ENC 3254 Writing in Social Science  
ANT 3464 Writing in Anthropology

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Office hours MWF 11am

Course Description

In this course you will learn some of the principles that govern researching and writing about foreign cultures and subcultures of our own society. The content of the course is varied and so are the learning strategies—lectures, discussions, and assignments based on readings in a range of genres drawn from the disciplines of sociology, history, anthropology, and psychology on subjects like Plains Indians, Zulu wars, nomadic Arabs, Eskimo, American truck drivers, and Andean silver miners. You will learn by experience how to conduct and write up a research project on a subculture of your own choice. and you will deliver it to the class at semester’s end as a PowerPoint presentation.

At the outset we will quickly review principles of English grammar and the criteria for critical thinking because we write, read, and evaluate only as well as we think. Thus equipped, we will consciously exercise these principles and criteria when writing our assignments. We will reflect on the life and work of an ethnographer, authorial virtues and values, and the powerful influences that perspective and procedure exert on research.

You will enjoy this class, your horizons of cultural knowledge and appreciation will widen, and I will help you to hone the quality of your writing. My best to each of you.
Assignments

1. Ethnography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Ethnographer - Personal Identity and Research</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture Shock</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
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</table>

2. Composition and Grammar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>400</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Writing About Research Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3100</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Totals 6000 1000

Requirements

- Use 12 point and TNR double spaced unless otherwise instructed
- Word counts exclude words in glossaries and reference lists
- Collaboration in groups extends only to brainstorming, sharing sources, and peer reviewing—it does not extend to the actual writing. You write your own work—there are no multiple-author assignments in this course.
- I may change the course by adding or dropping a minor assignment. As this will change the total points available, I will base final grades on a percentage of the possible points earned.
- There is no required textbook.

Notations I use when grading

- UG unsubstantiated generalization
- p passive voice
- UHV unnecessary helping verb
- USB unnecessary speed bump
- W wordy, verbose, fluffy
- ✓ correct / very good point
- RA Read aloud to yourself and you’ll see your sentence doesn’t make sense
- CPN Clumsily paired nouns
### Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>SATISFACTORY</th>
<th>UNSATISFACTORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>73-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>70-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>67-87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>63-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>60-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>&lt;60%</td>
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### Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>SATISFACTORY</th>
<th>UNSATISFACTORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONTENT</td>
<td>Complexity of thought, critical evaluation of data, and synthesis of sources</td>
<td>Central idea(s) unclear, irrelevant, or inadequately discussed, and insufficient sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORGANIZATION AND COHERENCE</td>
<td>Document has a clear thesis statement; paragraphs have identifiable structure including topic sentences, transitions, and logical progression.</td>
<td>Document and paragraphs lack logical organization of ideas, and lack transitions and coherence to guide the reader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARGUMENT AND SUPPORT</td>
<td>Persuasive and confident presentation of ideas strongly supported with evidence. At weak end of satisfactory range, only generalized discussion of ideas, or adequate discussion, but weak support for argument(s)</td>
<td>Only weak generalizations in summary or narrative form that give no critical analysis and therefore little or no support to the main idea or argument</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Policies and Procedures

Participation
As in many areas of human endeavor, practice is indispensable to improving one’s writing to the level expected of professional people. Absences from class will affect your progress negatively. Important here is instruction that I give spontaneously to meet specific needs as they arise. I do not repeat material for the benefit of absentees.

Attendance
If you miss more than six periods during the term, you fail the course. Exempt are absences for university-sponsored events like athletics and band. I will accept a signed doctor’s note explaining your absence, and a note from a minister in the event of a funeral. Telling me in advance that you will be absent on a given date does not necessarily qualify as an excused absence, as you need my permission. Arriving 10 minutes or more after class has started three times constitutes one absence. If you miss a class, don’t email me asking what you missed—ask a classmate.

Academic Honesty
The academic life of students at the University of Florida is governed by the UF Student Honor Code. See the entire code here: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/. You are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the entire code, which exhorts students to consistent honesty in all matters academic. Academic dishonesty
includes giving and receiving unauthorized aid in completing assignments, cheating on quizzes, plagiarism, misrepresentation, bribery, citing phony sources, and falsifying quotations. The code defines these violations in detail.

**Plagiarism.** A student must not represent as the student’s own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:
1. Stealing, misquoting, insufficiently paraphrasing, or patch-writing.
2. Self-plagiarism, which is the reuse of the student’s own submitted work, or the simultaneous submission of the student’s own work, without the full and clear acknowledgment and permission of the faculty to whom it is submitted.
3. Submitting materials from any source without proper attribution.
4. Submitting a document, assignment, or material that, in whole or in part, is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment the student did not author.

Students’ work is tested for originality against databases accessed by anti-plagiarism sites to which the university subscribes. Negative reports from such sites constitute proof of plagiarism. Stealing other people’s work and claiming it as one’s own as a strategy for doing the least amount of work to get the highest possible grade is not a game; it constitutes failure to comply with UF’s clearly stated scholarly requirements. UF views this seriously, as it undermines the mission and reputation of the university. Students in violation receive a zero for the assignment, and a course grade penalty up to a failing grade, and I immediately notify the Dean of Students.

**General Education Outcomes**

Students must pass this course with a “C” or better to satisfy the General Education requirement for Composition (C). Earning general education composition credit, you will:

- Learn different writing styles, approaches, and formats and successfully adapt writing to different audiences, purposes, and contexts; effectively revise and edit their own writing and the writing of others
- Demonstrate forms of effective writing (analyses, arguments, and proposals)
- Organize complex arguments in writing, using thesis statements, claims, and evidence
- Argue logically and analyze their own writing and the writing of others for errors of logic
- Write clearly and concisely consistent with the conventions of standard written English
- Use thesis sentences, claims, evidence, and logic in arguments.

The University Writing Requirement (UWR) helps students develop fluency in writing and use writing to facilitate learning. To receive UWR credit (E6), the CLAS requires you to receive a grade of “C” or better for the course, and write papers totaling a minimum of 6,000 words. I will evaluate and comment on assignments with respect to content, organization and coherence, argument and support, style, clarity, grammar, punctuation, and mechanics.

**Classroom Discipline**

I do not permit texting in class or going online during lectures as it can distract fellow classmates.
and is a display of bad manners unbecoming professional people. We keep our phones out of sight and our laptops closed during lectures except when we are doing projects in groups. We will abide by UF’s prohibition on food and drink in classrooms.

**Punctuality with Work**
You are responsible for submitting assignments at the beginning of class on the due date. I may accept late work if you bring an explicitly explanatory note from your doctor. If the due date for an assignment on Canvas has closed, you cannot email your assignment to me. Bring a hard copy to class and incur a late penalty of 10% if I accept it. Last-minute failure of technology is always unacceptable as an excuse for late or shoddy work.

**Students with Disabilities**
UF complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office gives the student documentation for the instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Course Evaluations**
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

**Office Hours**
My office hours are MWF 11am and by appointment in 2215 Turlington. Always first make an appointment with me to ensure that I will be in my office. If you email me requesting an appointment, wait until you hear back from me. Do not turn up unannounced expecting me to be present if I have not confirmed the appointment with you.