

ANTH 233
Ethnographic Studies
Tuesdays 12:45-2:00pm & Thursdays, 11:15am-12:30pm, NH 156
Winter 2017

Instructor: Dr. Christina Holmes

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Office Hours: Monday 10:30-11:30am, 1-2pm, Tuesday 10am-12noon; Wednesday 1-2 pm; Thursday 1-2pm; Other times by appointment

Course Content: This course explores the rich cultural diversity of human societies around the globe through an ethnographic lens. Using a variety of ethnographic works, students will analyse how anthropologists have represented this diversity. Course material will include classic and current texts about 'other' and 'own' societies, the representation of Indigenous peoples, ethnographic film, as well as portrayals of culture in popular media.

Evaluation:

Midterm Examination:	20%
Final Examination:	30%
Book Club Assignments & Ethnography Review Blog	40%
Participation Assignments	10%

Total: 100%

Moodle site: Go to the StFX Moodle Login Page at <https://moodle.stfx.ca/login/index.php>. Log in using your StFX username and password. Click on the Anth 112.22 link to access our Moodle site. We will use Moodle throughout this course, so make sure you can connect. If you have problems, talk to me or to TSG.

All detailed assignment instructions, weekly reading quizzes, course powerpoints and other features will be on Moodle!

Exams: will include a mixture of multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and short essay questions.

Assignments:

Participation assignments (10%): This will be made up from exercises done in class (13 in total, 1/week), which may include one minute essays, concept maps, mini-assignments, etc. These exercises will be graded for participation, rather than content, as they are intended to reward class participation. They will also direct learning so that students have practice with skills that will be evaluated in assignments and the final exam. **Make ups will not be allowed, except under exceptional circumstances.** However, a student only needs to complete 12/13 in order to receive full marks.

Book Club Assignments & Blog (40%): Students will be divided into 6 book clubs of 6-7 students on the 5 ethnographies. These assignments will revolve around reading the book club ethnography (see Textbooks section) & the ethnography by Hugh Brody (see Textbooks section). This grade will be further broken down into the following categories:

20% - An individual blog post written by each student to review the book club ethnography (Instructor will set up the class blog for this. Students will make entries.) **Due: March 28th**

15% - (3 X 5%) Group book club discussion assignments on the second ethnography. These will consist of 3 questions (specific to each ethnography) per assignment that will be discussed within the book club (and drafted in class), presented to the class as a whole for discussion, and then handed in at the start of the following class. (4% for written group assignment, 1% for presentation to class) **(Discussions: Feb. 28th, March 7th, March 14th)**

5% - (2 X 2.5%) Group book club in class discussion assignments of the Brody ethnography (**dates TBA**)

Course Policies

All assignments not given directly to me or uploaded to Moodle (or in the RefWorks folder as appropriate) should be handed into the office and time stamped. **Do not slide them under my door as the cleaning staff may remove them.**

Students who miss class are responsible for obtaining their own notes. I do not give out my class notes. However, PowerPoints for the lecture are available on Moodle.
Academic Integrity Policy

Cheating and plagiarism will be dealt with in strict accordance to the St. FX's Academic regulations (as described in the Academic Calendar section 3.8; <http://www.stfx.ca/calendar/>)

Make up exams and late assignments: Students unable to write exams due to illness or serious, unexpected circumstance must contact the instructor. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible. **In the case of Final Exams, any students who do not write final exams at the scheduled time MUST receive permission through the Dean of Arts office, no exceptions.**

Late assignments will not be accepted without penalty unless 1) approval is obtained in advance of the deadline, or 2) the student has a last minute sickness or emergency that prevented completion. Extensions will not be permitted for reasons of workload, vacations, etc. If an extension is not provided, the late assignment will **lose 10% per day** that it is late.

Class Equity Policy

Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe and equitable learning environment free from discrimination or harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space—both real and virtual—that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination and respect for diversity. These values and practices are in accord with the StFX Discrimination and Harassment Policy which can be found at <http://www.mystfx.ca/campus/stu-serv/equity/>.

Special Accommodations

Students who require special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications should contact Learning Services (http://sites.stfx.ca/accessible_learning/services) and provide documentation of disability early in the course.

Texts and required readings:

Textbook: Brody, Hugh. 2000. *The Other Side of Eden: Hunters, Farmers, and the Shaping of the World*. Vancouver/Toronto: Douglas & McIntyre

This will be available at the STFX Campus Store. May be in a slightly different version. It is also available on reserve.

Each student will be assigned to a book club, which will also read ONE of the following five ethnographies – these can either be purchased by the student (but are not at the bookstore) or accessed through the library system. (They are on reserve). NOTE: DO NOT BUY ONE OF THESE UNTIL IT IS CONFIRMED YOU ARE IN A BOOK CLUB THAT WILL BE USING IT!:

Glick Schiller, Nina & Georges Eugene Fouron. 2001. *Georges Woke Up Laughing: Long Distance Nationalism & the Search for Home*. Durham/London: Duke University Press

Farmer, Paul. 2005. *Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor*. Berkeley: University of California Press

Bridgman, Rae. 2003. *Safe Haven: The Story of a Shelter for Homeless Women*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press

Blackman, Margaret. 1992. *During my Time: Florence Edenshaw Davidson, A Haida Woman*. Seattle: University of Washington Press. (Note: the versions before 1992 are missing a new chapter at the end.)

