

INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY



Contact Information

Professor: karen g. williams, Ph.D.

E-mail: karen.williams@guttman.cuny.edu

Credits: 3 credits

Google Phone: Call or text: (516) 828-2449

*Calls, texts and emails sent after 5pm EST, Monday-Thursday will be answered the following day. Emails, calls and texts after 3pm on Fridays, will be answered on the following Monday. I do not respond to emails, calls, or texts on the weekend (Saturday or Sunday) or holidays.

Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00pm – 3:00pm, by appointment via Starfish

*Learn more about [the importance of office hours.](#)

REQUIRED Class Time/ Format: Wednesday, 8:00am – 9:30am

This is a synchronous online course, which means showing up to class is expected. During class time there will be various individual and group activities related to the class readings. In addition, we will review the weekly modules and I will answer questions.

This class has been selected to participate in a collaborative project with students at Abdelmalek Essaâdi University located in the Tangier-Tetouan region of Morocco. The program is funded by the **Stevens Initiative: Global Scholars Achieving Career Success (GSACS)**, a program supported by multiple institutions including the US Department of State, the Bezos Family Foundation and the governments of Morocco and United Arab Emirates. The focus of our collaboration will be on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #10, which involves exploring ways to reduce inequality among and within nations. You will work with Moroccan students in our partner country to compare, contrast and identify ways to combat inequities. Our focus is gender inequality.

As part of the collaboration, you will be required to connect with your international team either synchronously and/or asynchronously, outside of class time. Since we are unable to add our international peers on Blackboard, we will primarily use Padlet and ZOOM for this collaboration.

Regular internet access is essential for successful completion of this course. If you have concerns about access to technology or internet, please contact the Office of Student Engagement at Dean.OSE@guttman.cuny.edu so that they can assist you.

REQUIRED Texts

1. Guest, Kenneth J. 2017. *Essentials of Cultural Anthropology: A Toolkit for a Global Age*, 2nd Edition. New York: W. W. Norton. [recommended E-Book]

*You can purchase for \$45 or you can access the readings via BB.

**[Guttman offers textbook grants \(click here\)](#), so you can apply for one, that way the book is free of charge.

Catalog Description

This course is an introduction to the field of Cultural Anthropology. Anthropology is the study of humanity, past and present, but it is also a set of tools and a way of knowing that helps us make sense of the world. Cultivating an anthropological perspective means developing a sense of curiosity about how cultures came to be, what the meaning, benefits and consequences of cultural beliefs and practices are, and what alternatives exist. Studying anthropology helps us begin to see that there is no one way to be human and that one of the great strengths of humanity is our ability to adapt.

The primary goal of this course is to develop an understanding of the "culture concept," which we will view as a historically dynamic process that is open-ended and constantly changing. We will explore the ways cultures differ between diverse peoples and groups in human societies from around the world and the ways in which different cultures interact and mutually influence one another. Over the course of the semester, we will develop a vocabulary for analyzing various dimensions of culture and the ways human beings structure their societies, such as: language, kinship, economic systems, political structures, and forms of inequality. In addition, we will explore the methodologies anthropologists employ in the study of these topics. As we study what makes us human, from kinship to language to religion to political systems, we will focus on the role of the anthropologist as one who attempts to understand the way these categories come into being and function in diverse human societies. Students will critically reflect on aspects of their own culture while they learn to respect the cultural practices of other peoples and places.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course:

- Students will be able to define the culture concept, describe the process of acculturation, and apply these concepts to their own ethnographic observations of a particular cultural subgroup of their choosing.
- Students will be able to compare how culture and acculturation shape the worldviews, behaviors, and beliefs of different groups of people by analyzing a range of ethnographic case studies that explore how particular societies organize kinship, subsistence, social roles, identities and inequalities differently from one another.

- Students will be able to explain how the culture concept can be applied to contemporary social problems like racism, economic inequality, and public health issues related to diet and why these conflicts can emerge when groups of humans have conflicting cultural worldviews.
- Students will be able to describe the challenges ethnocentrism creates in a globalized world and the value of anthropological and ethnographic comparative methods for overcoming these challenges

ASSIGNMENTS & What You are Responsible for in this Class

Grading/ Basis for calculating grades

If you want to discuss your grades or your assignments, please make an appointment with me via Starfish. You can also find updated grades in Blackboard under "my grades."

