

Duluth Campus

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Peoples and Cultures of Europe Week 2

## Orientation

### Major Characteristics of Anthropology



**I hope your first week with Peoples and Cultures of Europe went well, and that your efforts “up until so far” have been enjoyable, and that you are enjoying the readings and other materials.**

Anthropology graduates, reflecting back on their time with us at UMD, suggested that **it would be a good idea to tie the individual courses in the curriculum together a little more.** So that’s what we’re going to do for much of this week and next.

This will also help set **the basic analytic, theoretical and historical framework** for the course. This material should provide you with the **background and analytical tools** to help you with **your class Project**, and help you begin to make sense out of the topics that follow later in the course—a good deal of which will be provided *via* video.

Once you have mastered the **basic information and conceptual framework relating to the Anthropology of Europe** we will have an intensive look at a series of **conceptual and ethnographic issues and peoples from around Europe**, with emphasis on Ireland, Italy, Belgium, Hungary, and Greece.

Most of the materials this week—and other class lecture materials throughout the semester—are available online, and you might want to download them and follow along in class, making notes in your computer. Some of the slide sets are fairly long, so bear with them as they download. The topics contained within some slide sets may take more than one class period to cover.

**A note on the slide formats:** Since we do not know what software you are using on your computer, we offer the slides in two formats. We recommend you **first try “.pdf”** , the “**Portable Document Format**” that is the open standard for document exchange. If you have problems with that format, please try “.pptx” , Office PowerPoint 2007. It is unlikely that you will have problems with both of them, but if you do, please let us know: [troufs@d.umn.edu](mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu). When the materials are on your screen they should be running as a slide *show*. If you want or need to upgrade your software, you can [download the latest PowerPoint viewer free](#), as well as [download the latest Adobe .pdf Reader free](#).

**It’s a good time to have a look at the information for your class project**, which you

can find at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/ceproject.html>. Your class project is your term paper, plus a short “work-in-progress” Presentation on your research. Your ***Informal Project Statement, or Project Proposal***, is due by the end of Week 4, **Friday, 13 February 2015**. Basically that’s a short *informal* summary personal statement of what you are interested in doing, how you think you might go about it, and what resources you are thinking about using. It can be as simple as the following:

“For my project I’m thinking about X, or Y, and these are the items I’m thinking about using [add short list]. This is why I’m interested in this/these project(s) [add your reason(s)]. . . .

It is an ***informal*** statement. A more formal statement will come later on (in Week 6).

**We will talk a little bit about Picking a Topic for your Class Project in class.** If you have trouble getting started on your project—which right now is basically just selecting a subject or two that might work for you—let me know and I’ll help you work out an interesting topic.



*Demosthenes Practising Oratory* (1870)

### Details of Presentation



*Charles Dickens* (1842)

### Details of Term Paper





If you have any questions about the class and/or the assignments, please let me know: <mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu>. And that goes especially for questions about getting started on your project.

HINT: Major Due Dates are listed at

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/cedue-dates.html>




Be sure to check the details of the activities and assignments of the week in your **Moodle** folder. With the Week 2 “Activities” we’d like to see what you thought of ***Kypseli: Women and Men apart—a Divided Reality***, get you started thinking about your Project, and find out what you already know about the Peoples and Cultures of Europe. . . . Be sure you turn in your Kypseli

paper before class on Tuesday.

-  Kypseli Paper I from Week 1 (Due Monday, 26 January 2015) Assignment
  -  Response to the film Life Chances: Four Families in a Changing Cypriot Village (Due End of Week 3, Friday, 6 February 2015; Your Name Will Be Logged) Feedback
  -  Have a Look at and Start Thinking about Your Semester Project URL
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-  Pre Assessing Yourself (Due End of Week 2, Friday, 30 January 2015) Feedback

**Why not share your ideas**, including study-questions with your classmates? Discuss them on-line with the others in class . . .

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-  [Live chat for Project Collaboration](#) (NOTE: This is NOT the link for the Exam Live Chats)
  -  Wiki for Project Collaboration
  -  General Student Discussion Area Forum
- QUICKMAIL (see sidebar)

The above items will be found at the top of your **Moodle** folder under “Student Collaboration Space”.

A final note: Students in the past have commented that there is **TOO MUCH INFORMATION** available on the class **Moodle** and supporting WebSites. **Yes, there is a lot of information, no doubt about it**, and it can be confusing at first. It’s helpful when starting out to remember that **the required information for the course is contained in the middle panel of your Moodle folder**. The information in the sidebars and many of the links are just there should you find those interesting and/or helpful; that material is not required.



**Clicking on the little square symbol on the upper right-hand side of Block 1 (circled above) will clear your screen of the sidebar materials, and will focus on the Main Panel.**

Your **(1) Topics** and **(2) Readings** and **(3) Activities listings** are available in the **Week 2 Block** of your **Moodle** folder.

If you have **any questions**, please do not hesitate to post them on **Moodle** or e-mail [troufs@d.umn.edu](mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu), or, if you want, use the **Moodle** Messenger or **QUICKMAIL** located on the sidebar of your **Moodle** folder.

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs