INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY  
Anthropology 102 Section 2 – Spring 2015  
Monday and Wednesday 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. in SAC 112

Dr. Christa Abdul-Karim  
OFFICE/E-MAIL/PHONE: SAC 235, cmabdul-karim@lcsc.edu, (208) 792-2209  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Wednesday from 4:15-5:15 or by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTS:
2011 Explorations in Cultural Anthropology. Lanham, MD: AltaMira Press.

Wikibooks  

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to cultural anthropology. Through the examination of anthropological concepts, we will study how cultures around the world are set up to satisfy basic human needs. While the class will focus on the basics of cultural anthropology we will also analytically research current global concerns such as development, the environment, and other humanitarian issues. The text book we are using is set up to challenge our ideas. It is important to understand that concepts pertaining to culture can be controversial and like many topics, people hold variable perspectives. My goal is not to emphasize what is right or wrong, but to broaden your perspectives about how culture is relevant around the world.

Anthropology 102 is part of the General Education Core at LCSC; which means it teaches skills/concepts valuable for all majors. "General education is intended to nurture the development of literate, well-informed graduates who are competent life-long learners. This is the basis of LCSC's mission. General education "connects learning to life" by providing students with the skills, knowledge, and dispositions necessary for continued learning about their natural and social worlds, thinking clearly about them, communicating ideas about them effectively, and functioning comfortably in a variety of social institutions. These broad goals are part of all programs. The General Education Core Curriculum is the foundation for courses that students take in their major programs."

CLASS STRUCTURE: Reading, Thinking, and Speaking are crucial for this class. It is important to come to each class with your reading completed. Take notes as you read regarding significant concepts, the overall main idea of each chapter, and personal comments and criticisms - you will find this organizes your thinking and promotes your participation in class discussion. Use your own ideas, views, and experiences to expand the information presented. Do not be afraid to disagree, but do so thoughtfully. Please respect all perspectives on this subject. Many topics that we will be discussing lend themselves to both strong and personal opinions; feel free to express them, but always in a way that respects the other members of the class.

If you must arrive late or leave early, let me know (preferably in advance) AND take a seat close to the door to minimize disruption. Students whose behavior is disruptive or rude (engaging in private conversations during class, arriving late, leaving early, sleeping, reading the newspaper, cell phones, laptops, etc.), will be asked to stop, and may be required to leave the classroom. I ask that all students be considerate of other people in the classroom. During in-class exams, sunglasses and hats are not allowed. I will not accept any assignments via e-mail.

CONTACTING ME: When e-mailing please put a subject line with the name of the class and the section you are attending. I spend hours every day answering student e-mails so the easier you make it for me to know exactly which class we are discussing, the faster the response you will receive.
ATTENDANCE: Attendance will not be taken (except for Financial Aid purposes the first 2 weeks), however, students are expected to attend all classes and excessive absences may affect the final grade. Class participation is encouraged and discussion material will be fair game for exams. If you miss a class, YOU are responsible for obtaining all material covered (lecture, films, discussion). Please swap contact information with a fellow classmate and contact them for class information you missed. Secondarily, contact me to discuss unclear information throughout the term. I encourage all students to attend my office hours to discuss any class information.

FOR YOUR ASSIGNMENTS: Please follow the American Anthropological Association (AAA) format. You can download the PDF file for complete instructions: http://www.aaanet.org/publications/guidelines.cfm. If you have any questions, please see me during office hours and I will be happy to help.

EXAMS (100 pts each): There will be three in-class exams (including the final exam) which will cover all class materials, including readings, lectures, discussion, in-class assignments, and films. Format and criteria will be discussed prior to each exam. Please check the syllabus for due dates. **If you need to take a make-up exam you must see me in advance of the exam and have a valid reason for missing the class.**

IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS (20 pts each): There will be five in-class assignments that will correlate with the class readings. It is possible that an in-class assignment could be an unannounced quiz. The lowest in-class assignment score will be dropped. **There are NO make-up in-class assignments.**

ASSIGMENTS:
- **Food assignment (50 pts):** For this assignment, you will need to research the cultural significance of a food item and create the food. This will be at least 1 ½ double-spaced typed pages.
- **Film assignment (50 pts):** For this assignment, you will need to watch a film from a culture different than your own. Once you have watched the film, write a paper in which you will describe the cultural context of the film. This assignment needs to be at least 3 double-spaced typed pages.
- **Culture/Social Issue Paper (120 pts):** Each student will be developing a topic of interest throughout the semester in order to write a 5-6 page paper. Prior to the completed paper, each student must turn in a topic with two references, which I will approve. A full set of paper guidelines will be handed out in class and discussed in detail later in the semester.

COURSE EVALUATION: 300 points 3 Exams (100 points each)
80 points 5 In-Class Assignments (20 points each; drop lowest score)
50 points 1 Film Assignment
50 points 1 Food Assignment
140 points 1 Culture Paper: Topic (20 points), Paper (80 points), Presentation (40 points)

**Total points = 620 points possible**

PERCENTAGE GRADE SCALE
94-100 A; 90-93 A-; 87-89 B+; 83-86 B; 80-82 B-; 77-79 C+;
73-76 C; 70-72 C-; 67-69 D+; 66-60 D; 0-59 F

MAKE-UP POLICY: All assignments have a specified due date. They must be turned in during class the day they are due. **Papers will receive a full grade deduction for every day late.** If you know that you are going to miss a scheduled assignment or exam due to a legitimate reason (e.g., illness, conflict with an approved
university event, death in the family, etc.), you need to contact me before class to make arrangements and meet with me in person within two class periods.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the university. Any student who attempts to gain an unfair advantage over other students by cheating, will fail the assignment and be reported to the Dean of Students.

**PLAGIARISM:** Be scrupulously careful to cite all the sources used in your work for material that is not “common knowledge”. Use quotation marks for all copied material, but do not simply change a few words to avoid quotation marks. Plagiarism, “taking and using as one’s own of the thoughts, writings, or inventions of another” (The Oxford Universal Dictionary 1955:1513) is unacceptable. Suspected plagiarized work, or work with unintentional misuse of sources may be returned ungraded. Intentional plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students, and will be grounds for a failing grade for the work, or for the class.

**INCOMPLETE POLICY:** Due to unforeseen circumstances, students are sometimes unable to complete a course of study on time. Under these circumstances the student can request an Incomplete Grade (I) which has to be made up by a fixed deadline in order to prevent the grade being changed to F.

To obtain an “I” grade:
1. Students must make a formal request in writing (e-mail can be used) to the instructor outlining the reason why they are requesting an incomplete and when they plan to complete the course (three months to one year).
2. Students must complete 1/3 of the total in-class assignments and one of the three exams in order to file for an incomplete.
3. A student must have a mathematical possibility of passing the class. A passing grade is 60 percent or above for the entire course.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Please notify me during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course. Please visit or contact the Office of Disability Services [Reid Hall, Rm. 111; 792-2211] to learn more about College services available to you.

**WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Week 1 (Jan 19 & 21)**
No Class Jan 19th

Read: *Cultural Anthropology*: Chapter 1 (Introduction to Anthropology and Culture)  
*Explorations*: Part 1(Culture)

**Week 2 (Jan 26 & 28)**  
**Extra Credit 1 DUE Jan 26th**

**Week 3 (Feb 2 & 4)**

Read: *Cultural Anthropology*: Chapter 3 (Anthropological Methods)  
*Explorations*: Part II (Fieldwork and Ethnography) – only Introduction, “Eating Christmas in the Kalahari”, and “Reflections of a Shy Ethnographer”

**Week 4 (Feb 9 & 11)**

Read: *Cultural Anthropology*: Chapter 4 (Communication and Language)
Explorations: Part III (Language, Communication, and Expressive Culture)

Week 5 (Feb 16 & 18)

No Class Feb 16th

TOPIC for Culture Paper DUE Feb 18th

Read: Cultural Anthropology: Chapter 5 (Play, Sport and Arts)

Week 6 (Feb 23 & 25)

Extra Credit 2 DUE Feb 23rd

Read: Cultural Anthropology: Chapter 6 (Ritual and Religion)