970-1000+ = A+	930-969 = A	900-929 = A-
870-890 = B+	830-869 = B	800-829 = B-
770-799 = C+	730-769 = C	700-729 = C-
670-699 = D+	600-669 = D	0-599 = F

Note: D is the lowest passing grade

Overview of point value

Item	Percentage	Point Value
Online SYNC Class Engagement	12%	12 sessions @10 points each
Mindfulness Journal	8%	4 journals @20 points each
Quizzes + Various Assignments	20%	various assignment totaling 200 points
Exam 1	10%	1 exam @100 points
Exam 2	10%	1 exam @100 points
Exam 3	10%	1 exam @100 points
Global Scholars Final Project	30%	various assignments totaling 300 points, tent.
Get to Know Moroccan Culture		1 @25 points
Quizzes		2 @ 5 points each
Icebreakers		2 @20 points each
Comparative Analysis of SDG		1 @25 points
Project Prep + Presentation		1@ 75 points
Post reflections		1@ 25 points
Conference Presentation/ Attendance		2 @ 50 points each
TOTAL:		1000 points

Tentative Course Schedule

(fine print: I reserve the right to make changes to the schedule as I see fit)

REMEMBER:

- ALL Assignments are DUE Mondays, 11:59pm unless stated otherwise
- Class Time: Wednesday at 8am-9:30am starting Sept 22nd (please be on time with camera's on)
- Weekly modules open on Tuesday mornings by 10am and close the following Tuesday at 10am (end of the grace period).
- You should expect to spend about 6-10 hours per week on the course materials and course-related activities, including your 1.5 hours in your class session.
- [Guttman Academic Calendar](#) – use this calendar to keep track of college wide dates.

Modules	Topic	Readings and Assignments + Due Dates
<p>All Classes Begin Thursday, September 9th Optional Get to know your Professor, Thursday, Sept 9th at 11am Our first synchronous meeting is September 22nd at 8am</p>		
<p>Module 1 September 9th – September 20th *Asynchronous, no class time</p>	<p>Setting things Up for Success</p>	<p>Due: suggested Sept. 13th, Or extended date is Sept 20th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Class Orientation Video Review: Syllabus Set up: ZOOM account Complete: Syllabus + GSACS career quiz Purchase E-Book: <i>optional</i>, 180-day access.</p> <p>*** Global Scholars Achieving Career Success (GSACS):</p> <p>Set up: Padlet account Watch: How to Use Padlet for Students (4.5 mins) Watch: GSACS career awareness video (10.5 mins) Complete Getting to know you Survey</p> <p>You cannot use a token for this module, only grace period.</p>
<p>Module 2 September 14th- September 20th</p> <p>Class Time *Asynchronous no class time for Yom Kippur</p>	<p>Anthropology in a Global Age</p>	<p>Due Sept 20th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Overview Video on Anthro in a Global Age Read: CH 1: Anthropology in a Global Age Complete: CH 1 Quiz Do MORE: Making a Can of Coke Unfamiliar, pg. 30.</p> <p>*** GSACS:</p> <p>Watch: Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)10: Reduced Inequalities Read: United Nations Intro Page on SDG 10 Watch: All SDGs Complete: SDG Quiz</p>
<p>Module 3 September 21st- September 27th</p> <p>Class Time</p>	<p>Culture And Moroccan Culture</p>	<p>Due Sept 27th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Overview Video on Culture Watch: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s The Danger of a Single Story Read: CH 2: Culture Complete: CH 2 Quiz + Single Story</p>

<p>Wed. September 22nd @8am</p>		<p>Complete: Mindfulness Journal #1 Do MORE: Blue Jeans: Global Production, pg 64.</p> <p>*** GSACS: *In class introduction of project</p>
<p>Module 4 September 28th – October 4th</p> <p>Class Time Wed. September 29th @8am</p>	<p>Fieldwork and Ethnography</p>	<p>Due October 4th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Class Video on Fieldwork and Ethnography Read: CH 3: Fieldwork and Ethnography Complete: CH 3 Quiz Do MORE: Fieldwork: Mapping a Block on pg. 91</p> <p>*** GSACS:</p> <p>Complete: Ice breaker with Moroccan students.</p> <p>Explore: Moroccan Culture TBA, in-class activities for points.</p>
<p>Module 5 October 5th – October 11th</p> <p>Class Time Wed. October 6th @8am</p>	<p>Exam And SDG 10: A closer look at Gender from Moroccan + International Perspective</p>	<p>Due October 11th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Class Video Complete: Exam #1 (covers Chapters: 1-3)</p> <p>*** GSACS:</p> <p>Watch: The perceived value of women Watch: Women and Work Watch: On Gendered Roles Watch: Why Women Are Paid Less Start: Gender and Gender Inequality Group Assignment (due 10/18)</p>
<p>Module 6 October 12th – October 18th</p> <p>Class Time Wed. October 13th @8am</p>	<p>Gender continued and Global Scholars Achieving Career Success GUEST Speaker</p>	<p>Due October 18th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Class Video on Gender Read: CH 7: Gender Complete: CH 7 Quiz Complete: Mindfulness Journal #2 Do MORE: Cartoon Commercials and the Construction of Gender, pg. 233</p> <p>*** GSACS: GUEST Speaker on Gender Inequality- fill out worksheet Complete: Gender and Gender Inequality Group Assignment</p>

