

LAIDLAW COLLEGE
Te Wananga Amorangi

603.615 CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

Campus: Distance Learning
Tutor: Alister Gill

Semester SS, 2017-18
NQF Level 6, 15 credits

CONTENT OVERVIEW

This course offers an introduction to cultural anthropology as an aid to cross-cultural mission and ministry in multi-cultural contexts. The course focuses on the use of anthropological tools and concepts as a means of understanding one's own culture and being able to engage effectively with people in other cultural settings.

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

1. Discuss the importance, role and contribution of anthropological and cultural insight for Christian mission.
2. Formulate and use relevant aspects of anthropology and culture for life in another culture and for ministry in cross-cultural contexts.
3. Demonstrate skills in understanding and assessing his/her own culture and comparing it with another culture.
4. Discuss key inter-relationships and functions of different component systems of a culture.
5. Analyse and illustrate the processes involved in cross-cultural communication.
6. Articulate and evaluate the processes and role of contextualisation within Christian mission.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of how the gospel affirms and challenges elements in every culture.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Semester Week	Week start	Topic	Assessment Task	Word count	Due date	% Final grade
1	27/11/17	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology; Basic Values Questionnaire				
2	4/12/17	The Concepts of Culture & Worldview; God & Culture	Basic Values Reflection	600 words	10/12/17	1/2 of 15%
3	11/12/17	Dimensions of worldview; Language	Basic Values Online Responses	600 words	17/12/17	1/2 of 15%
4	18/12/17	Reality, religion, and ritual; 'Flaw of Excluded Middle'	Discussion Forum Posting	200 + 50 words	24/12/17	1/3 of 10%
5	25/12/17	Worldview Universals (A)				
6	1/1/18	Worldview Universals (B)	Discussion Forum Posting	200 + 50 words	7/1/18	1/3 of 10%
7	8/1/18	The Gospel engaging cultures; Conversion	Case Study	750 words	14/1/18	10%
8	15/1/18	Contextualization (A)				
9	22/1/18	Contextualization (B)	Discussion Forum Posting	200 + 50 words	28/1/18	1/3 of 10%
10	29/1/18	Cross-cultural communication & Education				

11	5/2/18	Globalization & change; Modernity & post-modernity	Analysis of a Specific Culture	1250 words	11/2/18	25%
12	12/2/18	Dynamics of transformation	Contextualization Essay	2500 words	18/2/18	40%

Notes:

1. The standard course schedule has been compressed for summer school. There is no break, even over the Christmas/New year period. We recommend you plan to do your work well in advance of days you intend to take off.
2. The library will be open 8am-5pm except over the period from 23/12/17 to 7/1/18. Loan periods will be adjusted to compensate for the closure. Please ensure you obtain any resources required for the assignment before the close down.
3. Academic support will be available every weekday except the statutory holidays. You will be advised on who to contact.

LEARNING HOURS

Lesson Content & Reading	60 hours
Basic values assignment	15 hours
Discussion Forums	10 hours
Case Study	10 hours
Analysis of specific culture	20 hours
Contextualization Essay	35 hours
TOTAL	150 learning hours (15 credits)

ASSESSMENT TASKS DETAIL

1. 'Basic Values' Assignment

Length:	1200 words
Percentage weighting of final grade:	15%
Due date:	Reflection due 11.55 pm, Week 2 Responses due 11.55 pm, Week 3
Learning outcomes:	3, 4
Learning hours:	15

Read Chapter 2 from S.G. Lingenfelter and M.K. Mayers, *Ministering Cross-Culturally* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003), 27-35. This reading is included with your course materials.

Complete the questionnaire from the chapter and, after analysing your answers, draw up your personal profile.

Reflection (600 words)

1. Identify which trait of **each** of the six pairs you scored more highly on. If these are the same, write both traits.
2. Describe the extent to which you think these stronger traits are unique to:
 - a. your personality;
 - b. your personal experience? Then:
3. Comment on the extent to which you believe these stronger traits are typical values of your culture. Illustrate your answer by using examples and/or anecdotes to explain your position.

