information visit College of the Canyns Distance Learning Website: http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/.
There are several tutorials located here, along with a lot of other information which will help you succeed in this class. These include Readiness Assessments, Blackboard Tutorial, Distance Learning Computer Tutorials, How to Succeed in Online Courses, Glossary of Terms, and Frequently Asked Questions (see below for links).

Once again, computer “malfunctions” are not acceptable reasons for incomplete assignments or missed deadlines. Back-up computers are available at College of the Canyns TLC lab, student center, and many public libraries. It is recommended that you always keep a back-up of all your work on a flash drive malfunctions, SD card, or CD. This way, if your computer

If you haven’t taken an online course the following websites will be very helpful. If you have taken such classes before the information will provide a good “tune-up.” Success in online classes is dependent upon self-motivation, and regular online interaction with fellow students and the instructor.
Please visit the following helpful links!

Distance Learning Homepage:
http://www.canyons.edu/distancelearning

Counseling Information:
This link provides information for students participating in on-line learning for the first time.
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/COUNS070.asp

Blackboard Tutorial:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/blackboard/Bbtutorial.asp
Readiness Assessments:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/Assessments.asp. There are two assessments, the first how well prepared you are for distance learning, and the second assesses your knowledge of necessary technology.

Distance Learning Computer Tutorials:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/minitutorial.asp

Additional resources found on the Distance Learning website

How to succeed in Online Courses:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/success.asp

Glossary of terms:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/glossary.asp

Frequently Asked Questions:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/OLclasses/FAQs.asp

Student Blackboard Tech Support:
Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 8:00 pm, Friday 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.
Email will be replied to within 24 business hours.

If you are having problems within your course with assignments, tests and the like, please contact your instructor at eric.paison@canyons.edu
Email: bbsupport@canyons.edu
Phone number: 661-362-3344

COURSE WEBSITE (required): http://bb.canyons.edu
Online Etiquette:
It essential that all communications in this course conform to standards of politeness, clarity, and consideration. Please follow the suggestions for online etiquette which may be found at http://www.kent.edu/dl/Technology/Etiquette.cfm

In all of your writing for this course, including email, use proper style. Text message format will not be accepted! For example: I will not accept “This is 4 U.” I will accept “This is for you.” I expect proper capitalization, punctuation, etc. No exceptions will be made. LOL at the end of a sentence will cost you valuable grade points!

Final Suggestions

To be certain that you are on-track:

Be sure that you are properly enrolled and have paid “all” your fees.

Keep this link handy: Class website - http://bb.canyons.edu

Follow the steps on the Blackboard Orientation web page to familiarize yourself with the system and log into the course at the beginning of the semester.

When in doubt, go to the current module page and simply work your way down until you reach the module written assignment. Once the written assignment is complete, the module is complete!

Login information
Username: first initial, last initial, student ID Number. Example: Charles Smith, SID # 0001234 would be CS01234.
Password: student (all lowercase letters. The password is case sensitive). Please change this password.
Be sure and check the Announcements area on the class website regularly for updated information.

Thank you, and have a great semester learning about Cultural Anthropology!

Sincerely,
Professor Paison