

**World Cultures  
Department of Anthropology  
Lakehead University  
ANTH 1034  
Fall 2020**

**Instructor:** Frederico Oliveira, PhD  
**Email:** foliveir@lakeheadu.ca  
**Dates of Appointments:** September 8 to December 3, 2020  
**Classes Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:30pm to 7pm  
**Office Hours:** Mon & Wed (11am-12pm). Not in person.

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**Land Acknowledgment:**

Lakehead University respectfully acknowledges its campuses are located on the traditional lands of Indigenous peoples.

Lakehead Thunder Bay is located on the traditional lands of the Fort William First Nation, Signatory to the Robinson Superior Treaty of 1850. Lakehead Orillia is located on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg. The Anishinaabeg include the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy.

**Course Description and Objectives:**

Anthropology is the study of the biological and cultural complexity of human beings, both past and present. Cultural anthropologists are interested in how societies and cultures function – how people in different locations adapt to their environment, the countless symbolic systems they use to communicate with each other, the political and religious institutions that give meaning to their lives, the modes families are structured, and the forms they make a living. This course is intended to introduce students to the anthropological study of cultural diversity, involving ways of comparing and contrasting the structures of social relationships and belief systems that function in different cultural settings. The most important research techniques employed by sociocultural anthropologists will be presented. A special effort will be made to provide a holistic study of humanity and to relate sociocultural anthropological notions to contemporary social issues. After we seek to appreciate other cultures on their own terms, we face the dilemma of the degree to which social scientists can develop judgments regarding other cultures and life ways and at the same time preserve objectivity. Students are expected to think critically and apply concepts as they gain aptitude in the vocabulary of anthropology. The course does not intend to provide a complete account of each society encountered or to respond every question about how such a society functions. It is understood that a successful student is not that one capable to achieve the minimum grade to get approved. After reading, coming to classes and engaging in the discussions proposed in class, the successful students should be able to:

- a) Expand their horizons, seeing the inter-connectedness of humankind beyond the lens of the exotic other, applying the core concepts in sociocultural anthropology.
- b) Understand, from an introductory level, the relations between the economic, political, religious, cultural, and social systems that contribute to both permanence and transformation in human societies.
- c) Show understanding about the basics of the field of anthropology and the styles of research and analysis practiced in the discipline.
- d) Describe how personal features such as gender, class and ethnicity influence a person's worldview and how the world perceives the individual.
- e) Learn and apply the key concepts in sociocultural anthropology to critically and respectfully reflect about social problems and cultural difference.

**Course Reading:**

Kottak, Conrad Phillip

2019 Cultural Anthropology: Appreciating Cultural Diversity, 18<sup>th</sup> Edition. New York: McGraw Hill.

**In-Class Viewing of Films:**

A number of videos will be shown throughout the course, followed by discussion. Be sure to consider how the films relate to course concepts and readings. The content of the movies is also subject to be covered in the exams.

**Course Requirements and Grading:**

<i>First Mid-Term: covering chapters 1 to 5</i>	Worth 30%
<i>Second Mid-Term: covering chapters 6 to 8</i>	Worth 30%
<i>Third Mid-Term: covering chapters 9 to 12</i>	Worth 30%
<i>Fourth Mid-Term: covering chapters 13 to 15</i>	Worth 30%
Class Participation	Worth 10%
Film Review	Worth 5% of extra credit

Graded assignments include the following:

The **four midterms** will have the multiple choice questions format and will be valued 30% each. The exams will be applied using the D2L Quiz feature. Students drop the lowest mark and keep the three best scores.

**Class Participation** – Students are expected to attend all classes, critically read the assigned materials prior to class and participate (in your own way) in class discussions and assignments. Attendance will be

verified using the polls and registration features of Zoom platform. Students taking the course from different time zones and under special circumstances will be assessed by an alternative assignment.

Students will be asked to write a **Film Review** in the final week of class to improve their marks as an optional extra credit assignment. More instructions will be provided in due time for this assignment.

### **Requirements for Internet Access**

Since this course will be delivered remotely, students are required to have a reliable Internet connection. We will be meeting for class using the Zoom platform, which means each student will need to have access to a webcam (optional) and a microphone. Each week prior to the class, you will receive a link in your Lakehead email address to click, follow the instructions and join the online class. It is recommended that each student find a place where they can participate in class free of distractions in order to follow the lectures and engage actively in classroom discussions. We will make sure everyone is familiar with the basic use of Zoom for class discussions and lectures during the first class. I suggest that you keep your camera and microphone off during the whole class. Turn on your microphone and camera only when you have the intention to speak and contribute to class discussions.

### **Class Format**

Considering the limitations posed by Covid-19 to face-to-face interactions, professors and students are learning and adapting to the new normal of a classroom environment. You should expect some adjustments on the go, but you can be sure that this course has been designed to meet the high standards of Lakehead University and to facilitate equal learning opportunities for local students and international students who are taking this course from a different time zone.

The first class of the week (initially scheduled for Tuesday at 5:30pm) will be pre-recorded and posted online, covering all the content of that week's readings. For this class you can watch it at your own time and pace, but I recommend that you reserve a fixed time slot not to compromise your study routine. The second class of the week (scheduled for Thursday at 5:30pm) will be live (also recorded and made available online) and exclusively dedicated to verify your comprehension of the content, provide real life examples of the important concepts and hints for the exams. There are a few exceptions to this format in the final weeks of the course. Always check the course outline weekly to make sure you are up-to-date with the pre-recorded and live classes.

