Voyage: Spring 2020
Discipline: Anthropology
Course Number and Title: ANTH 329 Cultural Change
Division: Upper
Faculty Name: Stephen Christopher Johnson
Semester Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: One (1) introductory anthropology or cultures course

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course analyzes anthropological approaches to the issue of cultural change. Globalization and transnational flows have reached into the most intimate spaces of local cultural life, forcing anthropology to rethink the culture concept. This course is intended as an invitation to critically think about cultural dynamics at play in each port stop. In Unit One, we consider the precarity of modern life in Japan – social isolation, natural disaster, consumer fetishism, and shrinking demographics. In Unit Two, we analyze shifting attitudes about sexuality in China, Vietnam, India and Japan, including LGBT rights, gender performance, and sexual health. In Unit Three, we go deep into a single ethnography of a Himalayan tribe and how the state and global discourses are shaping ethnic belonging. Similarly, in Unit Four we dive into the complications of gender transformation in a Ghanaian charismatic church. We will build up a theory toolkit that allows us to understand the push-pull of cultural homogenization and differentiation, the logic of cultural flows, moments of unprecedented culture contact, and spiritual modernity. We will also think about ourselves and our journey alongside theories of cosmopolitanism. The course will include a field class that combines old and new Japan.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Develop a critical understanding of cultural change and globalization
- Establish a theory toolkit for understanding cultural homogenization and differentiation
- Reflect on our own cultural embeddedness
- Consider methodological issues pertaining to scale and generalizability
- Connect theoretical/ethnographic material to experiences in port stops

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS
TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

INTRODUCTION: Theory Toolkit

Depart Ensenada, Mexico — January 5

B1—January 8: Introduction: Theories of Globalization

B2—January 10: Introduction: Time-Space Compression

B3—January 13: Introduction: Culture Contact: Cook in Hawaii

Honolulu, Hawaii, USA — January 12

UNIT 1: Globalizing Precarity

B4—January 15: Precarious Japan: Introduction
Allison, Anne. Precarious Japan. 1-42.

International Date Line Crossing — January 16 (Lost Day)
B5—January 18: Precarious Japan: Changing Youth

Study Day — January 19 (No Class)

B6—January 21: Precarious Japan: Changing Homes

B7—January 23: Japan: Changing Affect

Kobe, Japan — January 24-28
FIELD CLASS: January 24: Tradition and Change

UNIT 2: Globalizing Sexuality

B8—January 30: China: Normal Life, Lesbian Spaces

Shanghai, China — January 31 – February 5

B9—February 7: China: Globalization of Chinese Food
Field Class Paper Due

B10—February 9: Vietnam: Love, Sexual Health, Masculinities

Ho Chi Minh City — February 10-15

B11—February 18: Vietnam: Changing Sexual Rights Regimes


Community Programming — February 17 (No Class)

Port Klang, Malaysia — February 19-24

B12—February 26: Vietnam: Emergence of the Global Middle Class

Paper #1 Due

UNIT 3: Globalizing Ethnicity

B13—February 28: India: State Ethnology and Ethnic Belonging
Middleton, Townsend. The Demands of Recognition: State Anthropology and Ethnopolitics in Darjeeling. 1-54.

Cochin, India — February 29 – March 5

B14—March 7: India: State Ethnology and Ethnic Belonging
Middleton, Townsend. The Demands of Recognition: State Anthropology and Ethnopolitics in Darjeeling. 81-140.

Community Programming — March 8 (No Class)

B15—March 10: Mauritius: Global Tourism

Port Louis, Mauritius — March 11

B16—March 13: India: State Ethnology and Ethnic Belonging
Middleton, Townsend. The Demands of Recognition: State Anthropology and Ethnopolitics in Darjeeling. 141-186.

