

ANTHR104 : Magic, Religion, and Witchcraft

General Information

Author:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Michelle StonisFonarow, Wendy
Course Code (CB01) :	ANTHR104
Course Title (CB02) :	Magic, Religion, and Witchcraft
Department:	ANTHR
Proposal Start:	Fall 2025
TOP Code (CB03) :	(2202.00) Anthropology
CIP Code:	(45.0201) Anthropology, General.
SAM Code (CB09) :	Non-Occupational
Distance Education Approved:	No
Will this course be taught asynchronously?:	Yes
Course Control Number (CB00) :	CCC000299345
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	11/27/2024
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	01/21/2025
Last Cyclical Review Date:	11/27/2024
Course Description and Course Note:	ANTHR 104 is a cross-cultural survey of religion and the supernatural. Students examine magic, witchcraft, and forms of religious expression in a wide variety of cultures around the world. The course considers the forms and functions of supernatural beliefs and rituals in various societies to derive insight into the roles of religious beliefs and institutions in human life. Students explore witchcraft, magic, symbolism, altered states of consciousness, and religious change.
Justification:	Mandatory Revision
Academic Career:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Credit
Mode of Delivery:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">In-PersonRemoteHybridOnline
Author:	No value
Course Family:	No value

Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Anthropology
Alternate Discipline:	No value
Alternate Discipline:	No value

Course Development

Basic Skill Status (CB08)

Course is not a basic skills course.

Allow Students to Gain Credit by Exam/Challenge

Course Special Class Status (CB13)

Course is not a special class.

Pre-Collegiate Level (CB21)

Not applicable.

Grading Basis

- Grade with Pass / No-Pass Option

Course Support Course Status (CB26)

Course is not a support course

General Education and C-ID

General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

Transferability

Transferable to both UC and CSU

Transferability Status

Approved

IGETC Area

4A-Anthropology and Archaeology

Area

Anthropology and Archaeology

Status

Approved

Approval Date

08/15/2000

Comparable Course

No Comparable Course defined.

CSU GE-Breadth Area

D1-Anthropology and Archeology

Area

Anthropology and Archeology

Status

Approved

Approval Date

08/17/1999

Comparable Course

No Comparable Course defined.

Units and Hours

Summary

Minimum Credit Units (CB07)	3
Maximum Credit Units (CB06)	3
Total Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	54
Total Course Out-of-Class Hours	108
Total Student Learning Hours	162

Credit / Non-Credit Options

Course Type (CB04)

Credit - Degree Applicable

Noncredit Course Category (CB22)

Credit Course.

Noncredit Special Characteristics

No Value

Course Classification Code (CB11)

Credit Course.

 Variable Credit Course**Funding Agency Category (CB23)**

Not Applicable.

Cooperative Work Experience Education

 Status (CB10)**Weekly Student Hours**

	In Class	Out of Class
Lecture Hours	3	6
Laboratory Hours	0	0
Studio Hours	0	0

Course Student Hours**Course Duration (Weeks)** 18**Hours per unit divisor** 0**Course In-Class (Contact) Hours**

Lecture 54

Laboratory 0

Studio 0

Total 54**Course Out-of-Class Hours**

Lecture 108

Laboratory 0

Studio 0

Total 108**Time Commitment Notes for Students**

No value

Units and Hours - Weekly Specialty Hours

Activity Name	Type	In Class	Out of Class
No Value	No Value	No Value	No Value

Prerequisites, Corequisites, Recommended Corequisites, and Recommended Preparation**Advisory**

ENGLC1000 - Academic Reading and Writing (in-development)

Objectives

- Analyze stylistic choices in their own writing and the writing of others.
- Write timed, in-class essays exhibiting acceptable college-level control of mechanics, organization, development, and coherence.
- Integrate the ideas of others through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting without plagiarism.
- Find, evaluate, analyze, and interpret primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written essays using appropriate documentation format.
- Proofread and edit essays for presentation so they exhibit no disruptive errors in English grammar, usage, or punctuation.

OR

Entry Standards

Entry Standards	Description
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No value	No value
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Course Limitations

Cross Listed or Equivalent Course	Description
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No value	No value
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Specifications

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction	Lecture
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Methods of Instruction	Discussion
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Methods of Instruction	Multimedia
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Methods of Instruction	Collaborative Learning
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Out of Class Assignments

- Weekly exercises (e.g., collect a myth from a Native American group)
- Term paper or other shorter written assignments (e.g., analyze the symbolism in Genesis)
- Assignment involving field work (e.g., do fieldwork on an ethnomedical practice considering etiology, diagnosis, treatment and outcomes)

Methods of Evaluation

Rationale

Writing Assignment	Graded outside written assignments and/or oral projects (e.g., PowerPoint about witchcraft in California)
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Exam/Quiz/Test	Occasional or weekly quizzes
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Exam/Quiz/Test	Two or more mid-term examinations
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Exam/Quiz/Test

Final examination

Textbook Rationale

No Value

Textbooks

Author	Title	Publisher	Date	ISBN
Stein, Stein, Kracht, and Snipes	The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft 5th Edition	Routledge	July 16, 2024	9781032572994

Other Instructional Materials (i.e. OER, handouts)

Description	Beliefs: An Open Invitation to the Anthropology of Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion
Author	Amanda Zunner-Keating, Madlen Avetyan, and Ben Shepard
Citation	Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. 2024.
Online Resource(s)	https://oer.pressbooks.pub/beliefs/

Learning Outcomes

Course Objectives

Compare and contrast religious practices, beliefs, and institutions from a variety of societies with different economic and technological foundations.

Describe the different fundamental categories of religious tradition.

Demonstrate a functional knowledge of components of religion including symbolism, myth, ritual, and ritual practitioners.

Demonstrate an understanding of syncretism in religious traditions such as Voodoo and Santeria in the United States and abroad.

Demonstrate a familiarity with contemporary American religious practices from a broad array of communities, ethnic groups and immigrant groups including modern Wicca, Pentecostalism, cults, and New Age religious practices.

SLOs

Apply the different anthropological theories to understand religious experience and the role that religion plays for human societies.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ANTHR
Anthropology -
AA-T

Analyze and describe how culture acts as our primary adaptive response

ILOs
Core ILOs

Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.

SOC S
Social Sciences

Demonstrate critical thinking skills and a basic understanding of the complex interrelationships between human kind and the biophysical environment

Developed a broad and critical understanding of the complex interconnections between the human and environmental forces in their world

ILOs
General Education

list examples of cultural and social organizations

recall, analyze, and synthesize theories and real-world issues and topics related to social, political, and/or economic institutions

Demonstrate a functional knowledge of the religious elements including symbolism, myth, ritual, and ritual practitioners.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ANTHR
Anthropology -
AA-T

Analyze and describe how culture acts as our primary adaptive response

ILOs
Core ILOs

Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.

SOC S
Social Sciences

Demonstrate critical thinking skills and a basic understanding of the complex interrelationships between human kind and the biophysical environment

Developed a broad and critical understanding of the complex interconnections between the human and environmental forces in their world

ILOs
General Education

list examples of cultural and social organizations

recall, analyze, and synthesize theories and real-world issues and topics related to social, political, and/or economic institutions

Apply anthropological methods to the study of Western, African, Oceanic, Native American and Eastern religions.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ANTHR
Anthropology -
AA-T

Analyze and describe how culture acts as our primary adaptive response

ILOs
Core ILOs

Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.

SOC S
Social Sciences

Demonstrate critical thinking skills and a basic understanding of the complex interrelationships between human kind and the biophysical environment

ILOs
General Education

apply methodologies used by social and behavioral scientists

list examples of cultural and social organizations

recall, analyze, and synthesize theories and real-world issues and topics related to social, political, and/or economic institutions

Course Content

Lecture Content

Functions of Religion and the Supernatural (6 hours)

- Psychological, sociological, and anthropological approaches

- Scientific and comparative methods
- Definitions of religion
- Animism, animatism, totemism, polytheism, and monotheism

Symbolism and Myth (6 hours)

- Nature of symbols
- Taboo
- Sacred and profane
- Totems
- Symbols in a variety of religions and myths
- Functions of myths
- Psychological, structural, sociological understandings of myth
- Examples from the United States and abroad

Rituals (7 hours)

- Rites of passage
- Rites of intensification
- Social functions of rituals
- Liminality
- Contemporary rituals in America and other cultures

Religious Specialists (3 hours)

- Shaman
- Priests
- Prophets

Religious Use of Drugs (3 hours)

- Altered states of Consciousness
- Religious verses medicinal verses recreational usage
- Range of cultural attitudes toward drugs
- Hallucinogens and other means of inducing altered states
- Different attitudes toward altered states in America with specific case studies

Ethnomedicine: Religion and Healing (3 hours)

- Cultural theories of etiology, diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes
- The role of cultural belief in outcomes.
- The integration or exclusion of family and local group in curing processes
- Examples of ethnomedicine from African and Native American traditions

Religious explanations of Misfortune (4 hours)

- Witchcraft and sorcery
- European witch hunts
- Malicious supernatural figures including ghosts and spirits
- Spirit possession

Magical Practices (4 hours)

- Imitative
- Sympathetic
- Contagious
- Magical belief verses science

Knowing the sacred and the unknown (3 hours)

- Attribution of supernatural cause for natural and social events
- Divination
- Dreams
- Ordeals
- Role for social group in conflict resolution

Syncretic Traditions (3 hours)

- Voodoo and blended religions in Haiti, Cuba, Brazil, and New Orleans
- Possession, trance and possession trance
- Polytheism and Catholicism

Attitudes Toward the Dead (5 hours)

- Ancestor Cults
- Taboos around the dead
- Mortuary rites in the United States and abroad
- Relationships between the dead and the living

Old and New Religions (2 hours)

- Cargo Cults, Cults, and sects
- Culture change
- New Religious movements in United States and abroad

Religion in the Modern World; Focus on America (5 hours)

- The changing face of religion in modern United States and abroad
- The effect of globalization on religions forms
- Religious and political conflicts
- Skepticism

Total Hours 54**Additional Information****Repeatability**

Not Repeatable

Justification (if repeatable was chosen above)

No Value

Is it possible this course will have a material fee?

No Value

I have contacted my library liaison (<https://campusguides.glendale.edu/faculty/liaisons>):

No Value

What term(s) will this course be offered?

No Value

Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)

No Value

If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.

No Value

Resources

Did you contact your departmental library liaison?

No

If yes, who is your departmental library liaison?

No Value

Did you contact the DEIA liaison?

No

Were there any DEIA changes made to this outline?

No

If yes, in what areas were these changes made:

No Value

Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)

- No

If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.

No Value