Post the above reflection in the "Basic Values" forum in the lesson two section on the Moodle page for this course.

Online responses (600 words)

1. Once you have posted your initial reflection online, being respectful in tone, respond in the same forum to the reflections of at least **two** other students by **comparing** and **contrasting** your reflection with theirs. As a guide, for each other person in the course make at least **two** observations and ask at least **one** question.
2. Respond to the observations and questions others make/ask of your work.

Criteria for Assessment (major criteria are in bold.)

Reflection	
1	Higher priority traits are identified
2	A significant level of self-awareness and cultural insight is evidenced
3	The illustrations/anecdotes are relevant and informative
On-line response	
1	Responses meet all requirements and are respectful in tone
2	Responses are perceptive and show a good understanding of how personality, personal experience and culture affect interpersonal relations
3	Presentation (spelling, grammar, word limit observed)

2. Discussion Forums

Length:	200 words per initial post, at least 50 words for follow-up posts.
Percentage weighting of final grade:	10%
Due date:	11.55 pm Sunday, Weeks 4, 6, and 9
Learning outcomes:	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
Learning hours:	10

Discussion forums will require you to engage with various themes and topics. The purpose is to create an opportunity for students to discuss aspects of the course in a well-informed but informal way.

Typically you will be required to prepare an initial post in response to a reading and/or some question/s. Over the 7 days following your initial post, you are to engage in genuine conversation with one or two other students by posting response(s) to what they have written, and either responding to those who have commented on what you have written, or entering into any further dialogue about the topic. Specific instructions will accompany each discussion forum.

As a minimum requirement to pass this assessment task, in addition to your initial post you need to respond to at least one other student's post, but you are encouraged to have a meaningful and constructive dialogue with others.

A link to further details about expectations for discussions online, and their grading, can be found within each discussion forum on Moodle.

Criteria for Assessment (major criteria are in bold.)

1. Engagement with material	Comments show excellent understanding of the topic. Reasoning and connections are clearly articulated.
2. Constructive engagement with others	Meaningful contribution to the online community is shown by both considering and responding to issues raised by others in a timely way, using thought provoking questions as appropriate.
3. Structure and presentation	Clear, well-formed structure. Accurate spelling and grammar. Concise writing.

3. Case Study: *Omodo*

Length:	750 words
Percentage weighting of final grade:	10%
Due date:	11.55 pm Sunday, Week 7
Learning outcomes:	4, 5, 7
Learning hours:	10

The case study is included in the reading resources for Lesson 1 on Moodle.

- Describe the ways in which the various people or groups in the story are affected by the fact that Omodo as a polygamist has come to faith and wishes to participate in the life of the church. Make reference to relevant relational dynamics within the culture (approx. 250 words).
- Drawing on biblical perspectives and cultural insights gained thus far, write a reflection stating your recommended response to the case study (approx. 500 words).

Criteria for Assessment (major criteria are in bold.)

1	Adequate description of a range of issues arising in the case study
2	Valid reference is made to relational dynamics within the cultural setting
3	Appropriateness of recommended response to the case study in terms of biblical perspectives and cultural insights
4	Presentation (spelling, grammar, word limit observed)

4. Analysis of a specific culture

Length:	1250 words
Percentage weighting of final grade:	25%
Due date:	11.55 pm Sunday, Week 11
Learning outcomes:	2, 4
Learning hours:	20

Assessment Overview

In this assessment you will provide a description and analysis of a specific culture. The culture you choose to analyse for this assessment will **also** be the culture you study for the final assessment, the Contextualization essay. Therefore, this assessment is foundational for the next one. You may **EITHER**:

- Choose a culture from **one** of the following, employing the descriptions from Kraft's *Worldview for Christian Witness*, (see page numbers for each culture) and any additional resources you may find useful:

- Middle Wahgi (Papua New Guinea) – pages 255-259
- Kamwe (Nigeria) – pages 260-265
- Sunni Muslim (Egypt) – pages 278-282
- Swahili Muslim (East Africa) – pages 530-534
- Hakka (Taiwan) – pages 283-295
- Navajo (United States) – pages 527-528

OR

- B. Study a specific culture of your own choosing. If you choose this option, prior to beginning your assignment, please contact the course tutor for approval of that culture as a focus for the assignment and to demonstrate that you have appropriate resources to effectively meet the assignment criteria.

