**CUNY - BROOKLYN COLLEGE ANTH 1105 SPRING 2020**

**Comparative Studies in Cultures and Transformation**

Section: TREB

Professor: Dr. Tom Miller

Class meets: Tuesdays + Thursdays 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Room: Boylan 2154

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Office hours: TBA

Code: 38295

**Course Description:**

This course will be a thematic exploration of culture and transformation in two distinct non-US and non-European areas. We will discuss the meanings of culture and ways cultures are studied and portrayed. We will explore the major drivers for cultural change in the modern world such as colonization, modernization, development, and globalization. We will use two case studies to examine important themes related to cultural transformation such as gender, race and ethnic relations, religion, nationalism, power relations, cultural encounter, and constructions of tradition and modernity.

**Common General Education Learning Outcomes addressed by this Course:**

\* To gather, interpret, and assess information from a variety of sources and points of view.

**\*** Evaluate evidence and arguments critically and analytically

\* Produce well-reasoned written and oral arguments using evidence to suport conclusions

\* Identify and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of a discipline or interdisciplinary field exploring human and cultural diversity, including but not limited to anthropology, communications, cultural studies, economics, history, political science, psychology, public affairs, sociology, and literature.

\* Analyze and explain one or more major themes of history from more than one informed perspective.

\* Evaluate how indigenous populations, slavery, or immigration have shaped the development of modern societies.

\* Analyze and discuss common institutions or patterns of life in contemporary society and how they influence, or are influenced by, race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, belief, or other forms of social difference.

**Course Texts and Other Resources**

This course uses an Open Educational Resource library website.

Contact and Technical Support: Colin McDonald (4th floor Library)

email: [Colin.McDonald@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:Colin.McDonald@brooklyn.cuny.edu)

Supplemental texts: Blackboard, Library Reserves

**Course Requirements - based on scale**

Grading Formula (subject to change*)*

*Overall/Weekly 50% of course grade*

Attendance and assigned work 25%

Class preparation, input, participation 25%

*Tests and Activities 50% of course grade*

Quizzes (5 @5% each) Weeks 2, 4, 6, 9, 13 25%

Midterm essay/exam Week 8 10%

Forum/Workshops Weeks 15, 16 15%

Unless otherwise specified, all quizzes will:

take place in-class, at the start of the designated class period

be multiple-choice using Scantron cards

be semi-open note format (i.e. you may use a single handwritten page of notes)

Make-up quizzes: by special permission only, to be administered during weekly office hours or by appointment. Your Professor reserves the right to deny requests or appeals.

Resubmitting revised work for a grade: only by prior arrangement with the Professor.

**Course Schedule (subject to change) ANTH 1105**

***Part One The Big Picture***

WEEK 1. Jan27-Feb2

Tues 1/28 Introduction to class

Thurs 1/30 Overview of topics and areas

Texts:

Gregory Bateson *Steps to an Ecology of Mind*:

Metalogue 1 – Why Do Things Get In A Muddle?

WEEK 2. Feb 3-9

Tuesday Geographies and Ecologies

River systems

Floods in history

Thursday Quiz #1

Introduction to circumpolar peoples

***Part Two Siberia***

WEEK 3. Feb 10-16 Northern Peoples

Tues Siberian cultures

Thursday The Jesup North Pacific Expedition

Texts:

Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History

Franz Boas archive, American Philosophical Society

WEEK 4. Feb 17-23

Tuesday Quiz #2

The Sakha-Yakut

Thursday Introduction to shamanism

WEEK 5. Feb24-Mar1 Introduction to the Yukaghir

Texts:

Derlicki, Jaroslaw. 2007. Spirits of the Land. *Academia – Focus on Ethnology* No. 4(16):12-15.

Miller, Thomas Ross. 2019. Reading the Ethnographic Past in the Present: Waldemar Jochelson and *The Yukaghir*. In Erich Kasten, ed., *Jochelson, Bogoras and Shternberg: A Scientific Exploration of Northeastern Siberia and the Shaping of Soviet Ethnography*. Furstenberg/Havel, Germany: Kulturstiftung Sibirien. [Electronic edition for [www.siberien-studies.org](http://www.siberien-studies.org)]

Willerslev, Rane. 2012. *On the Run in Siberia*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. [ProQuest eBook Central PDF]

WEEK 6. Mar 2-8 The Yukaghir

Hunting magic

Shamans and Singing Diseases

Quiz # 3

Texts:

Willerslev, Rane. 2007. *Soul Hunters: Hunting, Animism, and Personhood among the Siberian Yukaghirs*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

[ProQuest eBook Central PDF]

Yukaghir folk tales

WEEK 7. Mar 9-15

Shamans and Singing Diseases

The future of the north

Texts:

Selected readings on Arctic hysteria

Willerslev, Rane. 2010. “Urbanites without a City: Three Generations of Siberian Yukaghir Women. *Acta Borealia*, Vol. 27, No. 2:18-207.

