The Human Adventure
Anthropological Perspectives

“A synthesis of Anthropology and Marxism; examination of the processes of evolution and revolution in the development of humanity, from earliest times to the present.”

Prerequisites: English 100, Upper Division status, and substantial completion of GE requirements, especially in the Social Sciences.

Textbooks

Required:


Selected Readings for ANTH 311c Fall 2003 Selected by Eugene E. Ruyle. Available at Campus Copy Center.

Recommended:


Course Objectives

This course is designed to integrate the disciplines of Anthropology, Sociology, and material from the other Social and Behavioral Sciences and provide students with the essential conceptual tools and empirical data for understanding the nature and significance of the human species. ANTH 311 IC satisfies the General Education Interdisciplinary requirement within the Social and Behavioral Sciences, and may be used as part of the Anthropology Major.

Anthropology 311 IC is intended to encourage students to think critically and independently about our human adventure on earth, about the problems confronting our species, and about their role in finding solutions.

An important aspect of this course is that it is taught from the scientific perspective of historical materialism (i.e. Marxism). The unfamiliarity of this perspective for most students should prove challenging.

Course Registration

In order to be properly registered for this course you must 1. register for the course through appropriate University procedures, and 2. turn in a completed Course Contract to the instructor.

There is no Beachboard component to this course, but a limited amount of course materials may be found on the instructor's web page: www.cuyleruyle.com.

Contacting The Instructor

The best way to contact me is by talking to me after class. You may also call my office (985-5364) and leaving a message on my Voice Mail or e-mail me at: eruyle@csulb.edu. Please do not call the Department Secretary, as she will only leave me a note which I may not receive for a few days.

As indicated above, my Office Hours are on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:15 am, and by appointment.
Required Work

1. **Class Attendance & Participation:** Regular class attendance is a course requirement. In addition to the videos, important material that is not covered in the textbook and readings will be presented in lecture, and there may also be changes in the course syllabus which will be announced in lecture. Most of the material to be covered will be unfamiliar to you, so regular class attendance will give you an opportunity to discuss facts and theories that may seem difficult. Attendance at all the student reports is mandatory and failure to attend all reports may lower your course grade. Your attendance and class participation and achievement will count approximately one fifth of your grade.

2. **Examinations:** There will be two midterm exams, with both objective (T/F, multiple choice, matching) and essay questions. There will also be a final exam which will be comprehensive, covering the entire course. The lowest of your three exam scores [two midterms and one final exam] scores will be dropped. This means that you will not have to take the final exam if you are content with your scores on the two midterms. Taken together, the examinations will count approximately two fifths of your grade in the course.

3. **Term Paper/Oral Report Project:** This project is designed to give you an opportunity to investigate more deeply some topic of interest to you and present the results of your investigation to the class in an oral report. It will involve four stages: (1) a Paper Proposal, due in the third week of class, (2) a Penultimate Draft, due one week after the First Midterm, and (3) an Oral Report, to be scheduled between the 10th and 12th weeks of class (4) a Final Draft, due in the 14th week of class. Further information is given below. The Term Paper/Oral Report Project will count approximately two fifths of your grade.

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**Term Paper/Oral Report Project**

The Oral Report/Term Paper Project is an integral part of the course. It is designed to give you an opportunity to investigate some particular topic on your own and write an intelligent essay on your findings. Each draft of your paper should be between 2500-3000 words (or about 10-12 typewritten, double-spaced pages), as appropriate to the topic. The penultimate and final drafts of the paper must total at least 5000 words.

You should plan to use a word processor to complete your paper. If you do not know how to use a word processor, this is an excellent time to learn. Your paper should be left justified. Do not use right justification. Be sure to use the spell checker (but also proofread your paper). Also, include a word count at the end of your paper.

Your work will be graded on form as well as content. Spelling, grammar, and the general appearance of your finished work are all important. It is also important that you develop a clear, concise writing style. If you have problems with writing, you may wish to consult University’s Writer’s Resource Lab, LAB 212, 985-4329 for assistance.

Your paper should be double spaced and stapled at the upper left hand corner. Do not use any special folders, they only cost you money and are more trouble for me. Citations and bibliographic references should follow the “author-date” system. In this style of citation, the author's last name, date of publication, and page number are cited within parentheses in the text, e.g., (Ruyce, 1986, p. 3). Footnotes should be avoided. This is an efficient citation method since it enables readers to see the source and date of your citation without interrupting their line of thought.

Particular attention should be paid to eliminating sexist terminology from your writing. The use of "man" for "human," "men" for "people," and "mankind" for "humanity" is not acceptable in this course. Also, do not use male pronouns (he, his) to refer to both men and women.