Assessment task details:

- Provide a brief description of the selected culture.
- Locate the selected culture within a broad worldview type and identify worldview universals or themes with significant potential for contextualization of the gospel.
- Identify and describe at least **three** elements of the culture that you deem significant for the task of contextualizing the gospel.
- Give reasons for why you consider those elements to be significant.

Please note: Further essential information relating to this assessment task is located in your learning guide, in Lesson 10.

Criteria for Assessment (major criteria are in bold.)

1	Description of culture
2	Identification of worldview type and relevant worldview universals and themes
3	Appropriate identification of three key cultural elements significant for contextualizing task
4	Adequacy of reasons for the selection of the cultural elements
5	Presentation (spelling, grammar, layout, correct referencing, etc.)

5. Contextualization Essay

Length:	2500 words
Percentage weighting of final grade:	40%
Due date:	11.55 pm Sunday, Week 12
Learning outcomes:	1, 5, 6, 7
Learning hours:	35

Assessment Overview

Write an essay demonstrating your understanding of the role of Cultural Anthropology by developing a strategy for presenting the gospel in the culture focused on in the previous assignment.

Assessment task details:

- Discuss the gospel's affirmation and critique of culture.
- Briefly mention the selected culture focused on in the previous assessment ('Analysis of a specific culture') and re-state the three (or more) cultural elements that you chose for the task of contextualizing the gospel.
- With reference to your selected cultural elements, discuss the relevant gospel themes to be contextualized.

- Give reasons for your selection of those gospel themes as significant for your contextualizing.
- Outline the strategy you would employ in the contextualizing process, identifying important guiding principles.

N.B. Further essential information relating to this assignment is located in your learning guide.

Criteria for Assessment (major criteria are in bold.)

1	Accurate description of culture
2	Appropriate identification of key cultural elements significant for contextualizing task
3	Discussion of relevant gospel themes and reasons given for the selection
4	Contextualization strategy clearly outlined
5	Presentation (spelling, grammar, layout, correct referencing, etc.)

TEXTBOOKS

Brian M. Howell, & Jenell Williams Paris. *Introducing Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011.

Charles H. Kraft, *Worldview for Christian Witness*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2008.

Additional required and recommended readings are supplied on Moodle.

NOTES

Please note:

- All assignments need to be presented according to the Laidlaw College "Guidelines for Written Assignments".
- Assignments are to be submitted to Moodle no later than 11.55pm on the due date, unless otherwise noted.
- Assignments must comply with the standards set out for assessment in Laidlaw College's "General Information and Regulations".
- Please see these regulations for guidance on extension requests, submission of late work, and plagiarism.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Adeney, B.T. *Strange Virtues: Ethics in a Multicultural World*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1995.

Anderson, Beryl. *Smoothing Rough Edges: God in cross-cultural situations*. Auckland: Daystar, 2003.

Bjork, David. *Unfamiliar Paths - The Challenge of Recognising Christ in Strange Clothing*. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1997.

Borthwick, P. *Six Dangerous Questions to Transform your Worldview*. USA: IVP, 2000.

