



American Life and Culture *ANTH180 / CES 180*

Bellevue College, Winter 2012



Welcome to American Life and Culture

Anthropology is the holistic study of our species, *Homo sapiens*. Anthropologists combine methods, theories, and data from natural sciences, social sciences, and the humanities to examine the human experience in the broadest framework possible. Anthropology courses explore human biology, origins, prehistory, cultural diversity, and religious experience. This class focuses on American Life and Culture!

Professor: Christine Dixon
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Office Hours: M / W 12:30-1:30pm D200D
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Welcome to Anthropology!

Anthropologists are scientists who study both biological and cultural characteristics of human beings, both modern and ancient. We travel far and wide and generations back in time in order to understand where we came from, where we are now, and where we are going. As a comparative science, anthropologists also study the traditions and customs of our own society. This course will offer a new perspective of your own culture, and a deeper understanding of human diversity!

Course Description

This course provides a view of American culture from the broad lens of anthropology. Topics include American popular culture, the historical background to American social and cultural values, and the effect of economic and political changes in American life. The course situates American culture and society in the context of a globalized world. Same as AMST 180. Either ANTH 180 or AMST 180 may be taken for credit, not both.

At the conclusion of Anth 180 you should be able to:

1. Identify the various components of the culture concept and how this concept applies to Americans.
2. Analyze contemporary anthropological views on ethnicity and nationalism, economic power and politics, and social characteristics (e.g., family, gender, etc.), as these views pertain to American culture and history.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the complex history of multicultural America, with an emphasis on immigration and inequality.
4. Appreciate insights about American culture from a foreign perspective of the USA.
5. Situate American culture and society in the context of a globalized world and with respect to major global issues.

How Course Outcomes will be Met

Outcomes will be addressed through lectures, readings, discussions, assignments, and exams.

Required Textbook

Reflecting on America: Anthropological Views of U.S. Culture (2008: Pearson)

Edited by Clare L. Boulanger

ISBN: 978-0-205-48143-9

Additional Required Articles will be posted on MyBC.

Course Requirements

The Syllabus You are required to review this syllabus and the attached Procedures and Guidelines of the Social Science Division. Enrollment in the course constitutes an agreement to abide by the policies set forth in these items.

Attendance Attendance is required and will be taken at every class. If you are absent for any class, it is your responsibility to obtain class material for that day. Attendance at *every* class is important and will be noted.

Active Participation Active Participation will be expected of each of you. Discussion of textbook chapters will be an important part of class participation. You should read all material for each class ahead of time in preparation for constructive participation. Participation figures importantly in borderline final grades. (Attend & Partic: 25 points)

Class Activities and Homework To enhance your learning and experience at BC, the class will participate in online learning discussions, in-class activities, and homework. These will vary in format. When appropriate you are expected to provide thoughtful, respectful comments that are based on your educated opinion from course materials (125 points total).

Test Reviews To enhance your learning and experience at BC, the class will participate in team reviews of instructional materials immediately before each exam, from 10:30 – 11:00 am. In order to productively contribute to your team, you must come on time and be prepared (e.g., knowledge of textbook material, comprehension of lecture notes, etc.).

Tests A major part of your course grade will be derived from three tests. The first two tests are each worth 100 points and the final exam is worth 150 points (total = 350 points). The Final Exam will be cumulative. Please show up prepared and on time. Questions are derived from assigned readings, class lectures, videos, exercises, handouts, discussions, and any other instructional material presented in class. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated (see below). Conduct during tests will comply with the College policy for academic honesty. (350 points).

Final Project In pairs you will conduct research on a social issue or problem relevant to our class material and present your findings to the class in a presentation and on a professional poster. Please see the project assignment sheet for more details. (125 points).

GRADING

Grades will be calculated using points. You can earn up to points during the quarter, distributed as follows

Class Requirement	Value
Attendance and Partic.	25 points
Homework and Activities	125 points
Final Project	150 points
2 Tests and Final	350 points
Total Points	650 points

Grading Final Grade	Corresponding Point Value
A = 92-100%	595 - 650 points
A- = 90-91%	582 - 594 points
B+ = 88-89%	569 - 581 points
B = 82-87%	530 - 568 points
B- = 80-81%	517 - 529 points
C+ = 78-79%	504 - 516 points
C = 72-77%	465 - 503 points
C- = 70-71%	452 - 464 points
D+ = 68-69%	439 - 451 points
D = 50%-67%	322 - 438 points
F = <50%	0-321 points

IMPORTANT CLASS POLICIES

→ **Make-up exams (including the final) are only offered at the discretion of the professor and must be arranged at least one week before the originally scheduled test date. In the case of a conflicting final exam schedule, you must notify your professor at least 2 weeks prior to the exam.**

→ **Assignments are to be turned in In-Class and will NOT be accepted via email. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

→ **Computers are not permitted in the classroom without the permission of your instructor.**

Final Grades:

Students must complete all course requirements within the quarter in which the student enrolled before a final course grade will be issued. "Official grades are available about 1 week after the quarter ends.