You are free to choose any topic you wish, as long as it is related to the subject matter of the course. You may define your topic as broadly (e.g. World Hunger: Causes and Consequences) or as narrowly (The Price of Rice in China: 1945-1965) as you wish, but you should be able to say something interesting and meaningful within your paper.
**Paper Proposal:** The paper proposal (about 5-600 words, or about 3 pages) will be due on Tuesday, September 16, and returned to you the following week. This should be a brief description of your project, indicating why you have chosen this topic and how it is related to the course material. It should include a title, date, abstract, outline, and short bibliography. This will ensure that you do indeed have an appropriate topic for research. It will also give me a chance to comment on the appropriateness of your topic and make suggestions as to content and bibliography.

Your Paper Proposal will be graded and returned to you the following week with my comments. Your Paper Proposal, Penultimate Draft, Oral Report, and Final Draft will all be weighted equally, each with 50 possible points, or a total of 200 for the entire Project.

**Penultimate Draft:** The penultimate draft is normally due one week after the First Midterm, on Thursday, October 16. This is not a "rough draft." You should attempt to make it as complete and as polished as you can. Attach your paper proposal, with instructor's comments, to your term paper. Turn in the original, but be sure to keep a xeroxed copy in case your paper is lost. Both your paper proposal and both drafts of your paper should include the dates they were completed and submitted to the instructor.

I will read your paper carefully and make suggestions about how you can improve it. These suggestions may include suggestions for further research, additional areas you need to explore, and points that your need to document. I will also comment on your writing style and other technical aspects of the preparation of your Penultimate Draft. You may be asked to shorten or lengthen your paper. These comments should form the basis for your revisions in your final draft. Your Penultimate Draft will receive a letter grade and corresponding points as indicated in the Grade Scale in the Course Syllabus.

I suggest that, after you read over my comments, you schedule a meeting with me to discuss your paper and how you might best proceed.

**Oral Report:** Your Oral Report should be based on your Penultimate Draft, with appropriate revision based on my comments but it may take a different format as appropriate. Your Oral Report will be given a letter grade and an appropriate number of points as indicated above. Oral Reports will be scheduled during the 10th through the 12th week of class. Although the scheduling of reports will be open to some negotiation, once the schedule has been set, you must give your report when scheduled and you must attend all other reports.

**Final Draft:** The final draft of your term paper will be due in the 14th week of class, on Thursday, December 4. Your Final Draft should involve extensive revisions based upon my comments on your Penultimate Draft and class discussion of your Oral Report. Normally, you should plan to spend as much time revising for the Final Draft as you did on the Penultimate Draft.

You should turn in both your Penultimate Draft and your Paper Proposal with your final draft, but please do not staple them together. Don't forget to keep Xerox copies of all your work!

The Final Draft of your paper will receive a letter grade and a corresponding number of points. As indicated above the Final Draft will be given the same weight as your Penultimate Draft.

**Abbreviations Used in Commenting on Papers and Midterm Essays**

Although I try to make useful comments on your papers, past experience has shown that most students find these completely illegible and incomprehensible. Accordingly, I have developed the following abbreviations to improve communications on your papers and midterm essays:

- **AWK** - awkward sentence structure or wording
- **UNC** - unclear
- **CIT** - citation?
- **?** - questionable spelling, grammar, or content
- **BS** - self explanatory
Grades

The following scale will be used to guide the instructor in assignment of grades, with adjustments as appropriate:

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Tentative Schedule of Class Work, Spring 2003

Part One: Anthropology, the Human Condition, and Marxism

1  Tue Sep 2       Course introduction
   Thu Sep 4       The Great American Myth

2  Tue Sep 9       The Great American Myth
   Thu Sep 11      Library Workshop, in Spidell Room of University Library

3  Tue Sep 16      History of Social Thought
   Thu Sep 18      History of Social Thought

4  Tue Sep 23      Anthropological Marxism
   Thu Sep 25      Anthropological Marxism

5  Tue Sep 30      Anthropological Marxism
   Thu Oct 2       Institutional Alternatives
                   Paper Proposals due

6  Tue Oct 7       Institutional Alternatives
   Thu Oct 9       Prehistoric Revolutions

7  Tue Oct 14      Prehistoric Revolutions
   Thu Oct 16      First Midterm
                   Covers:
                   Human Adventure text: Intro, Chaps 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5
                   Bodley text. all;
                   First Midterm Readings

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Part Two: Evolution and Revolution in Human Development

