

## **ANT 333- Anthropology of Religion**

3 credits

MWR 12:30-1:45

Course Instructor: Patricia Jolly

Office in Candelaria 2233- Office Phone 970-351-2342

Candelaria Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday: 12:45-1:45

Wednesday 1:15-2:15

Office Hours available by apt in Harrison Hall

Patricia.jolly@unco.edu

### **Required texts:**

*Myth and Meaning: Cracking the Code of Culture* by Claude Levi-Strauss

*Myths to Live By* by Joseph Campbell

*Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl

*Living Buddha, Living Christ* by Thich Nhat Hanh

A Subscription to Netflix or other way to rent movies as assigned

### **Suggested books:**

*Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life* by Marshall B. Rosenberg

*Why Christianity Must Change or Die: A Bishop Speaks to Believers in Exile* by John Shelby Spong

*The Road Less Traveled* by M. Scott Peck

*People of the Lie* by M. Scott Peck

Course description: This course will look at religion from an anthropological perspective. We will look at how different cultures access meaning through myth, folklore and religion. The course will ask students to think about how looking at religion through this lens differs from a comparative religion or philosophy of religion course. At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a working understanding of the world's current major religions.

2. Look at the function that religion and spirituality play in different societies.
3. Understand the integration of geography and power in how religions are constructed.
4. Investigate their own relationship to religion in a cultural framework.
5. Know in depth a specific world region and the belief systems of that area.

**Policies:**

The class moves at a fast pace, so please make sure to check in on Blackboard regularly. Announcements and readings will rely on you checking in on BB.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. In brief know that if the words you write did not come from your own thoughts, you must cite where they are from. If the idea is not uniquely your own, you must cite where you got it. Plagiarism will result in either failing the course or receiving a grade of 0 for that assignment.

**Emails must be sent via UNC email addresses and you must include “ANT 333” in the subject line.**

**Homework:**

You will keep a journal of reflections and minor assignments as assigned in class. Your journal will also contain dated class notes from every day we meet. These entries will serve to create attendance points in addition to being a requirement for the journal entries.

You will also have a final paper that will follow the rubric below.

**20%=Clarity**-I should not have to read and reread your paper in order to understand your work. Your work should clearly direct the reader to the main points and then develop them accordingly.

**20%=Content**-Your work should reflect an understanding of the topic, and contribute your own ideas that reflect synthesis of the material and critical thinking. You should have something to say, and cite ALL parts of your paper that are not your own original thoughts. Your citations should reflect independent pursuit of scholarly works related to your topic. Please utilize MLA for all citations.

**20%=Concise**-Write your papers free of unnecessary repetition. This doesn't mean you won't restate certain parts, but it does mean that each paragraph contributes new information, with the exception of the conclusion. Your conclusion will not just restate your thesis and main points, but will tie them together to form a conclusive statement, but remember not to introduce new information into your conclusion.

**20%=Presentation**-Your work should be presented well, according to the guidelines we will discuss in class. Your writing should be free of mechanical errors, and any other writing flaws that detract from your work.

**20%=Interesting**, engaging and insightful-Your paper should be interesting to read, and keep the attention of your reader, as well as having something worthwhile to say that is beyond mere repetition and discussions assigned.

**Group Project:** Students will be assigned a group and will be given guidelines to a group project that will be presented in class. Attendance for all group presentations is mandatory

and there will be no excused absences outside of UNC sanctioned (required) obligations, a verifiable medical emergency as approved by the instructor, jury duty, court subpoena, or military duty. These presentations will take place the last part of the semester after spring break.

### **Tests:**

There will be a final exam in class. Please bring a bluebook.

Please know that the campus has a writing center. There is also assistance for those with disabilities. Use these resources at any time that you feel you need help. If you are not sure of how to get help, let me know and I would be glad to find out for you.

### **Students with disabilities:**

Disability Support Services

Michener L-80

Campus Box 139

Greeley, CO 80639

Phone: (970) 351-2289 (Voice, TTY)

Fax: (970) 351-4166

Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice.

Please allow 48 hours for me to respond to messages, but most of the time I should get back to you within the day.

### **Reflection Journals: 30 percent**

Each week students will compile reflections in the journals that will be collected 4 times through the semester for a pass/fail check. Each check will be worth 100 points. You will be expected to have your journal in class and the days that they are collected are not going to be announced in advance (if you miss class you have until 5:00 that day to make arrangements with me to turn the journal in within 24 hours of the class time when journals were collected)

### **Attendance: 15 Percent**

There will be a 3 point deduction for EVERY absence. No Exceptions!

### **Papers: 35 Percent**

You will have a total of 3 book reviews as well as one final paper. Details to follow.

### **Midterm: 10 percent**

### **Final Exam: 10 percent**

### **Total: 100 points**

**90-100= A**

**80-90=B**

**70-80=C**

**60-70=D**

**59 and below = F**