



COURSE OUTLINE : ANTHR 104

D Credit – Degree Applicable

COURSE ID 004050

Cyclical Review: October 2018

Revision: September 2021

COURSE DISCIPLINE : ANTHR
COURSE NUMBER : 104
COURSE TITLE (FULL) : Magic, Religion, and Witchcraft
COURSE TITLE (SHORT) : Magic, Religion, and Witchcraft
ACADEMIC SENATE DISCIPLINE: Anthropology

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

ANTHR 104 is a cross-cultural survey of religion and the supernatural. The course includes an examination of magic, witchcraft, and forms of religious expression in a wide variety of cultures around the world. The course considers the forms and functions of supernatural beliefs and rituals in various societies to derive insight into the roles of religious beliefs and institutions in human life. The course covers ritual, witchcraft, magic, symbolism, altered states of consciousness, and religious change.

Total Lecture Units:3.00

Total Laboratory Units: 0.00

Total Course Units: 3.00

Total Lecture Hours:54.00

Total Laboratory Hours: 0.00

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.00

Total Contact Hours: 54.00

Total Out-of-Class Hours: 108.00

Recommended Preparation: ENGL 100 or ESL 151.



ENTRY STANDARDS

	Subject	Number	Title	Description	Include
1	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	Read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories to identify topic, thesis, support, transitions, conclusion, audience, and tone;	Yes
2	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories for the comprehension of difficult content and the identification of main ideas and (topic-based) evidence;	Yes
3	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate student compositions for unity, development, use of evidence, interpretation, coherence, and variety of sentence form;	Yes
4	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write a summary of a contemporary article or story with correct citation techniques;	Yes
5	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that has an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion, demonstrating a basic understanding of essay organization;	Yes
6	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that addresses the topic, is directed by a thesis statement, uses appropriate textual evidence, develops logical interpretations, and concludes with some compelling observations;	Yes
7	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that integrates the ideas of others (i.e., authors) through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting with correct citation techniques;	Yes
8	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that generates novel ideas (those that add to the conversation rather than repeating the author’s ideas) related to the topic and the readings;	Yes
9	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write compositions (e.g., summaries and argumentative essays) that are easy to read and follow, though some errors in grammar, mechanics, spelling, or diction may exist;	Yes
10	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	proofread and edit essays for content, language, citation, and formatting problems.	Yes
11	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	Read and critically analyze various academic readings;	Yes
12	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	summarize readings;	Yes



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13	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	organize fully-developed essays in both expository and argumentative modes;	Yes
14	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	compose a 500 to 550-word essay which: summarizes and cites appropriately a reading passage; includes a clear thesis statement; uses evidence to support the thesis; shows clear organization into an introduction, body, and conclusion;	Yes
15	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	revise writing to eliminate errors in syntax, and grammatical constructions;	Yes
16	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	employ basic library research techniques;	Yes
17	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	compose one research paper (1,000 words) or two short research papers (500-700 words each) with citations.	Yes

EXIT STANDARDS

- 1 compare and contrast religious practices, beliefs, and institutions from a variety of societies with different economic and technological foundations;
- 2 describe the different fundamental categories of religious tradition;
- 3 demonstrate a functional knowledge of components of religion including symbolism, myth, ritual, and ritual practitioners;
- 4 demonstrate an understanding of syncretism in religious traditions such as Voodoo and Santeria in the United States and abroad;
- 5 demonstrate a familiarity with contemporary American religious practices from a broad array of communities, ethnic groups and immigrant groups including modern Wicca, Pentecostalism, cults, and New Age religious practices.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 apply the different anthropological theories to understand religious experience and the role that religion plays for human societies;
- 2 demonstrate a functional knowledge of the religious fixtures including symbolism, myth, ritual, and ritual practitioners;
- 3 apply anthropological methods to the study of Western, African, Oceanic, Native American and Eastern religions.

COURSE CONTENT WITH INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

	Description	Lecture	Lab	Total Hours
1	Functions of Religion and the Supernatural • Psychological, sociological, and anthropological approaches • Scientific and comparative methods • Definitions of religion • Animism, animatism, totemism, polytheism, and monotheism	6	0	6



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2	<p>Symbolism and Myth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of symbols • Taboo • Sacred and profane • Totems • Symbols in a variety of religions and myths • Functions of myths • Psychological, structural, sociological understandings of myth • Examples from the United States and abroad 	6	0	6
3	<p>Rituals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rites of passage • Rites of intensification • Social functions of rituals • Liminality • Contemporary rituals in America and other cultures 	7	0	7
4	<p>Religious Specialists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaman • Priests • Prophets 	3	0	3
5	<p>Religious Use of Drugs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altered states of Consciousness • Religious verses medicinal verses recreational usage • Range of cultural attitudes toward drugs • Hallucinogens and other means of inducing altered states • Different attitudes toward altered states in America with specific case studies 	3	0	3
6	<p>Ethnomedicine: Religion and Healing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural theories of etiology, diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes • The role of cultural belief in outcomes. • The integration or exclusion of family and local group in curing processes • Examples of ethnomedicine from African and Native American traditions 	3	0	3
7	<p>Religious explanations of Misfortune</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Witchcraft and sorcery • European witch hunts • Malicious supernatural figures including ghosts and spirits • Spirit possession 	4	0	4



8	Magical Practices • Imitative • Sympathetic • Contagious • Magical belief verses science	4	0	4
9	Knowing the sacred and the unknown • Attribution of supernatural cause for natural and social events • Divination • Dreams • Tarot and horoscopes • Ordeals • Necromancy • Role for social group in conflict resolution	3	0	3
10	Syncretic Traditions • Voodoo and blended religions in Haiti, Cuba, Brazil, and New Orleans • Possession, trance and possession trance • Polytheism and Catholicism	3	0	3
11	Attitudes Toward the Dead • Ancestor Cults • Taboos around the dead • Mortuary rites in the United States and abroad • Relationships between the dead and the living	5	0	5
12	Old and New Religions • Cargo Cults, Cults, and sects • Culture change • New Religious movements in United States and abroad	2	0	2
13	Religion in the Modern World; Focus on America • The changing face of religion in modern United States and abroad • The effect of globalization on religions forms • Religious and political conflicts • Skepticism	5	0	5
				54

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

- 1 weekly exercises (e.g., collect a myth from a Native American group);
- 2 term paper or other shorter written assignments (e.g., analyze the symbolism in Genesis);
- 3 assignment involving field work (e.g., do fieldwork on an ethnomedical practice considering etiology, diagnosis, treatment and outcomes).



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METHODS OF EVALUATION

- 1 graded outside written assignments and/or oral projects (e.g., PowerPoint about witchcraft in California);
- 2 occasional or weekly quizzes;
- 3 two or more mid-term examinations;
- 4 final examination.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- Lecture
- Laboratory
- Studio
- Discussion
- Multimedia
- Tutorial
- Independent Study
- Collaboratory Learning
- Demonstration
- Field Activities (Trips)
- Guest Speakers
- Presentations

TEXTBOOKS

Title	Type	Publisher	Edition	Medium	Author	ISBN	Date
Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion: The Anthropological Study of the Supernatural	Required	McGraw-Hill	9		Moro, Pamela and James Myers	978-0078034947	2013
Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft.	Required	Routledge	4		Stein, Rebecca	978-1-138-69252-7	2017