RADICAL SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Catalog Description: Radical analysis of society and culture, focusing on classic Marxian texts as well as current critical theory and analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to introduce the student to the radical tradition in social science. The primary focus will be on Marxism, but other radical perspectives, such as pacifism, feminism, social ecology, and liberation theology will also be covered. We will be reading the classic works of Marx, Engels, and other radical thinkers and exploring the relevance of these works for contemporary society in our class discussions.

As an Interdisciplinary Course (IC) ANTH 305 IC integrates the disciplines of Anthropology and Sociology. Radical Social Analysis combines sociological perspectives for analyzing Western industrial (i.e. bourgeois) society in an objective manner with anthropological perspectives of cross-cultural analysis and viewing cultural systems “from within.” In this way, the seminal ideas of Marx, Engels, and Lenin will be combined with the data and methodologies of the modern social sciences, particularly Anthropology and Sociology. This will provide students with the intellectual tools needed to think critically and independently about human societies in general, about the problems confronting our species, and about their role in finding solutions.

The prerequisites for this course are: English 100, Upper Division status, and substantial completion of GE requirements, especially in the Social Sciences.

TEXTBOOKS

REQUIRED (IN BOOKSTORE):


Selected Readings for ANTH 305 Fall 2004 Radical Social Analysis. Selected by Eugene E. Ruyle.


RECOMMENDED BOOKS IN BOOKSTORE:


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 305 IC satisfies the General Education Interdisciplinary requirement within the Social and Behavioral Sciences, and may be used as part of the Anthropology Major.

Anthropology 305 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.

COURSE REGISTRATION

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

CONTACTING THE INSTRUCTOR

The best way to contact me is by talking to me after class. Other methods of contracting me include, in order of reliability: 1. calling my office at 562 985-5364 and leaving a message on my Voice Mail, 2. e-mail me at: eruyle@csulb.edu. Be sure to begin your Subject heading with ANTH 305. Otherwise I may miss it. 3. leaving a note in my mailbox in FO3-305., or 4. faxing me at: 562 985-4379. 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 and Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. I am available at other times by appointment only.

I plan to be at the Peter Carr Peace Center Peace Table near the Bookstore every Wednesday during the noon hour.

You can access my web page at: <http://www.cuyleruyle.com/>, where you will find some course material and other writings of interest.

TURNING IN WORK

Please note that all work must be turned in in the date due at the beginning of class. Work turned in by other methods (e.g. at my office or in my mailbox) may not reach me and may be considered late. Work will not be accepted by email or fax.
REQUIRED WORK

1. Class Participation & Achievement: 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. Attendance will be taken at unspecified times. Your class participation and achievement score will normally be the same as your average midterm score, with adjustments as appropriate. As indicated below, it will count approximately one fifth of your grade in the course.

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 consist of essay questions 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 second week of class, (2) a Penultimate Draft, due one week after the First Midterm, and (3) an Oral Report, to be scheduled between the 9th and 13th weeks of class (4) a Final Draft, due in the 13th week of class. The Term Paper/Oral Report Project will count approximately two fifths of your grade. Further information is given below.

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.

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., (Ruyl, 1986, p. 3). You should include a list of references cited, alphabetized by the author’s last name, at the end of your paper. 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:** Your one page paper proposal will be due on Tuesday, September 14, and returned to you the following week. This should be a brief description of your project, indicating how it is related to the course material. It should include a title, date, abstract, 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.

**Penultimate Draft:** The penultimate draft is normally due on Thursday, October 14, one week after the First Midterm. 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 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 you 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. You should plan on approximately ten minutes for your Oral Report. 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 2. 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?
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 COURSE WORK, FALL 2004

A detailed schedule of class work will be developed early in the semester in consultation with students. This will include topics to be covered in lecture, required readings, and other material to be covered in the examinations. We will also schedule student presentations as appropriate.

Schedule of Required Work:

Tuesday, August 31: Turn in Course Contract
Tuesday, September 14: Paper Proposals due
Thursday, October 7: FIRST MIDTERM
Thursday, October 14: Penultimate Drafts due
October 26-November 18: Oral Reports (to be scheduled)
Thursday, December 2: Final Drafts due
Thursday, December 9: SECOND MIDTERM
Thursday, December 16: FINAL EXAMINATION, 12:30-2:30 PM
Grades will be posted by the instructor within a few hours after the Final Exam. The University will mail your grades approximately three to six 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.

**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 13, 2004.** Withdrawals from Tuesday, September 14, 2004 through Friday, November 19, 2004 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 22, 2004 through Friday December 10, 2004), 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 2004 CALENDAR:**

Monday September 6 – Labor Day  **CAMPUS CLOSED**  
Monday August 30 - Instruction begins  
Monday September 13 - Deadline to Withdraw or Drop without “W” grade  
Monday September 20 – Deadline to Add a class, file for CR/NC or Audit grade options  
Friday November 19 – Deadline to drop a class without Dean’s signature  
Thursday November 25 and Friday November 26 – Thanksgiving – **CAMPUS CLOSED**  
Friday December 10 – Last day of instruction and last day to drop class with Dean’s signature.  
Monday December 13 thru Saturday December 18 – **FINAL EXAMS**  
Thursday December 23 – Last day of semester

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

Have a Radical Semester!