Miyazaki International College

Course Syllabus

Fall 2022

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| Course Title (Credits) | LAS101 **Introduction to Anthropology** |
| Course Designation for TC |  |
| Content Teacher | |
| Instructor | Debra Occhi, PhD, RYT |
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| Course Description: | | |
| Examines modern anthropology with an emphasis on the sources of anthropological thinking, methods of data collection and analysis, and the applications of anthropology in contemporary human situations. Students are expected to conduct brief research projects in the local area, analyze the data which they gather, and produce a report of their results.  **Examines modern anthropology as a tool for understanding the relationships between humans and the earth, and between humans in their cultural frameworks. Through anthropological focus on these fundamental issues, students are encouraged to apply critical thinking to the essentials of living and towards sustainable development initiatives.** | | |
| Course Objectives: | | |
| In this class we will study in English about anthropology: the study of learned, shared, patterned, and changing human behavior. We will learn about how human cultures vary based on their physical environments in which they live (geography), the social environments they create, and the interaction between these environments. | | |
| Course Schedule: | | |
| Day | Topic | Content/Activities |
| 1 | Introduction | Explanation of the syllabus, goals and purposes of the class  Survey of Student Backgrounds & Interests  In class writing sample |
| 2 | Geography as physical and cultural knowledge | Survey of Student geographic knowledge  Introduction of geography concepts & vocabulary |
| 3 | How Earth is measured East to West, and why | Map reading skills: longitude, time zones, & discussion of their cultural relevance |
| 4 | North to South, Up and Down, Water and Land | Map reading skills: latitude, climate zones, & discussion of their cultural relevance |
| 5 | Case study: Japan’s geography and climate | Application of geographic knowledge: jigsaw reading |
| 6 | Summary assessment | Quiz on geographic knowledge |
| 7 | “How Geography Defines a Culture” | Introduction to “How Geography Defines a Culture” vocabulary and concepts |
| 8 | Adaptation to physical environments | Lecture/reading/discussion on geography and culture |
| 9 | Adaptation of physical environments | Lecture/reading/discussion on geography and culture |
| 10 | Summary assessment | Quiz on “How Geography Defines a Culture” |
| 11 | “How Social Organization Defines a Culture” | Introduction, vocabulary and concepts |
| 12 | Kinship and other social groups | Lecture/reading/discussion on social organization |
| 13 | Family structure as adaptation to physical environment | Lecture/reading/discussion on social organization |
| 14 | “How Social Organization Defines a Culture” | Research on study abroad sites: kinship patterns 2 |
| 15 | Summary assessment | Quiz on “How Social Organization Defines a Culture” |
|  | Final Exam |  |
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| Required Materials:  There is no textbook for this course. Instead, reading and activity sheets will be handed out in class. Other resources will be available in the class Moodle and Quizlet: students will need electronic devices to access these (BYOD). Students should provide a two-ring binder to keep class materials organized and bring it to each class. A mask covering the mouth and nose must be worn at all times during face-to-face classes.  Course Policies (Attendance, etc.):  Expectations: Students must actively participate in class in order to contribute effectively to group work and to benefit from this course. Students with more than 3 unexcused absences may be required to withdraw from the course. Missing class (lateness or absence) will result in deductions in the participation grade. Excessive lateness or absence that affects your ability to meet your class responsibilities may cause you to be required to withdraw from the course. Lack of participation will negatively affect grades. Students are expected to study the Quizlet vocabulary lists and use Moodle.  Participation: Participation means coming to class prepared and on time, taking part in all class activities, listening to others and taking part in discussions. This class will be built around participation individually and as a member of pairs or groups.  Plagiarism and Intellectual Honesty: Plagiarism is representing some else's work (words, ideas, or images) as your own. It is a very serious error, and plagiarized work is not accepted in this course.  Class Preparation and Review:  According to MEXT, students are expected to spend at least one hour reviewing and doing homework and one hour preparing for every hour of lesson time. Just be sure you review and prepare enough to keep up with the class, and be sure to ask questions when necessary!  Grades and Grading Standards:  In-class participation 15%  Homework 15%  In-class quizzes and other writing 30%  Comprehensive final examination 30%  Methods of Feedback:  In principle, graded work will be returned within one week of submission with appropriate feedback, i.e., grade, comments, etc.  Diploma Policy Objectives:  Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy objective(s):   1. Advanced thinking skills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought) 2. The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition of a broad knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations 3. The ability to identify and solve problems 4. Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English 5. Proficiency in the use of information technology   Notes: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as needed. | | |