- Bradshaw, B. *Change Across Cultures: A Narrative Approach to Social Transformation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- Brewster, E.T. & E.S. Brewster *Bonding and the Missionary Task*. Pasadena: Lingua House, 1982.
- Conn, H. *Eternal Word and Changing Worlds: Theology, Anthropology, and Mission in Trialogue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Academie Books, 1984.
- Donovan, Vincent J. *Christianity Rediscovered, An Epistle from the Masai*. Notre Dame, Indiana: Fides/Claretian, 1978.
- Dyrness, William A. *The Earth is God's: A Theology of American Culture*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1997.
- Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Conflict: building relationships for effective ministry*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1993.
- Elmer, D. *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping out and Fitting in around the World*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2002.
- Elmer, D. *Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2006.
- Flemming, D. *Contextualization in the New Testament: Patterns for Theology and Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2005.
- Gallagher, Michael Paul. *Clashing Symbols: an introduction to faith-and-culture*. London: Dartman, Longman and Todd, 1997.
- Grunlan, S. & Mayers, M. *Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Academie Books, 1988.
- Hale, Thomas. *A Light Shines into Central Asia: a journey into the Tibetan Buddhist world*. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 2000.
- Hesselgrave, David J. *Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978.
- Hesselgrave, David J. and Edward Rommen. *Contextualization: meanings, method and models*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2000.
- Hiebert, Paul G. *Cultural Anthropology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1983.
- _____. *Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1994.
- _____. *Anthropological Insights for Missionaries*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1985.
- _____. *The Gospel in human contexts: anthropological explorations for contemporary missions*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2009.
- _____. *Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.
- Hiebert, Paul G. and Frances F. Hiebert. *Case Studies in Missions*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1987.
- Hiebert, Paul G. and Eloise Hiebert Meneses. *Incarnational Ministry: Planting Churches in Band, Tribal, Peasant, and Urban Societies*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1995.

- Hiebert, Paul G., R.Daniel Shaw and Tite Tienou. *Understanding Folk Religion - A Christian Response to Popular Beliefs and Practices*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- Howell, Allison. *A Daily Guide for Language and Culture Learning*. Kaduna, Nigeria: Nigeria Evangelical Missionary Institute and African Christian Textbooks, 2002
- Howell, Brian M. & Jenell Williams Paris. *Introducing Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011.
- Kemp, Hugh P. *Steppe by Step: Mongolia's Christians – from ancient roots to vibrant young church*. London: Monarch, 2000.
- Kingsolver, Barbara. *The Poisonwood Bible*. London: Faber & Faber, 2000.
- Kraft, Charles H. *Anthropology for Christian Witness*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1996
- _____. *Christianity in Culture: a study in dynamic Biblical theologizing in cross-cultural perspective*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1979.
- _____. *Christianity with Power: Your worldview and your experience of the supernatural*. Ann Arbor, MI, 1989.
- _____. *Communicating Jesus' Way*. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1999.
- _____. *Communication Theory for Christian Witness*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1991.
- _____. *Worldview for Christian Witness*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2008.
- Lane, Denis. *One World - Two Minds: Eastern and Western Outlooks in a Changing World*. Littleton, CO: OMF, 1995.
- Lane, Patty. *A Beginner's Guide to Crossing Cultures*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2002.
- Legrand, Lucien. *The Bible on Culture*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 2000.
- Lewis, Richard D. *The Cultural Imperative: global trends in the 21st century*. Yarmouth, KY: Intercultural Press, 2003.
- _____. *When Cultures Collide: Leading across cultures*. Boston, MA: Nicholas Brealey International, 2006.
- Lingenfelter, S. *Transforming Culture: a challenge for Christian mission*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.
- _____. *Ministering Cross-Culturally: an incarnational model for personal relationships*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1986.
- Livermore, David A. *Cultural Intelligence: Improving your CQ to engage our Multicultural World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2009.
- _____. *Serving with eyes wide open: doing short-term missions with cultural intelligence*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2006.
- Loewen, Jacob. *Culture and Human Values: Christian Intervention in Anthropological Perspective*. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1975.

