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 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  
PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK 1  INTRODUCTION  
            Haviland, et al., ch. 1.

Sep 2  LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

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  FIRST EXAM

WEEK 5  KINSHIP & MARRIAGE 
READINGS: Eriksen, ch. 7-8.  
            Haviland, et al., ch. 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  MIDTERM EXAM

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

WEEK 10  ECONOMICS 
READINGS: Eriksen, ch. 12.  
            Haviland, et al., ch. 6.

Nov 5  ELECTION DAY HOLIDAY

WEEK 11  RELIGION & WORLDVIEW 
            Haviland, et al., ch. 3, 11.

WEEK 12  
Nov 26  THIRD 
Nov 28-30  THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

WEEK 13  UNITY & DIVERSITY 
READINGS: Eriksen, ch. 16.  
            Haviland, et al., ch. 12.

WEEK 14  ETHNICITY & NATIONALISM 

WEEK 15  GLOBALISM & MODERNITY 
READINGS: Eriksen, ch. 19.  
            Haviland, et al., ch. 13.

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