## **Policies and Procedures:**

### *General Course Policies:*

1. Avoid disrupting class by joining in late or allowing background noise to disturb the dynamics of the class. Disruptions will result first in a warning and then in a 5% penalty to the student's final grade. If the student's behaviour is disturbing the learning environment of the class, he/she will be asked to leave.
2. It is expected that students will be respectful of their fellow students, their instructor, and cultures and traditions which are not their own.
3. Plagiarism consists of passing off as one's own the ideas, words, writings, etc., that belong to someone else. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of that person. This is serious issue. Violation of the university's policy will result in a grade penalty or failure of the course. This type of violation will stay in your academic record.
4. Students will be allowed to take an exam past the date indicated on the course outline, only in the case of documented emergencies. Each situation will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis. If you know that will not be able to attend an exam, approach the instructor ahead of time and we will discuss if you will be allowed to take a make-up test. If you miss a test for an emergency reason, approach the instructor as fast as possible to discuss your situation. It is at the instructor's discretion to select the format of the midterm make-up exam.
5. The final date to drop the course is November 6th, 2020.
6. Students are responsible for taking their own lecture notes. Course outline and class slides will be posted online on Desire2Learn at least one week prior to the due date.
7. The main communication tool between the instructor and students is Lakehead University's e-mail account. Students are asked to check regularly (including before the class) their LakeheadU e-mail account and Desire2Learn for unforeseen changes to the class due to weather conditions or other reasons. As a general rule, student questions sent 24 hours prior to an assignment or test will not be replied. Students can reasonably expect a response in 1-2 days. Grades are supposed to be returned to the students at the maximum period of two weeks after the assignment is delivered.
8. Students are welcome to schedule online appointments to discuss any topic related to their academic progress or course content.
9. This syllabus is subject to minor changes during the course of the semester.

## Course Schedule

### Week 1:

(Class 1, Sept-8): Introduction and Course Outline Presentation (Live)

(Class 2, Sept-10): Film

### Week 2:

(Class 3, Sept-15)  
Pre-recorded class      Kottak (Chapter 1: What is Anthropology?)  
Kottak (Chapter 2: Culture)

(Class 4, Sept-17)      Live review of the content

### Week 3:

(Class 5, Sept-22)  
Pre-recorded class      Kottak (Chapter 3: Method and Theory in Cultural Anthropology)  
Kottak (Chapter 3: Method and Theory in Cultural Anthropology), cont.

(Class 6, Sept-24)      Live review of the content

### Week 4:

(Class 7, Sept-29)  
Pre-recorded class      Kottak (Chapter 4: Applying Anthropology)  
Kottak (Chapter 5: Language and Communication)

(Class 8, Oct-1)      Live review of the content

### Week 5:

(Class 9, Oct-6)      Film

(Class 10, Oct-8)      **\*\* First Mid-Term (Chapters 1 to 5) \*\***

### Week 6:      **Reading Week**

(No Class: Thanksgiving & Study Week, Oct 12-16)

### Week 7:

(Class 11, Oct-20)  
Pre-recorded class      Kottak (Chapter 6: Ethnicity and Race)  
Kottak (Chapter 7: Making a Living)

(Class 12, Oct-22)  
Pre-recorded class      Kottak (Chapter 8: Political Systems)

**Week 8:**

(Class 13, Oct-27) Live review of the content

(Class 14, Oct-29) **\*\* Second Mid-Term (Chapters 6 to 8) \*\***

**Week 9:**

(Class 15, Nov-3) Kottak (Chapter 9: Gender)  
Pre-recorded class Kottak (Chapter 10: Families, Kinship and Descent)

(Class 16, Nov-5) Live review of the content

**Week 10:**

(Class 17, Nov-10) Kottak (Chapter 11: Marriage)  
Pre-recorded class Kottak (Chapter 12: Religion)

(Class 18, Nov-12) Live review of the content

**Week 11:**

(Class 19, Nov-17) **\*\* Third Mid-Term (Chapters 9 to 12) \*\***

(Class 20, Nov-19) Kottak (Chapter 13: Arts, Media and Sports)  
Pre-recorded class

**Week 12:**

(Class 21, Nov-24) Kottak (Chapter 14: The World System and Colonialism)  
Live class with review Kottak (Chapter 15: Global Issues Today)  
of content

(Class 22, Nov-26) **\*\* Fourth Mid-Term (Chapters 13 to 15) \*\***

**Week 13:**

(Class 23, Dec-1) Ethnographic Films

(Class 24, Dec-5) **\*\* Film review due \*\***

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## **Desire2Learn**

The course uses Desire2Learn for its course website. To access the course website, or any other Desire2Learn-based course website, go to the LU portal login page at <https://myinfo.lakeheadu.ca/> and log in using your LU username and password. Once you have logged in to the portal, look for the **mycourse** link module, where you'll find the link to our course website along with the link to all other Desire2Learn-based courses you are registered.

## **Copyright**

All the lectures will be recorded by the instructor and posted online for only academic and learning purposes. The recordings are made under the authority of sections 3 and 14 of *The Lakehead University Act, 1965*. Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. The recordings are confidential and are intended only for the use of the course students and instructors. You may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

## **Accessibility Needs**

Lakehead University is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible.