ANTH 220.01: Comparative Social Organization

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ANTHROPOLOGY 220:
COMPARATIVE SOCIAL ORGANIZATION
FALL 2002
Tue/Thur * 8:10-9:30am * Social Sciences 352

INSTRUCTOR: Richard A. Sattler
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OFFICE: SS 232
OFFICE HOURS: T 1:30-2:30pm
R 10:00-11:00am

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides an in-depth introduction to sociocultural anthropology, with an emphasis on social
organization. We will examine variations in marriage, family, and kinship; economic and political systems;
religious beliefs and practices; and social hierarchies and stratification. We will also examine the ways that
anthropologists study and interpret cultural diversity, drawing on examples from both Western and, more
commonly, non-Western societies. There are no prerequisites. This course is required for anthropology majors
and minors and fulfills the general education social science distribution requirement. The course is lecture
based with opportunities for discussion of lecture and films.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. Students will gain an appreciation of the diversity and richness of human social and cultural systems.
2. Students will acquire an understanding of the ways in which anthropologists study societies and current
issues and approaches.
3. Students will increase their knowledge of the nature, component elements, and interconnections of social and
cultural systems.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Examinations: There will four short 100-point exams, each consisting of 10 short answer questions. None of
the exams will be comprehensive. Students will need to bring a bluebook (available in the bookstore) to
class on the day of the exam.
Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes and are personally responsible for all material covered
in class. Tests cover both readings and classroom presentations equally. There may be pop quizzes.
Make-Ups: Students are expected to do all work on the scheduled date listed in the syllabus. Make-ups will
only be given in the case of unavoidable absences. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor
as soon as possible in such cases and to arrange for a make-up.
Academic Honesty: The University of Montana expects students to be academically honest. Cheating and
plagiarism are serious offences carrying serious penalties under the student code. Consult the “Academic
Policies and Procedures” section of the current University catalog for details regarding penalties.
Access: This syllabus, along with study guides, overheads, announcements, etc., will be available on-line
through the university library’s ERes (electronic reserve) system at: http://eres.lib.umt.edu. Look under the
course number and instructor’s name to find this material. The password is: ANTH220.

Required Readings:
Haviland, William A., Robert J. Gordon, and Luis A. Vivanco, eds. Talking About People: Readings in
**ANTH 220: COMPARATIVE SOCIAL ORGANIZATION**

**PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE**

**WEEK 1**  
**INTRODUCTION**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 1-2.  

**Sep 2**  
**WEEK 2**  
**THEORY AND PRACTICE**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 3.  
Haviland, *et al.*, ch. 2.

**WEEK 3**  
**THE SOCIAL MATRIX**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 4-5.  
Haviland, *et al.*, ch. 9.

**WEEK 4**  
**THE PERSON**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 6.  
Haviland, *et al.*, ch. 4.

**Sep 26**  
**WEEK 5**  
**KINSHIP & MARRIAGE**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 7-8.  

**WEEK 6**  
**GENDER & AGE**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 9.  
Haviland, *et al.*, ch. 7.

**WEEK 7**  
**EQUALITY & INEQUALITY**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 10.

**WEEK 8**  
**POLITICS**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 11.  
Haviland, *et al.*, ch. 10.

**Oct 22**  
**WEEK 9**  
**SUBSISTENCE & ECOLOGY**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 13.  
Haviland, *et al.*, ch. 5.

**WEEK 10**  
**ECONOMICS**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 12.  

**Nov. 5**  
**WEEK 11**  
**RELIGION & WORLDVIEW**  
**READINGS:**  

**WEEK 12**  
**Nov 26**  
**THIRD**  
**Nov 28-30**  
**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

**WEEK 13**  
**UNITY & DIVERSITY**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 16.  

**WEEK 14**  
**ETHNICITY & NATIONALISM**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 17-18.

**WEEK 15**  
**GLOBALISM & MODERNITY**  
**READINGS:**  
Eriksen, ch. 19.  

**Dec 19 (Thu) - 10:10pm**  
**FINAL EXAM**