SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS
University of Virginia, Academic Sponsor

Voyage: Spring 2015
Discipline: Anthropology
ANTH 2610: Sex, Gender, and Culture
Division: Lower
Faculty Name: Caleb Everett
Credit Hours: 3; Contact Hours: 38

Pre-requisites: N/a

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will consider the ways in which people enact gender through culturally dependent practices. This consideration will consist in large measure of a cross-cultural examination of sex roles, sexual practices, gender identity, gender-associated divisions of labor, gender-differentiated linguistic practice, marital norms, reproductive control, and political relationships between the sexes. One recurring focus will be the ways in which the enactment of gender roles intersects with other culturally defined factors such as particular socio-economic classes. Our cross-cultural examination will be informed by studies of remarkably disparate cultures with occasionally striking differences in gender norms. We will rely primarily on ethnographic data gathered among cultural types ranging from small hunter-gatherer societies to large urban groups in industrialized societies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

One of the primary goals of this class will be for students to recognize the ways that their own gender has been shaped by cultural practice. That is, how is their day-to-day behavior shaped by the gender norms of their culture? Such a recognition will allow them to make better sense of what it means to be gendered, and also allow them to better appreciate the range of diversity of gender practices in the countries visited. We will see that cultural variations in gender play a major role in the way that humans interact with each other in their local contexts, and play a role more generally in people’s day-to-day lives. A related objective of the course is for students to understand the ways in which gender is based on genetically determined biological factors, and to understand the ways in which it is not.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

AUTHOR: Kimmel, Michael
TITLE: The Gendered Society
TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Ensenada- January 7:

A1- January 9: Lecture: What is gender, and what does it mean to “do” gender? Discussion: How have you enacted gender today?

A2-January 11: Lecture: Homo sapiens, an engendered species Reading: Kimmel Chapter 1


Hilo: January 14

A4-January 16: Lecture: Ordained by nature? Sexual dimorphism, biology, and gender. (cont.) Reading: Kimmel Chapter 2 (cont.)

A5-January 19: Lecture: Gender as a cultural construct Reading: Kimmel Chapter 3

Study Day: January 21

A6- January 22: Lecture: Gender as a cultural construct (cont.) Discussion: Reflection on the ways in which our gender has been constructed Reading: Kimmel Chapter 3 (cont.)

A7-January 24: Lecture: Gender differentiation in three cultures Port preparation: Gender roles in Japanese culture Reading: Kimmel Chapter 4

Yokohama: January 26-27
In-Transit: January 28
Kobe: January 29-31

A8- February 1: Lecture: Psychoanalytic and developmental perspectives on gender
Discussion: Recap of field notes from Japan
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 4 (cont.)

Shanghai: February 3-4
In-Transit: February 5-6
Hong Kong: 7-8

A9- February 9: Lecture: The social construction of gender relations
Discussion: Recap of field notes from China
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 5

Ho Chi Minh: February 11-16

A10- February 17: Lecture: The linguistic construction of gender
Reading: Everett 2011 article

Singapore: February 19-20
Study Day: February 21

A11-February 22: Lecture: The linguistic construction of gender (cont.)
Discussion: The role of women and men in linguistic change in America

Rangoon: February 24-March 1

A12-March 2: Lecture: Family, biology, and the construction of gender
Discussion: Recap of field notes from Burma
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 6

A13- March 4: Lecture: Extreme cross-cultural variation of gender norms
A look at several tribal case studies in Amazonia and elsewhere
Port preparation: The Hijras of India

Cochin: March 6-11
FIELD LAB, March 6: Visit to Chendamangalam village outside Cochin. See description in following section.

Study Day: March 12

A14-March 13: Mid-term exam

A15-March 15: Lecture: The Gendered classroom
Discussion: Recap of field notes from India
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 7

Study Day: March 17

Port Louis: March 18

A16- March 19:  Lecture: Gender and religion. Androcentrism in religious practice
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 8

A17-March 21:  Lecture:  Gender and religion. Androcentrism in religious practice
                        (cont.)
Discussion: An examination of religion and gender in America
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 8 (cont.)

A18-March 23:  Lecture: Separate but unequal, the gendered world of work
Field assignment due
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 9

Cape Town: March 25-30

Study Day: March 31

A19-April 1:  Lecture: Separate but unequal, the gendered world of work (cont.)
Discussion: Recap of field notes from South Africa
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 9 (cont.)

A20-April 3:  Lecture: The gendered media
Discussion: A consideration of the age disparities and gender in American
                      cinema
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 10

A21- April 5: Lecture: Gendered intimacies—friendship and love
Discussion: The neurological correlates of romantic love
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 11

Tema (Accra): April 7-9
Takoradi: April 10-11

A22-April 12: Lecture: Gendered intimacies—cross-cultural variation in sexual
                   practice
Discussion: Recap of field notes from Ghana
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 11 (cont.)
A23: April 14: Lecture: The gender of violence
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 13

A24: April 16: Lecture: Gender enacted and the gendered body
Discussion: A recap of gender in actions in the visited ports and onboard the MV Explorer
Reading: Kimmel Chapter 12

Study Day: April 18
April 19: Global Lens Exams and Study Day
Casablanca: April 20-24

A25: A Day Finals
April 29: Arrive in Southampton
FIELD WORK
Field lab attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Please do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field lab.

FIELD LAB (At least 20 percent of the contact hours for each course, to be led by the instructor.)
Visit to Chendamangalam village outside Cochin. We will get a taste of village life, and in particular we will learn about the economic role of rural women in the village. We will observe the culinary skills of women in the village at lunch, and then visit a factory where the women weave cloth on handlooms. We will learn about the government program of Kundumbasree, aimed at eradicating poverty among women. Students will be given the chance to interact with the women in the village, asking them appropriate questions about their day-to-day experience. At the end of the lab, we will discuss what we have learned in the context of the global trend towards socioeconomic development through the empowerment of women.

FIELD ASSIGNMENTS
The primary field assignment is due on A19. It will entail the incorporation of key components of the field lab experience in Chendamangalam, as well as the incorporation of field notes from previous ports of call. The assignment will ask for students to utilize what they have learned in class as they answer several key questions regarding their field experience. It will entail about 5 pages of writing.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING RUBRIC
Students will be evaluated on a variety of assignments and exams. Classroom lecture and discussion form a crucial component of the course, and so participation and attendance are graded. The bulk of the course grade will come from three components: A lab assignment incorporating the field lab experience as well as field notes from other ports of call, a mid-term exam, and a final exam. The course grade is constituted in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classroom participation and interaction</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field lab assignment</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final (non-cumulative) exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
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RESERVE LIBRARY LIST
N/a

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS
AUTHOR: Everett, Caleb
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The ligature between epicene pronouns and a more neutral gender perception
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Gender and Language
VOLUME: 5
DATE: 2011
PAGES: 133-152

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

N/a

HONOR CODE

Semester at Sea students enroll in an academic program administered by the University of Virginia, and thus bind themselves to the University’s honor code. The code prohibits all acts of lying, cheating, and stealing. Please consult the Voyager's Handbook for further explanation of what constitutes an honor offense.

Each written assignment for this course must be pledged by the student as follows: “On my honor as a student, I pledge that I have neither given nor received aid on this assignment.” The pledge must be signed, or, in the case of an electronic file, signed “[signed].”