Several ways to obtain your grades are:

1. BCC website: www.bellevuecollege.edu
2. Kiosk in the Student Services Building or the Campus Information Center
3. Mail: leave a self-addressed stamped envelope at the Student Service Center, with your SID #.
4. In person at the Student Service Center."

Tentative Course Schedule

*The instructor reserves the right to modify any part of the course or syllabus as the classroom situation demands. PLEASE SEE MyBC Website for the **Reading Assignment Calendar** and class schedule.

WEEK	MONDAY	WEDNESDAY
1		4 Welcome to Anth.
2	9 Intro. to Anth	11 American Culture (Ch 1)
3	16 Holiday	18 Myth and Ritual (Origins)
4	23 Enculturation and Language	25 Enculturation and Sports Culture
5	30 TEST 1	Feb 1 Food, Sustainability, and Nature
6	6 Economy and Consumption	8 Gender
7	13 Gender	15 Race
8	20 Holiday	22 Race
9	27 TEST 2	29 Applied: Medicine and Healthcare
10	5 Applied: Military and Education	7 Globalization and Dangerous Assumptions of American Culture
11	12 Presentations	14 Presentations
12	19 FINALS WEEK	21 Final Exam 9:30-11:20am

A Note about Course Content

Since anthropologists examine just about every aspect of the social world, we talk about provocative material. Please be advised that we will likely explore controversial topics, they will always be framed within an academic context. When we find ourselves in a space outside of our comfort zone, it provides a great example of our own cultural constructs and is a powerful opportunity for learning. You will be responsible for any course material you miss if you choose not to participate. If you have any questions or concerns about content or climate, feel free to speak with me about it right away.

Classroom Learning Atmosphere: General Class Conduct

It is important to make sure that the classroom environment is as conducive to scholarship as possible. You are encouraged to participate in discussions of the theories and concepts that will be presented to the class, as long as they pertain to class material. You are also encouraged to learn the names of your fellow students and to be respectful of them. **However, side comments directed to fellow students contribute to distractions, not to learning, and will not be tolerated.** Please review BC's policy in the Student Handbook as well as the policies for this class. All infractions of policies will be reported to the Dean of Student Services, with the recommendation that the Dean take further action.

Attendance and Punctuality

This class is based on the assumption that you will be attending regularly, participate fully, and support the learning environment for your fellow students. I will take attendance once at every class session at the beginning of the class. If you are absent, **you** are responsible for obtaining lecture notes from fellow students and to gain information regarding announcements or changes to the schedule that you may have missed. Studies have shown that the students who attend class regularly also achieve better grades and a greater comprehension of course content. Please **be on time** for class. If circumstances prevent you from arriving on time, please take a seat **closest to the door** to reduce the number of students who are distracted by your late arrival. Students sometimes encounter circumstances in which they have to leave before the end of class. Once again, this creates a distraction for others. If you should have to leave early, **please arrange to sit close to the door, inform the instructor of your need to leave early, and do not re-enter the room once you have left.**

Technology in the Classroom

Electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, etc.) are a convenience, not a right. They create a distraction for your fellow students **Cell phones are to be turned OFF while in a classroom.** **If you have a need to use a laptop computer for note-taking, please see me immediately.**

Snow Days or other Non-Scheduled Class Cancellations

The possibility is always there that class will be cancelled unexpectedly. In the case that class is cancelled, I will post information on MyBC. This will include lecture material, assignments and handouts. It is your responsibility to check this in a timely manner and before the next class session.

Bellevue College Winter Finals Schedule

Daily or T/Th or T/Th/F ONLY:	Exam Day	Exam Time	M/W or M/W/F Only:	Exam Day	Exam Time
7:30	T, 3/20	7:30-9:20	7:30, 7:50 or 8:30	W, 3/21	7:30-9:20
7:50 or 8:30	Th, 3/22	7:30-9:20	9:30, 10:10 or 10:30	W, 3/21	9:30-11:20
9:30	T, 3/20	9:30-11:20	11:30 or 12:30	W, 3/21	11:30 -1:20
10:10 or 10:30	Th, 3/22	9:30-11:20	1:30 or 2:30	W, 3/21	1:30-3:20
11:30	T, 3/20	11:30 -1:20	3:00, 3:30 or 4:30	W, 3/21	3:30-5:20
12:30	Th, 3/22	11:30 -1:20			
1:30	T, 3/20	1:30-3:20			
2:30 or 3:00	Th, 3/22	1:30-3:20			
3:30	T, 3/20	3:30-5:20			
4:30	Th, 3/22	3:30-5:20			

Bellevue College Email and access to MyBC

Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC

- For this course you will need access to MYBC and your BC email. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam>
- We will utilize MyBC as a means of online communication for this course.

Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. This classroom is a SafeSpace. Please check this website for further information: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

Students with Disabilities

If you have medical information to share with me in the event of an emergency, please contact me via email or come to see me during office hours. Emergency preparedness is important! If you need course modifications, adaptations, or accommodations because of a disability, I can refer you to our Disability Resource Center (DRC). If you prefer, you may contact them directly by going to B132 or by calling 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110. Information is also available on their website at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>

Preventing Plagiarism

Preventing Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty occurring when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- a. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- b. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- c. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in his/her own words and/or doesn't document his/her source.
- d. You turn in work created by another person.
- e. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.
- f. Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

For all of your written work: Submit proofread work **only**. Work not proofread will be returned **once** for a rewrite, expected to be handed in within 48 hours. If you need help with your writing, please make use of the following student support services:

- Academic Success Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/academicsuccess/>
- Academic Tutoring Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/tutoring/>
- TRiO Student Support Services: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/TRiO/>
- Writing Lab @ BCC: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/>

What Other Anthropology Courses Are Offered at Bellevue College?

There is a general introductory class (Survey of Anthropology) which highlights all four sub-disciplines of anthropology. BC offers in-depth courses in Anthropology which I encourage you to take: archaeology (Great Discoveries in Archaeology; Archaeology; Ancient North America; Incas & Their Ancestors; Aztecs, Mayas, & Their Ancestors), biological anthropology (Biological Anthropology; Bioanthropology with Lab; Cross-cultural Medicine; Forensic Anthropology), cultural anthropology (Food, Drink, & Culture; American Life & Culture; Cultural Anthropology; Sex, Gender, & Culture; Environment & Culture; REEL Culture; Religion & Culture) and linguistics (Language, Culture, & Society). Check BC's Course Catalogue for a full description of each course. We will also be offering several special topics courses spanning the discipline. Topics may include Primatology, Experimental Archaeology, Anthropology of Immigration and Scandinavian Culture. There are no prerequisites for any of these courses and they fulfill degree requirements. Different formats (on campus, on-line, hybrid) are offered. Stop by and visit the Social Science Advisor, Deanne Eschbach, in Room D110, for free professional planning and advising, or contact Anthropology Prof. Tony Tessandori (tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu) to learn more about majoring in anthropology.

Tentative Spring Schedule

		On Campus	Online
ANTH& 100	Survey of Anthropology	X	X
ANTH 180	American Life and Culture	X	X
ANTH 106	Great Discoveries in Archaeology	X	
ANTH& 204	Archaeology*	X	X
ANTH& 205	Biological Anthropology+		X
ANTH& 206	Cultural Anthropology*	X	X
ANTH 208	Language, Culture and ,Society*	X	X
ANTH& 215	Biological Anthropology w Lab+	X	X
ANTH& 234	Religion & Culture		X
ANTH& 236	Forensic Anthropology	X	X

Concentration in Anthropology

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EARNING A CONCENTRATION IN ANTHROPOLOGY, ALONG WITH YOUR DEGREE?

In addition to earning an AAS degree, you can take 20 or 21 credits of required courses to earn a concentration in Anthropology. These four courses provide the basic foundation of Anthropology and represent the 4-field approach of American Anthropology. All of them are offered on campus and on-line.

ANTH& 204 – Archaeology (5 credits of Social Science)

ANTH 208 – Language, Culture, & Society (5 credits of Humanities or Social Science)

ANTH& 206 – Cultural Anthropology (5 credits of Social Science)

ANTH& 215 – Bioanthropology with Lab (6 credit of Lab Science) **or** ANTH& 205 – Biological Anthropology (5 credit of natural science)

Society of Student Anthropologists at Bellevue College

Anthropologists can and do study just about anything. In this class, you will learn about some of the usual topics...Join the club and find out about the other stuff. The SOCIETY of STUDENT ANTHROPOLOGISTS at BELLEVUE COLLEGE mission is to explore topics that other groups do not cover. You can expect to investigate topics from Bigfoot to indigenous hunting techniques and everything else in between. We also continually contribute to a Heifer International Fund. Please contact Anthropology Professor Tony Tessandori, club advisor, if you are interested in joining other budding anthropologists in their pursuit of understanding humanity. (tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu) ALSO see our Facebook page [Society of Student Anthropologists at BC](#).

Bellevue College Resources

EXPLORE THE LMC! The Library Media Center is at your fingertips! I *strongly* encourage you to visit the LMC at least this quarter, but you can also access it via the web. Talk to a Reference Librarian at the Library (D-126), by calling (425) 564-6161, or by email: reference@bellevuecollege.edu.

- **Main Library Media Center:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/>
- **For the LMC online catalog:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/catalogs.html>
- **For article databases:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/periodicals.html>

Student Eco-Conduct

Student Eco-Conduct: Students are expected to make decisions that have the smallest environmental impact while maximizing student learning. This includes:

- *Think before printing documents for this class, adjust the printable margins, print double sided and reuse any paper as scratch paper.
- *Turn in papers electronically or when necessary turn in printed assignments double sided, single spaced and using small margins of at least .75 inches.
- *Recycle all paper, bottles and cans.
- *Adjust the power settings on your computer so the monitor and CPU will sleep after 20 minutes of inactivity. Turn off all electronic devices such as computers and printers, when you are finished with them.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Winter 2011

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the professor or classmates. The professor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, a professor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F")

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Professors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the professor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the professor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Professors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each professor during the first week of the quarter. Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the professor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC website.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the professor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the professor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the professor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*