<p>Module 7 October 19th – October 25th</p> <p>Class Time Wed. October 20th @8am</p>	<p>Ethnicity and Nationalism and Global Scholars Achieving Career Success/ Moroccan Student Exchange</p>	<p>Due October 25th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Video on Ethnicity and Nationalism + Race Read: CH 6: Ethnicity and Nationalism Complete: CH 6 Quiz Do MORE: From Opium to Chrysanthemums video + Questions</p> <p>*** GSACS: Ice breaker + Comparative analysis of SDG</p>
<p>Module 8 October 26th – November 1st</p> <p>Class Time Wed. October 27th @8am</p>	<p>Sexuality and Global Scholars Achieving Career Success</p>	<p>Due: Nov. 1st @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Class Video on Sexuality Read: CH 8: Sexuality Complete: CH 8 Quiz Do MORE: Diamonds: Sex, Love and Status in a Little Rock, pg. 283</p> <p>**** IN-CLASS GSACS: Gender + Inequality Group Presentations</p>
<p>Module 9 November 2nd – November 8th</p> <p>Class Time Wed. November 3rd @8am</p>	<p>Exam and Global Scholars Achieving Career Success</p>	<p>Due: Nov. 15th @11:59pm *Suggested deadline for pacing, Nov. 8th*</p> <p>Complete: Exam #2 (covers Chapters: 6-8) Complete: Mindfulness Journal #3</p> <p>**** Complete GSACS: Ice breaker, part 2, responding to Moroccan Students GSACS: Continue working on final projects</p>
<p>Module 10 November 9th – November 15th</p> <p>Class Time Wed. November 10th @8am</p>	<p>Global Scholars Achieving Career Success</p>	<p>Due: Nov. 15th @11:59pm</p> <p>Submit: Exam #1 Revisions</p> <p>**** GSACS: Continue working on final projects</p>

<p>Module 11 November 16th – November 29th</p> <p>Class Time Wed. Nov. 17th, @8am Wed. Nov. 24th, @8am Thanksgiving Break, Nov 25th-28th</p>	<p>Migration And Global Scholars Achieving Career Success</p>	<p>Due: Nov. 29th @11:59pm</p> <p>Watch: Class Video on Migration Read: CH 13 Migration Complete: CH 13 Quiz Do More!: See Blackboard</p> <p>***</p> <p>GSACS: Submit: Final Projects by Friday, Nov. 26th, 5:59pm EST</p> <p>Extended Deadline (Sunday, Nov. 28th 10am/ EST 4pm Moroccan Time, must ask for extended deadline)</p>
<p>Module 12 November 30th – December 10th</p> <p>Class Times <i>GSACS Student Conference:</i> Wed. December 1st @8am-12pm Sat. December 4th @8am-12pm</p> <p>Last Class: Wed. December 8th @8am</p>	<p>Art and Media And Global Scholars Achieving Career Success</p>	<p>Due: Dec 10th (extension til classes end)</p> <p>Watch: Class Video on Art and Media Read: CH 17 Art and Media Complete: CH 17 Quiz Complete: Mindfulness Journal #4 Do MORE: The playlist</p> <p>***</p> <p>GSACS: Attend the Student Conference on Wed. 12/1 and Sat. 12/4</p> <p>Complete: Post Reflections Essay</p> <p>You cannot use a token for this module</p>
<p>Module 13 Exam Week December 10th – December 13th</p>	<p>Culminating Course Experiences or Final Exams</p>	<p>Due: Dec. 13th 11:59pm</p> <p>Complete: Exam #2 Revisions Due</p> <p>***</p> <p>Complete post-program survey (to be sent by GSACS directly to your e-mails) to join the State Department International Exchange Alumni Group.</p> <p>You cannot use a token for this module</p>