- Loewen, Jacob. *The Bible in cross-cultural perspective*. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 2000.
- Loss, Myron. *Culture Shock*. Middleburgh, PA: Encouragement Ministries, 1983.
- Luzbetak, Louis J. *The Church and Cultures: New Perspectives in Missiological Anthropology*. Orbis: Maryknoll, 1988.
- Malina, Bruce. *The New Testament World: Insights from Cultural Anthropology* 3rd ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2001.
- Martin, Lloyd. *One Faith, Two Peoples: communicating across cultures within the church*. 3rd ed. Paraparaumu Beach NZ: Salt, 2002.
- Mathias Zahniser, A. H. *Symbol and Ceremony*. Cal: MARC, 1997.
- Mayers, M. *Christianity Confronts Culture: A Strategy for Cross-cultural Evangelism*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1987.
- Neely, Alan. *Christian Mission: as case study approach*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1997.
- Nida, E.A. *Customs and Cultures: Anthropology for Christian Missions*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1975.
- Nieman, J & Rogers, T. *Preaching to Every Pew Cross-Cultural Strategies*. Minn: Fortress, 2001.
- Pappy, Achenkunju, John Philip & George Edward. *Bridges across cultures*. Bangalore: SAIACS Press, 2003.
- Peterson, Brooks. *Cultural Intelligence: A Guide to Working with People from Other Cultures*. Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press, 2004.
- Pillai, Rajendra K. *Reaching the world in your own backyard: a guide to building relationships with people of other faiths and cultures*. Colorado Springs, CO: Waterbrook Press, 2003.
- Plueddemann, James E. *Leading across Cultures: Effective Ministry and Mission in the Global Church*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2009.
- Rommen, E. & G. Corwin eds. *Missiology and the Social Sciences*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1996.
- Sanneh, Lamin O. *Translating the Message: the missionary impact on culture*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1989.
- _____. *Encountering the West: Christianity and the global culture*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1993.
- Shaw, R. Daniel. *Transculturation: The Cultural Factor in Translation and Other Communication Tasks*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1988.
- Smalley, William A. ed. *Readings in Missionary Anthropology II*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1978.
- Smith, D & Carvill, B. *The Gift of the Stranger, Faith, Hospitality and Foreign Language Learning*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- Storti, Craig. *Figuring Foreigners Out: A Practical Guide*. Yarmouth: Intercultural Press, 1999.

- _____. *The Art of Crossing Cultures*. Yarmouth: Intercultural Press, 2001.
- Thomas, David C. & Kerr Inkson. *Cultural Intelligence: People skills for Global Business*. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2003.
- Van Engen, C., Whiteman, D. & Woodberry, D. *Paradigm Shifts in Christian Witness: Insights from Anthropology, Communication, and Spiritual Power: Essays in Honour of Charles H. Kraft*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2008.
- Van Rheenen, G. *Contextualization and Syncretism: Navigating Cultural Currents*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2006.
- Whiteman, Darrell. *Anthropology and mission: the incarnational connection*. Chicago: CCGM Publications, 2003.
- _____. *Missionaries, Anthropologists, and Cultural Change*. Williamsburg, VA: William and Mary College, 1985.
- Wink, Walter. *Engaging the Powers: discernment and resistance in a world of domination*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996.
- Zahniser, A. H. Mathias. *Symbol and Ceremony: making disciples across cultures*. Monrovia CA: MARC, 1997.

Magazines and Articles

- Hiebert, P., R.D. Shaw and Tite Tienou. "Responding to Split-Level Christianity and Folk Religion." *International Journal of Frontier Missions* 16:4 (Winter 1999/2000): 173-182.
- Langmead, R. "The Multicultural Vision in Christian Mission." *South Pacific Journal of Mission Studies* 23 (April 2000): 1-6.
- Schrotenboer, P. G. "Christ and Culture." *Evangelical Review of Theology* 22:4 (October 1998): 316-336.
- Swerdlow, Joel L. "Global Culture." *National Geographic Magazine* 196:2 (August 1999): 2-33.

Websites

- <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>
- <http://www.missionreview.com>
- <http://www.religiontoday.com>
- <http://www.sil.org>