

Duluth Campus

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29 September 2019

Understanding Global Cultures Week 6



1. News features of the week . . .

2. Midterm Exam

(next week)

3. Real People . . . Real Places . . .

Appleton, Wisconsin, and Australia (well . . . sort of)

4. Review: Units of Analysis

5. Review: Major Characteristics of Anthropology

6. Assignments

1. News features of the week . . .

Tuesday . . .

America > Kiana

Thursday . . .

Australia > Hannah & Aaliyah

2. Midterm Exam

**The Midterm Exam will be
next Tuesday, 8 October 2019, in Cina 214**

Bring your Computer



Save the Date . . .

Live Chat,

**for last-minute questions,
is Monday, 7 October 2019, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

Other Information on the Midterm Exam

is available at http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/exams_midterm.html#title.

3. Real People . . . Real Places . . .

Appleton, Wisconsin, and Australia (well . . . sort of)

Tuesday



The Split Horn: The Life of a Hmong Shaman in America

Tuesday in class we will venture to **Appleton, Wisconsin**, to visit the daily and spiritual worlds of a Hmong shaman and his family. **Chai Thao is the daughter of a Hmong shaman who lives in Appleton, Wisconsin.** Chai will tell us about her father Paja, and about how her family and people arrived in Appleton from Laos. She'll tell us about how her father, a Hmong shaman, struggles

to maintain his ancient traditions as she and her twelve brothers and sisters embrace American culture.

"Chai . . . is caught between the richly traditional world of her parents and the complicated life of a typical American teenager. As the film's narrator, Chai shows . . . the collision of cultures taking place in her house and in the Hmong-American community." (PBS)

It is a collision common in America as the Culture and Personality of the adults of immigrant cultures collides with the emerging Culture and Personality of hyphenated-American teenagers.

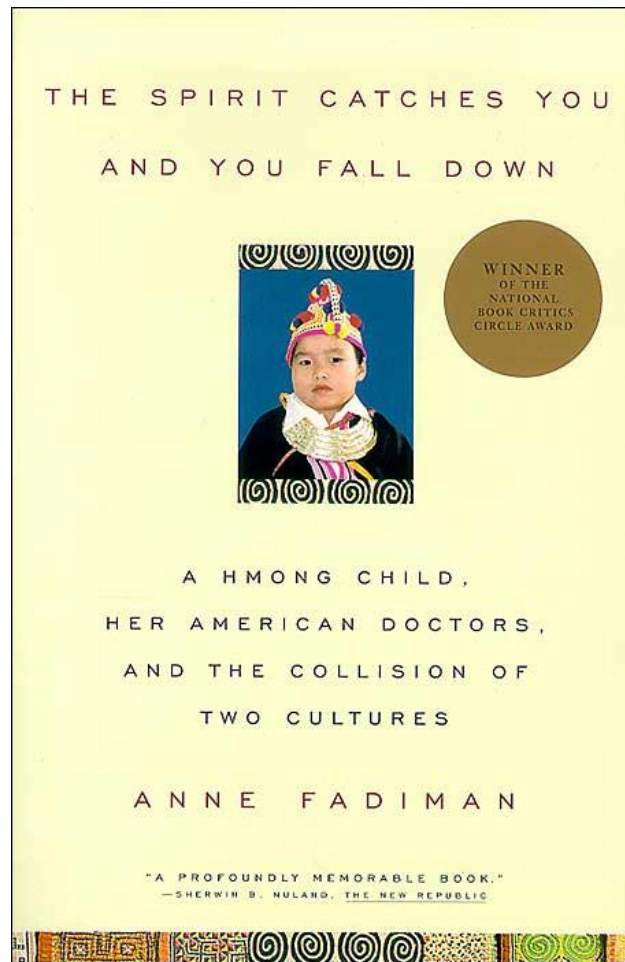
"*The Split Horn* . . . captures the daily struggle of a family caught between two worlds and examines the intergenerational rift between immigrant parents desperate to maintain their ancient traditions while their children embrace American lifestyles." (PBS)

"For over 17 years since the family arrived in America, filmmaker Taggart Siegel has chronicled the intimate and private lives of Paja Thao, his wife and their 13 children. *The Split Horn* focuses on Paja, a shaman whose spiritual leadership plays a vital role in Appleton's Hmong community. He ministers to the physical and spiritual needs of friends and family with elaborate rituals that bridge the natural and spirit worlds. As his children grow up, however, they are losing touch with their father's ancient traditions. In a pivotal scene, Paja, wearing a black veil, dances on a wooden bench, shaking and chanting in an ecstatic trance. Across the room, three of his children lounge on the sofa, transfixed by *The Simpsons* and MTV, ignoring the ancient spirit battle played out by their father."

"A year of sadness leads Paja to conduct a ceremony for his family during which he discovers that his own soul has strayed from his body. He spirals into a depression, unable to heal himself or others. The community, worried by Paja's depression, asks two shaman friends to lead a healing ceremony for him. The Thao children come together, putting aside their religious differences to support their father and mother. One of the older sons, Koualy, returns to Hmong tradition after 14 years and helps his father with the ceremony. Paja beams with joy and renewed strength." (PBS)

Readers of Anne Fadiman's best-selling popular work

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down (NY: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 1997) will recognize several recurring psychological themes in the intercultural conflict. . . .



