

LIDLAW COLLEGE

Te Wananga Amorangi

603.615 - Cultural Anthropology Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

Campus/Delivery Mode: Distance Learning
Course Writer: Gordon Stewart

Semester 1, 2015
NQF Level: 6, 15 credits

CONTENT OVERVIEW:

| LESSON | TOPIC |
|--------|---|
| 1. | Introduction to Cultural Anthropology; Basic Values Questionnaire |
| 2. | The Concepts of Culture & Worldview; God & Culture |
| 3. | Dimensions of worldview; Language |
| 4. | Reality, religion, and ritual; 'Flaw of Excluded Middle' |
| 5. | Worldview Universals (A) |
| 6. | Worldview Universals (B) |
| 7. | The Gospel engaging cultures; Conversion |
| 8. | Contextualization (A) |
| 9. | Contextualization (B) |
| 10. | Cross-cultural communication & Education |
| 11. | Globalization & change; Modernity & post-modernity |
| 12. | Dynamics of transformation |

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES:

1. 'Basic Values' Assignment

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|------------------------------|---|
| <i>Learning Outcomes:</i> | 3, 4 |
| <i>Due Date:</i> | Reflection due by midnight Sunday, end of week 2 Responses due by midnight Sunday, end of week 3 |
| <i>Percentage Weighting:</i> | 15% |
| <i>Word Count:</i> | 1200 words |

- 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:

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 assessment section on the Moodle page for this course.

Online responses (600 words)

- Once you have posted your initial reflection online, being respectful in tone, respond 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.
- Respond to the observations and questions others make/ask of your work.

2. Participation in Online Discussion

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|------------------------------|--|
| <i>Learning Outcomes:</i> | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| <i>Due Dates:</i> | Midnight Sunday, end of semester weeks 4, 6, 9 |
| <i>Percentage Weighting:</i> | 10% |
| <i>Word Count:</i> | As specified below |

In three lessons you will find Online Discussion activities which require you to post a response of not more than 200 words on the appropriate online discussion forum on Moodle, to a question about some aspect of that lesson. In addition to your initial posting, you are required to make at least one further posting at least 50 words in response to at least one other student posting. This second posting must be made within one calendar week of the initial posting.

3. Case Study: Omodo

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|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Learning Outcomes:</i> | 4, 5, 7 |
| <i>Due Date:</i> | Midnight Sunday, week 7 |
| <i>Percentage Weighting:</i> | 10% |
| <i>Word Count:</i> | 750 words |

Information about the case is included in lesson 1 of your course materials.

- a. 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).
- b. Drawing on biblical perspectives and cultural insights gained thus far, write a reflection stating your recommended response to the case study (approx. 500 words).

4. Analysis of a specific culture

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Learning outcomes:</i> | 2, 4 |
| <i>Due date:</i> | Midnight Sunday of week 11 |
| <i>Weighting:</i> | 25% |
| <i>Length:</i> | 1250 words |

Provide a description and analysis of a specific culture:

EITHER

A. in **one** of the following cultures, 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. in a specific culture of your own choosing. (Prior to writing your assignment, please

contact the 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).

Assignment tasks:

- 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.

N.B. This assignment is foundational for the work that will be done in the Contextualization essay. That is, your selected culture is the basis not only for this Analysis of a selected culture assessment task but also for the final essay.

5. Contextualization Essay

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Learning outcomes:</i> | 1, 5, 6, 7 |
| <i>Due date:</i> | Midnight Sunday, end of Study Week 1 |
| <i>Weighting:</i> | 40% |
| <i>Length:</i> | 2500 words |

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.

Assignment tasks:

- 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.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT:

Online Discussion Forum

Before beginning your first online discussion, please see the grading grid (rubric) on the "online discussion mid-semester feedback" for further details on how these criteria will be applied.

- Engagement with material
- Constructive engagement with others
- Structure and presentation
- Timeliness

'Basic Values' Assignment

Reflection

- Higher priority traits are identified
- A significant level of self awareness and cultural insight is evidenced
- The illustrations/anecdotes are relevant and informative.

On-line response

- Responses meet all requirements and are respectful in tone
- Responses are perceptive and show a good understanding of how personality, personal experience and culture affect interpersonal relations
- Presentation (spelling, grammar, word limit observed)

Case Study

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

Analysis of a specific culture

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

Contextualization Essay

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

LEARNING HOURS:

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|------------------------------|------------------|
| Lesson Content & Reading | 60 hours |
| Basic values assignment | 15 hours |
| Online Forum | 10 hours |
| Case study | 10 hours |
| Analysis of specific culture | 20 hours |
| Contextualization Essay | 35 hours |
| Total | 150 hours |

TEXTBOOKS:

The text books for this course are:

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

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