Holmes-Eber, Paula. 2003. *Daughters of Tunis: Women, Family, and Networks in a Muslim City*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Other readings are available online or on Moodle. Links are provided below.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Jan. 5: Introduction

Week 2: Jan. 10 & 12:

Brody, Overview

Marcus, George & Dick Cushman (1982), 'Ethnographies as Texts', *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 11: 25-69. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/2155775.pdf>

Willis, Paul and Mats Trondman (2000) "Manifesto for Ethnography." *Ethnography* 1(1): 5-16. Sage. URL: <http://eth.sagepub.com/content/1/1/5.full.pdf+html>

Reference Readings re: Ethnography (Not required reading, but available for reference)

Behar, Ruth (1999) "Ethnography: Cherishing our second-fiddle genre." *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 28; 472-484. Sage. <http://jce.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/28/5/472.pdf>

Behar, Ruth (2007) "Ethnography in a Time of blurred genres." *Anthropology & Humanism*. 32(2):145-155. Anthrosource.

Week 3: Jan 17 & 19: Classic Ethnography: Book Length Descriptions of Whole Cultures

Brody, Ch. 1 – Inuktitut, Ch. 2 - Creation

Excerpt from: Balikci, Asen. 1970. *The Netsilik Eskimo*. Prospect Heights, Ill: Waveland Press, p.3-24 + table of contents

Excerpt from Young, William C. 1996. *The Rashaayda Bedouin: Arab Pastoralists of Eastern Sudan*. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers. P. 27-48 + table of contents

Week 4: Jan 24 & 26: Descriptions of Whole Cultures, cont.

Brody Ch.3 – Time, Ch. 4 - Words

Netting, Robert. 1986. *Cultural Ecology*, 2nd ed. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press. Ch. 3 "Northwest Coast Fisherman", p.27-40.

Turnbull, Colin M. 1961. *The Forest People*. New York: Simon & Schuster. Ch. 1 The World of the Forest + Table of Contents & Maps, p. 11-26.

Week 5: Jan 31 & Feb. 2: Changes in Ethnography

Brody Ch. 5 – Gods, Ch. 6 - Mind

Brettell, Caroline B. 1993. “Introduction: Fieldwork, Text, and Audience” p. 1-24, In *When They Read What We Write: The Politics of Ethnography*, Caroline B. Brettell, Ed. Westport Connecticut: Bergin & Garvey.

Week 6: Feb. 7 & 9: Ethnographies & Reflexivity

Book Club Ethnography reading (group schedule)

Sanders, Todd. 2005. “The Torso in the Thames: Imagining Darkest Africa in the United Kingdom”, In *Auto-Ethnographies: The Anthropology of Academic Practices*, pp126- 142. Anne Meneley and Donna J. Young, Eds. Peterborough, ON: Broadview Press.

Howard-Bobiwash, Heather. 1999. ““Like Her Lips to My Ear”: Reading Anishnaabekweg Lives and Aboriginal Cultural Continuity in the City”, In *Feminist Fields: Ethnographic Insights*, Rae Bridgman, Sally Cole, & Heather Howard-Bobiwash, Eds., P. 117-136. Peterborough, ON: Broadview Press.

Week 7: Feb. 14 & 16: **Mid Term Exam Feb. 14th**

Book Club Ethnography Reading (group schedule)

--Winter Study Break Feb. 20-26th--

Week 8: Feb. 28 & Mar. 2: Ethnographic Film

Book Club Ethnography Reading (group schedule)

Book Club Discussion Feb. 28

Week 9: Mar. 7 & 9: Ethnographic Film

Book Club Ethnography Reading (group schedule)

Book Club Discussion Mar. 7

Week 10: Mar. 14 & 16: Ethnographic Film

Book Club Ethnography Reading (group schedule)

Book Club Discussion Mar. 7

Week 11: Mar. 20 & 22: Public Ethnographies/Visual Ethnographies

Anthrocomic: Public Space, Information, Accessibility, Technology and Diversity at Oslo University College <https://anthrocomics.wordpress.com/about/>

Week 12: Mar. 28 & 30: March 30th – Student Research Day

Photo Essay: Corpus: Mining the Border by Daniel Hoffman https://culanth.org/photo_essays/1-corpora-mining-the-border

Photo Essay: Internet Famous in Real Life: Becoming a Street Style Star at New York Fashion Week. https://culanth.org/photo_essays/7-internet-famous-in-real-life-becoming-a-street-style-star-at-new-york-fashion-week

Book Club Ethnography Review Due March 28

Week 13: Apr. 4 & 7: The Future of Ethnography?

Scott, J. A. (2015). Narrative performance research: Co-storying “almost passing”. Departures in Critical Qualitative Research, 4(3), 70-91