Anne Fadiman

NY: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 1997




Life Went On Around Her, Redefining Care by Bridging a Divide

-- Margalit Fox, *The New York Times* (15 September 2012)

Ch. 19 "The Sacrifice"

Thursday

Babakiueria

(29 min. 1986,  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUMpPgMGce8>)



"A satirical alternative history of Australia since 1788, depicting what it might have been like for the European indigenous population of Australia, if Aboriginal colonial culture had arrived with the First Fleet and assumed a dominant position."

"In 1988 Australia celebrated the 200th Anniversary of white European settlement in Australia. *Babakiueria* is a light hearted satire that reverses the roles, imagining what it would be like if a fleet arrived to try and settle an area inhabited by white natives. A short, effective drama that features role reversal in which Aboriginal Australians change places with the historically dominant white Australians. Excellent discussion starter as it promotes an awareness of the attitudes and injustices that have been endured by black Australians." UP

"Another classic film. It examines black-white relations in the land of Babakiueria. This wry mockumentary examines the plight of the oppressed white minority who, having been dispossessed of their land, must obey the laws and customs of the black majority." -- [Green Left Weekly](#) Australia's radical weekly newspaper

"The film *Babakiueria* shows how aborigines are represented in society through taking a sarcastic look at racial stereotypes, the stereotypes are reduced to absurdity when the roles of whites and blacks in society are reversed. By doing this, the film draws the attention of not only white attitudes towards aboriginals but also towards themselves. Aborigines who have watched this film state that it was a good film as it did represent the truth about how they are politically represented, but it could have been better if it was written by an aboriginal instead of a white person, as they would have presented the film using Aboriginal culture instead of using the whites' controlling methods of a society." [MOS](#)

[BabaKiueria course viewing guide](#)

4. Review: Units of Analysis

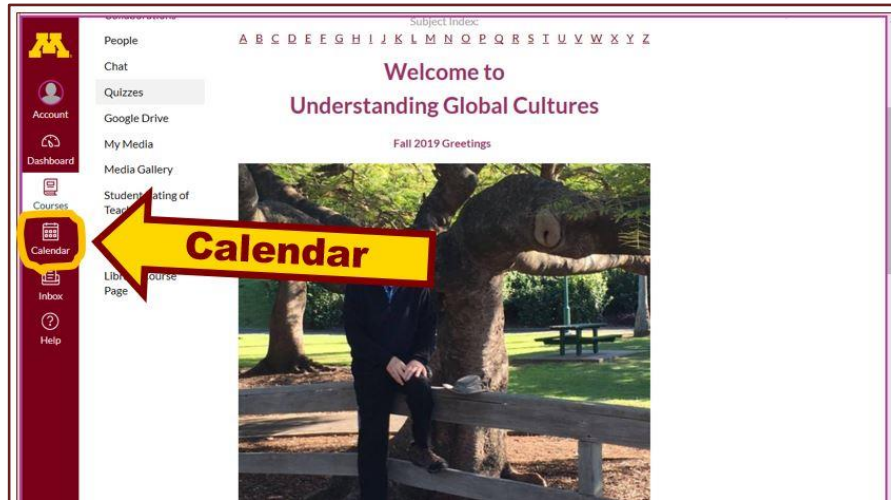
slides: ([.pptx](#))

5. Review: Major Characteristics of Anthropology

slides: ([.pptx](#))

5. Assignments

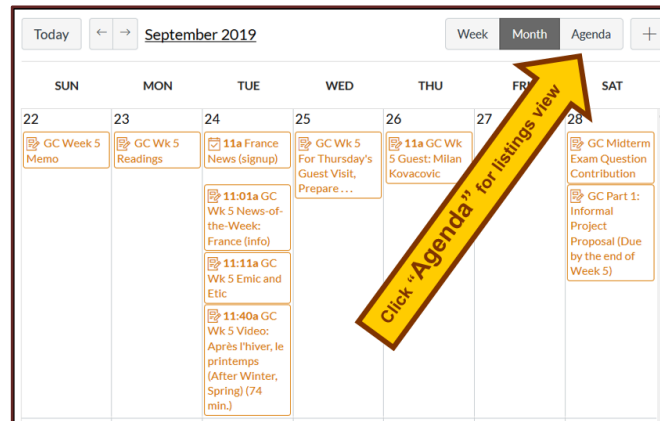
this week are listed on your **Calendar**



REM: Links on screenshots are not “hot” (active/live)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29 GC Week 6 Memo	30 GC Wk 6 Readings	1 11a GC Wk 6 News-of-the-Week: America (info) 11a U.S.A. News Kiana 11:06a GC 6 Video: The Split Horn: The Life of a Hmong Shaman in America 12:15p GC Wk 6 Review: Units of Analysis Review (.pptx)	2	3 11a GC Wk 6 News-of-the-Week: Australia (info) 11a Australia: Hannah & Aaliyah 11:20a GC 6 Video: BabaKiueria (29 min.) 12p GC Wk 6 Review: Main Characteristics of Anthropology (Intro .ppt)	4 Instructions for Signing Up For News-of-the-Week	5

AND REM: Clicking on “Agenda” will give you a listings view




If you haven't already received feedback on **your Informal Proposal for your class project**, you will shortly. Other information for **your class project** is on-line at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/gcproject.html#title>. After you have received feedback, start at least thinking about your more formal statement (a **Promissory Abstract**) which will be due next week:

Information on Promissory Abstracts

Writing the Promissory Abstract

Length of Abstracts

If you have any **questions** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the  **Canvas** Course “Chat”, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu, or stop by before or after class, across the hall in Cina 215.

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

<http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/>