CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY

AN 20010 - Cultural Anthropology

Spring Semester, January-March 1999

Course Description

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to the basic theories, findings, and applications of Cultural Anthropology. Following the conceptual design of the textbook, the course assumes that the best learning occurs within the context of specific problems, questions, and issues. Learning is further enhanced when knowledge and skills gained in the classroom are made relevant to the life-experiences of the students. Accordingly, the course will stress both the problem-context and the application-relevance of the knowledge and skills learned.

Instructor

Eric Casino, Ph.D., is a social anthropologist, formerly senior research fellow at the East West Center. He earned his doctorate from Sydney University, after doing fieldwork among Muslims in the Southern Philippines. He has extensive experience in research, teaching, and international business consulting in the Philippines, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the United States. Major academic interests include philosophical foundations of the social sciences, the role of ethnicity studies in multicultural societies, assessing social impacts of development projects. Office hours will be announced; course-related counseling by appointments. Contact telephone: 544-9456

Required Text

<u>Cultural Anthropology</u>. A Problem-Based Approach. Second Edition. By Richard H. Robbins (Ithaca, Illinois: F.E. Peacock Publishers, 1997).

Handouts.

Teaching-Learning Methods

A mix of interactive methods, including lectures, readings, audio-visuals, small group discussions, students presentations, brief written assignments, examinations, and a written term paper.

Course Grading

Mid-term and Final Exams - 50% Term Paper-25% Weekly written reports - 25%

Course Requirements

Students are expected to invest serious learning efforts at (1) reading and absorbing both conceptual and empirical information; (2) recognizing areas of relevance and application in the students' life-experiences. To insure commitment to these twofold objectives, each student will be required to submit short "personal reaction diaries or journals" (no more than 2-3 pages, double space) related to assigned materials. Faithful implementation of these journal assignments will not only increase knowledge and analytical skills, but will also facilitate the writing of the main class paper (no more than 10 pages, double space, excluding bibliography). The paper's quality will be judged according to

- 1. The relevance of the paper's contents to issues covered in the course.
- 2. The clarity with which the purpose of the paper is stated, and the coherence of the arguments or descriptions in the body of the paper in supporting its purpose.
- 3. The appropriateness with which the conclusions of the paper follow the purpose and description displayed in the body of the paper.
- 4. The accuracy with which the sources of information are cited.
- 5. The form in which the bibliography is listed.

Schedule and Class Sessions

Ten (10) Saturdays, from January 16 to March 20, 1999. At Schofield Barracks Education Center, 8 am to 12 noon.

1—Saturday 1116

Course Overview; Requirements Chapter 1, <u>Culture and Meaning</u>

2—Saturday 1123

Class paper **topic/title** due Chapter 2, The **Meaning** of Progress

3—Saturday 1130

Chapter 3, The Social and Cultural Construction of Reality

4-Saturday 216

Chapter 4, Patterns of Family Relations

5-Saturday 2113

Mid-term Examination Chapter 5, The Cultural Construction of **Identity**

6—Saturday 2120

Chapter 6, The Cultural Construction of Social Hierarchy

7—Saturday 2127

Chapter 7, The Cultural Construction of Violent Conflict

8—Saturday 316

Chapter 8, Applications to Problems of Cultural Diversity.

9—Saturday 3/13

Class papers due; presentation of class field observations

10-Saturday 3/20

Final Examination