Explorations: Part VIII (Belief Systems)

Week 7 (Mar 2 & 4)

Exam 1 due by Mar 6th

Read: Cultural Anthropology: Chapter 7 (Production, Inequality, and Development)

Week 8 (Mar 9 & 11)

FOOD Assignment DUE Mar 11th

Read: Supplied chapter on food

Week 9 (Mar 16 & 18)

Extra Credit 3 DUE Mar 18th

Read: Cultural Anthropology: Chapter 8 (Health and Healing)

Supplied articles on health

Week 10 (Mar 23 & 25)

Film Assignment DUE Mar 25th

Read: Cultural Anthropology: Chapter 10 (Marriage, Reproduction, and Kinship)

Explorations: Part VII (Marriage, Family, and Kinship)

Week 11 (Mar 30 & Apr 1)

No Class All Week – Spring Break

Week 12 (Apr 6 & 8)

Exam 2 due by Apr 10th

Read: Explorations: Part VI (Gender and Sexuality)

Week 13 (Apr 13 & 15)

Read: Cultural Anthropology: Chapter 11 (Social Stratification, Power and Conflict)

Explorations: Part V (Race and Ethnicity)

Week 14 (Apr 20 & 22)
Week 15 (Apr 27 & 29)

Read: Cultural Anthropology: Chapter 12 (Globalization and Migration)
Supplied articles on globalization

Week 16 (May 4 & 6)
Final Paper due May 4th
Student presentations all week

Week 17 Finals Week (May 11-15)
***Our final is Wednesday, May 13th from 3:00-5:00 PM in SAC 112

Syllabus Addendum

Consumer Information
In 2008, the federal government required all post-secondary institutions offering federal financial aid programs to provide key data to both prospective and current students. To comply with this requirement, Lewis-Clark State College has developed a consumer information page, which may be accessed at http://www.lcsc.edu/student-consumer-information/

Disability Accommodations
Students requiring special accommodations or course adaptations due to a disability and/or a health-related issue should consult their course instructors and the LCSC Student Counseling Center immediately (RCH 111, 792-2211). Official documentation may be required in order to provide an accommodation and/or adaptation.

Student Rights and Responsibilities
Students have the responsibility for knowing their program requirements, course requirements, and other information associated with their enrollment at LCSC. Students should review the LCSC General Catalog (http://webdev.lcsc.edu/catalog and the LCSC Student Handbook (http://www.lcsc.edu/media/1152314/13-14-Student-Handbook-Revised.pdf) for more information.

Accidents/Student Insurance
Students participating in LCSC classes normally must look to their personal health insurance policy (Student Health Insurance Plan or comparable private coverage) should an accident occur. In the event of an accident, please seek medical help, if necessary, and report the incident to LCSC Security (792-2226). Fieldtrips or other special student activities may also require students to submit a signed participation waiver (forms can be obtained from the supporting Division Office).

Enrollment Verification/Attendance
Students who are not actively pursuing their classes may have to repay part or all of their financial aid awards depending upon the circumstances.

Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty, which includes cheating and plagiarism, is not tolerated at LCSC. Individual faculty members will impose their own policies and sanctions regarding academic dishonesty. Students who are accused of being academically dishonest may be referred to the VP for Student Affairs for official disciplinary action.

Illegal File Sharing
Students using LCSC’s computers and/or computer network must comply with the college’s appropriate use policies and are prohibited from illegally downloading or sharing data files of any kind. Specific information about the college’s technology policies and its protocols for combating illegal file sharing may be found on the VP for Student Affairs’ web page (http://www.lcsc.edu/student-affairs/student-code-of-conduct/).

Diversity Vision Statement
Regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation, you will be treated and respected as a human being.
Disclosures
During this course, if you elect to discuss information with me which you consider to be sensitive or personal in nature and not to be shared with others, please state this clearly. Your confidentiality in these circumstances will be respected unless upholding that confidentiality could reasonably put you, other students, other members of the campus community, or me in danger. In those cases or when I am bound by law to report what you have told me, such as incidents involving sexual assault or other violent acts, I will submit a report to appropriate campus authorities.

Updated January 2014