8    Tue  Oct 21   The Revolutionary Bourgeoisie
     Thu Oct 23   The Revolutionary Bourgeoisie

9    Tue  Oct 28   The Bourgeoisie in Triumph and Decay
     Thu Oct 30   The Bourgeoisie in Triumph and Decay

8    Tue  Nov 4    Oral Reports (4)
     Thu Nov 6    Oral Reports (4)

11   Tue Nov 11   Oral Reports (4)
     Thu Nov 13   Oral Reports (4)

12   Tue Nov 18   Oral Reports (4)
     Thu Nov 20   Oral Reports (4)

13   Tue Nov 25   Oral Reports if necessary
     Thu Nov 27   THANKSGIVING ------ NO CLASS

14   Tue Dec 2    World Revolution of the Proletariat
     Thu Dec 4    World Revolution of the Proletariat

15   Tue Dec 11   World Revolution of the Proletariat
     Thu Dec 13   Second Midterm

Tuesday, Dec 16: Final Exam: 2:45-4:45 pm

Grades will be posted as soon as possible after the Final Exam.

Grades will be posted within hours of the Final Examination. Students are strongly urged to consult these ASAP to confirm their grades before they are submitted to the Office of Enrollment Services. I will hold special office hours during Finals Week for students who wish to discuss their performance in the course.

Grade reports will be mailed by the Office of Enrollment Services approximately three weeks after the end of the Final Exam period. Students wishing earlier written notification may leave a stamped, self-addressed grade report postcard with me at the Final Exam.
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

It is your responsibility as a student to attend class regularly and to arrive on time and remain for the entire class period. Irregular class attendance, including arriving late and leaving early, may lower your grade.

It is your responsibility as a student to familiarize yourself with course requirements, to complete your written assignments promptly and neatly, to keep xerox copies of all written work turned in, to ensure that your grades are properly recorded, and to keep your graded work until the final grades have been assigned. Updated grade sheets will be posted after each midterm. Students must inform the instructor of any inaccuracies within three class meetings after posting.

It is also your responsibility to maintain a classroom decorum that is conducive to learning. You are encouraged to ask questions and to participate, as appropriate, in class discussions. Private conversations with your classmates, however, is distracting to the class and unfair to other students. Students who carry on such private conversations or engage in other rude and distracting behavior may be asked to leave the classroom.

Students have a responsibility to maintain a classroom environment free from sexual harassment and/or discriminatory behavior or harassment toward individuals or groups on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnic group identification, age, marital status, religion, sexual preference, or disability/handicap.

I do not tolerate cheating in any of my courses. You are urged to review the CSULB Catalog on cheating, plagiarism, and discipline, and are reminded that allowing a classmate to copy your work may subject you to sanctions. In addition to any action taken by the instructor, all cases of suspected cheating in this course will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs.

High administrator from the Office of Judicial Affairs cutting heart from student who cheated on an exam. Students who plagiarize may experience similar difficulties.
WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Please keep in mind that you are held responsible for completion of every course in which you register or for withdrawing during the first two weeks of classes from courses that you do not intend to complete. The deadline to withdraw without permission of the Instructor is Monday, September 15, 2003. Withdrawals from Tuesday, September 16, 2003 through Friday, November 21, 2003 are permissible only with the signatures of the Instructor and the Chairperson of the Department of Anthropology (located in FO3-305) on the appropriate form. The Department permits withdrawals during this period only for serious and compelling reasons, such as illness or a change in work schedule, which have to be documented. Students in this category must turn in documentation along with their withdrawal request. During the final three weeks of instruction (from Monday, November 24, 2003 through Friday December 12, 2003), withdrawals are not permitted except in cases such as accidents or serious illness, where the circumstances causing the withdrawal are clearly beyond the student’s control. Withdrawals during this period require documentation, the signatures of the Instructor, Chairperson, and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts (located in MHB-2nd floor), and they are rarely granted.

FALL 2003 CALENDAR:

Monday September 1 – Labor Day CAMPUS CLOSED
Tuesday September 2 - Instruction begins
Monday September 15 - Deadline to Withdraw or Drop without “W” grade
Monday September 22 – Deadline to Add a class, file for CR/NC or Audit grade options
Friday November 21 – Deadline to drop a class without Dean’s signature
Thursday November 27 and Friday November 28 – Thanksgiving – CAMPUS CLOSED
Friday December 12 – Last day of instruction and last day to drop class with Dean’s signature.
Monday December 15 thru Saturday December 20 – FINAL EXAMS
Friday December 24 – Last day of semester

Note: above dates are believed to be correct. Check your Schedule of Classes for confirmation

Have a Great Semester!