B17—March 16: India: State Ethnology and Ethnic Belonging

Study Day — March 15 (No Class)
B18—March 17: South Africa: Women, Food, and the Indian Diaspora
Paper #2 Due

Cape Town, South Africa — March 18-23

B19—March 26: Global Subjectivities: Cosmopolitanism
Paper #2 Due

UNIT 4: Religious Change

B20—March 28: Ghana: GSS: Religion and Gender in Africa

B21—April 4: Ghana: GSS: Defining Womanhood

Takoradi, Ghana — March 30- April 1
Tema, Ghana — April 2-3

B22—April 6: Ghana: GSS: Big Women, Small Girls

B23—April 8: Ghana: GSS: Men, Marriage and Modernity

B24—April 10: Ghana: GSS: Christianity, Gender, and Cultural Authenticity
Review for Final

Casablanca, Morocco — April 11-14

Study Day — April 15 (No Class)

B25—April 17: Final Exam

Arrive Amsterdam, The Netherlands — April 20
FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea® field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

Field Class & Assignment

The field class for this course is on **Friday, 24 January 2020 in Kobe, Japan.**

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class. Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course, and are developed and led by the instructor.

**Title:** The Old and New in Japan

**Description:** We will visit Himeji Castle, the greatest example of a feudal castle and an icon of Japan. The building is often described as the White Heron Castle because it looks like a heron taking flight. While there, we will participate in a tea ceremony inside the elegant sukiya style tea room. We will have lunch at Kassui-ken overlooking beautiful gardens. And we will ramble around the Koko-en nine gardens, constructed in the Edo style and boasting great views of the castle. Back in Kobe, we will meet with Professor Aoyama, an expert on Japanese contemporary sexuality. She will give us an informal lecture about gender, sexuality, and sex work in Japan.

**Objectives:** In a single day, we will experience the old and the new in Japan. We will visit one of the great historical icons of Japan – the Himeji Castle – participate in a traditional tea ceremony, and wander around Edo-style gardens. We will also speak with Dr. Aoyama about the rapid changes in sexuality, gender, and romance in Japan in the past few decades. Students will be able to compare the historical and rural with the cutting-edge contemporary and urban. These observations will deepen our understanding of the course materials about changes in Japanese sexuality, family, love, and affect.

**Evaluation:** Students will write a 4-page paper incorporating their observations and relating them to course readings and discussions. Deadline: February 6th.

**Independent Field Assignments**

Students will write two (2) analytic papers of (5) pages each over the course of the semester linking the course material to observations and experiences in port countries. Each paper should be properly referenced, 12-inch font, Times New Roman, 1-inch margins. Each paper must address a different theme and port – and cannot overlap with our Field Class. Each paper must address a different theme and different port, not including the port where the Field Class takes place.
Subjects include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- World-system theory
- Time-space compression
- Cosmopolitanism
- Culture Contact
- Diaspora and migration
- Globalization
- Ethno-contemporary
- Neoliberalism and Markets
- Sex and Gender
- Psychosocial health
- Precarity
- Post-colonialism

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Attendance and Participation: 10%
Field class paper: 20%
2 papers: 20% each = 40%: A12—February 25; A19—March 17
A written, comprehensive final exam: 30% A25—April 16

GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea® coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea® in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Satisfactory/Poor</th>
<th>Failing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97-100%: A+</td>
<td>87-89%: B+</td>
<td>77-79%: C+</td>
<td>Less than 60%: F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93-96%: A</td>
<td>83-86%: B</td>
<td>70-76%: C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92%: A-</td>
<td>80-82%: B-</td>
<td>60-69%: D</td>
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ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea® classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor’s supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.
LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea® provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation.

A letter from students’ home institutions verifying the accommodations received on their home campuses (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit verification of accommodations to academic@isevoyages.org as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage. More details can be found within the Course Registration Packet, as posted to the Courses and Field Classes page no later than one month prior to registration.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one’s own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea® courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code.

Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: “I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment.”

RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

AUTHOR: Anne Allison
TITLE: Precarious Japan
PUBLISHER: Duke University Press
DATE/EDITION: 2013

AUTHOR: Townsend Middleton
TITLE: The Demands of Recognition: State Anthropology and Ethnopolitics in Darjeeling
PUBLISHER: Stanford University Press
DATE/EDITION: 2015

AUTHOR: Jane E. Soothill
TITLE: Gender, Social Change and Spirituality: Charismatic Christianity in Ghana
PUBLISHER: Brill
DATE/EDITION: 2007

FILMS
None

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS
None

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
None