



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

**Te Kura Mahinga Tangata**

**Cultural Anthropology**

**ANTH 102**

**Social and Cultural Diversity**

**20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 2 2014**

### **Important dates**

**Trimester dates:** 14 July to 16 November 2014

**Teaching dates:** 14 July to 17 October 2014

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 August to 7 September 2014

**Study week:** 20–24 October 2014

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 24 October to 15 November 2014

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

## **Class times and locations**

**Lectures:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 3:10-4:00pm KKL303

**Tutorials:** There will be 9 tutorials for this course. Please register in a tutorial using S-Cubed; instructions will be posted on Blackboard. Once you have committed to a particular tutorial time you cannot change unless discussed with the course coordinator.

## **Names and contact details**

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Office hours: By appointment

## **Communication of additional information**

Any additional course information will be posted on Blackboard and announced at tutorials. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

## **Prescription**

This course introduces students to the study of social and cultural diversity by exploring culture and its role in our lives. Topics include ritual, symbolism, the body, exchange, belief, inequality, globalisation, kinship, gender and class. Case studies are drawn from New Zealand, the Pacific, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

## **Course content**

### **Week 1: Introduction:**

Core Concepts: What is anthropology? What are the origins of the discipline? What is *culture*?  
How do anthropologists study culture?

### **Weeks 2 and 3: Ritual and Symbolism:**

Ritual: What is ritual? Why is ritual powerful? What is a rite of passage and what does 'liminality' mean?

Symbolism and the Body: How is culture embodied? How does the body become a symbol of society? How do our bodily rituals reflect and enable our cultural ideals and social systems?

Gender and Ritual -- Masculinity and Initiation Rites: How does ritual transform biological changes such as birth, puberty, reproduction and death into meaningful ways of belonging to social groups? How do such rituals create both social solidarity and social distinctions?

### **Weeks 4 and 5: Kinship:**

Marriage -- Basic concepts and diverse forms: Can we define marriage? What different forms does it take? Why do some cultures think that an ideal marriage has more than two spouses?

Relations of blood and love: What is *descent*? Are 'blood ties' universally the same? Are biological ties and love important aspects of kinship for all cultures?

### **Weeks 6 and 7: Religion and the Supernatural:**

What is religion? How can we compare forms of religion? What role does religion play in social change?

### **Weeks 8 and 9: Gifts and Exchange**

Gift Exchange, Power and Prestige: Why do people give gifts? Do people build social connections or enhance social difference through gift exchange and redistribution?

Global Markets, Class and Inequality: What sort of exchange relationships and power relations emerge with a market economy? Are these relationships really exploitative, as Marx argued? And what happens to capitalist exchange relationships when they go global?

### **Weeks 10 and 11: Art and Aesthetics**

What is art? How does art have agency? How does architecture create social relations? Is art for tourists authentic? How has globalisation changed the meaning of indigenous art?

### **Week 12: Conclusion**

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. have a functional understanding of key concepts in anthropology.
2. have a knowledge of a range of ethnographic material illustrating social and cultural diversity.
3. have the ability to draw connections between ethnography and theoretical concepts and among ethnographic cases.
4. have the skills in critical reading, bibliographic research and citation, and the clear presentation of ideas, in oral and written form.

## Teaching format

This course involves three one hour lectures a week and 9 one hour tutorial sessions.

Participation in tutorials is an essential part of this course. Tutorials will *not* be a summary of reading or review of the lectures, but discussions and activities intended to help you: learn to use the concepts presented to analyse both ethnographic materials and your own experience; understand the principals of holism and comparison and apply these to understanding social and cultural diversity; develop skills in analysing and synthesising data and concepts from various sources; and improve your critical reading and your ability to put your ideas into words.

*To gain full value from the course you should attend all lectures and tutorials.*

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. attend at minimum 7 of the 9 tutorials,
2. submit the two assignments, and
3. sit the final exam.

## Workload

The expectations are that students will work 10 hours per point, therefore a 20-point course equates to 200 hours over the trimester. This includes scheduled contact time, individual or group study, and work on assessment tasks.

The design of the course is based upon an assumption that students will need to spend a minimum of 13 hours a week. This workload is in accordance with the guidelines put forward by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Culture and Ethnography Essay (max. 1200 words)	25%	1, 2,3,4	Friday, 8 August
2	Cultural Object Assignment (max. 1200 words)	25%	1,2,3,4	Friday, 26 September
3	Final examination (2 hours)	50%	1,2,3,4	Date to be advised

### **Assessment One**

#### ***Culture and Ethnography Essay***

***Assignment weighting: 25%***

***Word Limit:*** 1200 words.

***Due:*** 4pm, Friday, 8 August 2014, SACS Essay Box, Level 9, Murphy Building

An assignment information sheet will be available on blackboard from the first week of the trimester.

### **Assessment Two**

#### ***Cultural Object Assignment***

***Assignment weighting: 25%***

***Word Limit:*** 1200 words

***Due:*** 4pm, Friday, 26 September 2014, SACS Essay Box, Level 9, Murphy Building

An assignment information sheet will be available on blackboard from the first week of the trimester.

### **Assessment Three**

#### ***Final Exam***

***Assignment weighting: 50%***

A final 2-hour exam will be held between 24 October and 15 November, date to be advised.

The examination will be designed to enable evaluation of your knowledge and understanding of the course material in relation to the aims and objectives outlined above. More information will be available closer to the exam during lectures, tutorials and on Blackboard. The exam will consist of short answer and multiple-choice questions. It will cover all material from lectures, readings, tutorials, and AV presentations. To do well you will need to demonstrate proficiency with both theory and ethnography.

## **Submission and return of work**

Assessments one and two must be submitted via *Turnitin* on Blackboard before placing it into the Essay Box on Level 9, Murphy Building on the due date. This is to ensure that all work is properly recorded when submitted, and that you are credited with timely submission. At 4 pm every day the box will be emptied, the assignments date-stamped and recorded, then handed over to the appropriate markers. Unless you have followed this procedure the Programme will accept no responsibility for pieces of written work claimed to have been handed in.

Note: ***You must keep a copy of every written assignment.***

All written work submitted for assessment in ANTH 102 must have a School Assignment Cover Sheet. A sample is included at the end of this Course Outline. Further copies can be found on the reception counter at the Administration Office, and on the Assignment Box, on level 9 of Murphy Building.

Assignments will be returned at tutorials. Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9<sup>th</sup> floor reception desk, between **2.00 and 4.00 pm** only from Monday to Friday.

## **Extensions and penalties**

### **Extensions**

Extensions are possible if you are having serious difficulties in completing your work. You must contact the course coordinator before the due date if you think you will need an extension. Please note that you might be asked for written justification, e.g., a medical certificate, death notice, or letter from a counsellor.

### **Penalties**

Penalties will apply for lateness in presenting assignments. 5% of the value of the assignment will be deducted from the piece of work per day (e.g., on a 20 mark assignment you would lose 1 mark for each late day).

Assessment will not be accepted for marking or for receiving comments more than seven days after the due date or seven days after an approved extension date. To meet mandatory course requirements work must still be submitted.

## **Practicum/placement/field trip/internship arrangements**

There are no other arrangements for this course.

### **Set texts**

Each student should buy the prepared book of Student Notes from vicbooks, since ready access to and familiarity with its contents will be required throughout the course. You can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or visit vicbooks, ground floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Campus.

### **Class representative**

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name(s) and contact details:
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### **Student feedback**

Student evaluations are a valued source of feedback and will be completed in the second half of the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## School Contact Information

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