

# SAGRADO

Universidad del Sagrado Corazón

## GENERAL EDUCATION

### SYLLABUS

<b>TITLE</b>	Anthropology and Culture
<b>CODE</b>	ANT 201
<b>PRE-REQUISITE</b>	None
<b>CREDITS</b>	Three (3) credits, forty-five (45) hours

### DESCRIPTION

Cultural Anthropology is a branch within anthropology that studies the characteristics of learned behavior in human societies, that is, the science of human culture. In general, it is the science that studies the origin, development, structure, characteristics, and variations of human culture in both past and present societies.

The course focuses on the study of human behavior from a social and cultural point of view. It includes an introduction to the discipline, its object and method of study, as well as the comparative study of the economy, politics, social organization, and religion of social groups. The anthropological perspective on cultural diversity and contemporary problems is addressed.

### JUSTIFICATION

This course provides the student with an experience through the study and discussion of various central themes, theoretical perspectives, and anthropological methodologies. The course allows the student and future professional to discuss from the point of view of anthropology their knowledge and social experiences acquired during their lives. The course aims for the student to integrate, throughout their college education, the anthropological perspective in their social and cultural vision of the world. In addition, the student must understand the relationship between anthropology with other areas of human knowledge in general and with the social sciences in particular. The professor will lead the student to delve into the analysis of cultural and social differences and similarities between human groups, the processes that gave rise to these traits, and an understanding that all human groups, while different in myriad ways, are equal.

## **COMPETENCIES**

### **Transversal Competencies**

1. Critical questioning (level III)
2. Ethical sense (level III)
3. Social and intercultural conscience (level III)

### **Objectives**

At the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Understand the basic contents of Anthropology.
2. Have critical and reflective abilities in order to understand some of the key problems of their society.
3. Apply the methods of Anthropology in relation to both basic research and social intervention, giving them the skills to understand the need for interdisciplinary work in the field of Social Sciences.
4. Understand the anthropological approach to analyzing cultural differences.
5. Develop the ability to apply anthropological theories to understand and explain the stability and change of sociocultural systems.
6. Apply inductive and deductive reasoning, which is reasoning from the particular to a general perspective, as well as from a general perspective to a specific case.
7. Demonstrate knowledge and mastery of understanding of sociocultural diversity within a group and between different groups.
8. Have a broad and coherent theoretical framework to understand the development and evolution of human societies and provide a basis for the analysis of the different theoretical frameworks.
9. Manage and apply the basic concepts of cultural anthropology.
10. Understand the various forms of political, economic, social and ritual organization that make up the various forms of adaptation.
11. Recognize the multidimensionality of cultural facts and the feedback of economic, political, social and symbolic aspects of the institutional structure of a society.

## **CONTENT**

### I. Anthropology in the context of Social Sciences

A. What do anthropologists do?

B. The anthropological gaze

1. The concept of culture

2. Definitions of culture and society

3. The biocultural nature of the human being

4. Cultural anthropology definition

C. Methods and techniques

1. Ethnology, ethnography and anthropology

2. Research methods; Participant observation and interviews

3. How to get information?; How to use the information?

4. The role of the researcher; Differences in perspectives

### II. Worldview

A. Description of worldview

1. Ethnographically

B. Cultural change

1. Collective identity

2. Ethnic groups and cultural identities

### III. Anthropological theories

A. Cultural evolutionism

B. Historical Particularism

- C. Functionalism
- D. Structuralism
- E. Neoevolutionism
- F. Cultural ecology
- G. Cultural materialism
- H. Interpretivism
- I. Political economy
- J. Postmodernity
- K. Critical theories
- L. Regional theories – emphasis on Latin America

#### IV. The multiple dimensions of the body constructions, identifications and representations

- 1. The body as a differentiator: becoming a man, being a woman
  - a. Sexes, gender and sexualities
  - b. Roles, stereotypes and forms of gender stratification in different cultural settings

#### V. Social organization, kinship system

- A. How do human groups organize their society?
  - 1. What is kinship?
  - 2. The human being and kinship.
  - 3. Types of family. Marriage and filiation

#### VI. Power and social control.

- A. Politics, power, authority and leadership.
  - 1. Power and authority. Control, sanction and deviance

B. Forms of political organization:

1. Bands
2. Tribes
3. Chiefdoms
4. States

VII. Thoughts and belief systems

- A. The social construction of the world
1. What is a myth?
  2. Symbolic actions: ritual, festival and myth
  3. Anthropological perspectives on magic, religion and science. myths and rituals
  4. Religions and belief systems. religious movements

**METODOLOGÍA**

Conferencias

Discusión socializada

Experiencia etnográfica de campo LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Exams	30%
Quizzes	20%
Short assignments	20%
Discussion forums	30%

**Total 100%**

**LEARNING ASSESSMENT**

Rubrics to evaluate assignments and discussion forums.

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## **REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS**

Any student who needs auxiliary services or special assistance must request it from the Associate Dean of Student Affairs at the beginning of the course or as soon as they acquire knowledge of them, but no later than the third week of classes.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

This policy applies to all students enrolled at Universidad del Sagrado Corazón to take courses with or without academic credit. A lack of academic integrity is any act or omission that does not demonstrate the honesty, transparency, and responsibility that should characterize all academic activity. Any student who fails to comply with the Honesty, Fraud, and Plagiarism Policy is exposed to the following sanctions: receive a grade of zero in the evaluation and/or repetition of the assignment in the seminar, a grade of F (\*) in the seminar, suspension, or expulsion as established in the Academic Integrity Policy effective in November 2022.