Derlicki, Jaroslaw. “I’m the son of the oliero”: Yukaghir identity and land issues. *AlterNative*: An International Journal of Indigenous Scholarship:272-282. Nga Pae o te Maramatanga. University of Auckland.

***Part 3 Africa***

WEEK 8. Mar 16-22

Tuesday Midterm Essay/Exam

Central Southern African peoples and cultures

Thursday Colonialism in central and southern Africa

Texts:

Selected readings in African history

Colson, Elizabeth and Max Gluckman, eds. 1951. *Seven Tribes of Central Africa*. Manchester: The Institute for Social Research University of Zambia. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Zambia: Customs and Cultures. Manuscript (n.d.)

WEEK 9. Mar 23-29

Tuesday Quiz #4

Lozi: Transhumance

Kinship and Kingship

Thursday

Lozi: Kuomboka, Part 1

Texts: Flood/Stage

WEEK 10. Mar30-Apr5

Tuesday Lozi: Kuomboka, Part 2

independence to present

WEEK 11 Apr 8-12 Conversion day/Spring Break -- No ANTH 1105 classes

Spring Break

Tuesday: follow Wednesday schedule (Conversion day)

Spring Break reading:

Serpell, Namwali. 2019. *The Old Drift: A Novel*. New York: Hogarth.

WEEK 12 Apr 13-19 Spring Break – No Classes

WEEK 13. Apr 20-26 Tonga ethnographies

Kariba Dam

Quiz #5

Text: *Lwaana Lwanyika*: *The Tonga Book of the Earth*

Cliggett, Lisa and Virginia Bond, eds. 2013. *Tonga Timeline: Appraising Sixty Years of Multidisciplinary Research in Zambia and Zimbabwe*. Lusaka: Lembani Trust. [ProQuest eBook Central PDF sections TBA]

Colson, Elizabeth. 1960. Human Problems of Kariba Volume I. *Social Organization of the Gwembe Tonga*. The Rhodes-Livingstone Institute of Northern Rhodesia. London: Manchester University Press.

Week 14 Apr27-May 3 Music and Media in Zambia

Texts:

Debra Spitulnik Vidali, selected readings on the development of Zambian media

# *Welcome to Zamrock! How Zambia's Liberation Led To a Rock Revolution (1972-1977)*. 2017. Now-Again Records.

***Part Four Communications Workshop and Policy Forum***

WEEK 15. May 4-10 Workshop: Building Radio Bridges

Assignments: Letters to Kabusha

Audio letters to Zongwe FM-Zubo Trust

Media: Kabusha Radio Remix

Radio Bridges Across the Zambezi

Links: Bemba Language Project online – Emory University

Radio Continental Drift – Zongwe FM – Zubo Trust

WEEK 16. May 11-17 Forum: Future of the Kariba Dam

Texts: Newspapers, online documents

**Important Dates**

Weekday classes begin January 27, 2020   
Last day to add a course: February 2  
Conversion Day: Tuesday April 7 - Classes follow a Wednesday Schedule  
Last day to file for elective course Pass/Fail: February 7  
Last day to drop a course without a grade: February 3  
Last day to withdraw from course with a W (non-penalty) grade: April 1

The full academic calendar, including many other important dates, and the undergraduate final exam “grid” are available on the Office of the Registrar’s website.

**University's policy on Academic Integrity**

The faculty and administration of Brooklyn College support an environment free from cheating and plagiarism. Each student is responsible for being aware of what constitutes cheating and plagiarism and for avoiding both.  The complete text of the CUNY Academic Integrity Policy and the Brooklyn College procedure for implementing that policy can be found at this site: [http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies](https://outlook.brooklyn.cuny.edu/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies).  If a faculty member suspects a violation of academic integrity and, upon investigation, confirms that violation, or if the student admits the violation, the faculty member MUST report the violation.

**For Students with Disabilities:**

In order to receive disability-related academic accommodations students must first be registered with the Center for Student Disability Services. Students who have a documented disability or suspect they may have a disability are invited to set up an appointment with the Director of the Center for Student Disability Services, Ms. Valerie Stewart-Lovell at 718-951-5538. If you have already registered with the Center for Student Disability Services please provide your professor with the course accommodation form and discuss your specific accommodation with him/her.

**Religious Observance and Bereavement:**

Please see the Brooklyn College *Undergraduate Bulletin* in reference to the state law regarding non-attendance because of religious beliefs:

<http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/off_registrar/2017-2018_Undergraduate_Bulletin.pdf>

<http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/about/initiatives/policies/bereavement.php>