

Duluth Campus

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Peoples and Cultures of Europe Week 3

## Orientation

### Analytical, Theoretical, Methodological and Historical Frameworks (Cont.) "Master Texts and 'Classics'"

“The **Groundhog Day** celebration is rooted in a **German superstition** that says if a hibernating animal casts a shadow on February 2, the Christian holiday of Candlemas, winter will last another six weeks. If no shadow is seen, legend says, spring will come early.” Tomorrow is the big day in PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pennsylvania, and we’ll find out. About 7:30 tomorrow morning Punxsutawney Phil will emerge with his prediction, and we’ll know if we can comfortably settle in for our six more weeks of winter. Thousands show up for the event, with this year’s celebrations lasting three days: Groundhog Day 2015 Schedule of Events! (Events started Saturday, 31 January 2015) People of German heritage in Western Pennsylvania (“Pennsylvania Dutch”—who are actually German—celebrate with *Fersommling*, festive gatherings at which only German is spoken (people speaking English at the events must pay a modest fine).


This week in class we’ll continue to have a look at the basic analytical, theoretical, methodological and historical **frameworks** for the course, and begin exploring “**master texts**” and **classics** in the field.

And we’ll continue our mini-series **comparative analysis of Greek villages** by having a look at *Life Chances: Four Families in a Changing [Greek] Cypriot Village*.

As we continue the Kypseli-Vasilika-Greek Cypriot series, augmented with information from the Village of Karpofora (and eventually other villages in Ireland, England, Scotland, and Hungary) ask yourself a set of questions:

- How are they *Greek*? [or Irish, or English, Scottish, or Hungarian?]
- How are they *villages*?
- How are they "*island communities*"? (as discussed in the Parman text)
- How are they "*peasant communities*"?
- How are they *part of* larger social/cultural systems?
- How are they *representative of* larger social/cultural systems?
- How are all three of these "Master Texts" relevant to today's Anthropology of Europe?

We will have in-class discussion on *Life Chances: Four Families in a Changing [Greek] Cypriot Village*, and a chance for a . . .

-  [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](#)

Whether you're taking notes, watching the videos, or reading the text and related materials, **keep in mind that the exams are open-book tests**—so bear in mind that you *do not* have to memorize a lot of names, dates, and isolated facts. Familiarize yourself with the materials, but don't spend too much time trying to commit the details to memory.

(If you haven't read the materials about the Peoples and Cultures of Europe exams yet, it might be a good idea to do that before too long. You can find the information on the midterm exam at [http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/ceexams\\_midterm.html](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/ceexams_midterm.html).)

For this week—for the entire semester, for that matter—**focus on the ideas and main concepts and differing points of view.**

Be sure to check the details of the activities and assignments of the week on your **Moodle** HomePage. This week take both “**The Turkey Test**,” and the **Selective Attention Tests** in Preparation for Watching Video Series, and Our Later Discussion of Perception. (Be sure to take both tests.) Read and follow the directions carefully. . .

**Selective Attention Test**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJG698U2Mvo>

**The Monkey Business Illusion**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK\\_ZfY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK_ZfY)



[Selective Attention Tests in Preparation for Watching Video Series. \(Be sure to take both tests.\)](#)

Each week be sure to check the activities of the week, including due dates. This week don't forget to . . .

**“Take the Turkey Test!”**

-  [Take the Turkey Test! \(Due End of Week 3, Friday, 6 February 2015\) Forum](#)

The above items will be found at the bottom of this week's **Moodle** listings under “Week 3 Activities.”

**We'll have a quick look at (literally) “Imperial History of the Middle East: 5000 Years of History in 90 seconds.”** It's short—135 seconds (things are not always as advertised). Pay special attention to what is happening within the borders of modern-day Europe. We'll re-visit this next week.



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). And that goes also for questions about getting started on **your project**. Project information is on-line at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/ceproject.html>. Use the wiki for project collaboration and sharing of ideas.

**Share your ideas**, including study-questions with your classmates? Discuss them on-line with the others in class ...

### s2015 **Student Collaboration Space** for your own personal use

-  [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”.

Remember to check the results of the class Video Responses from earlier weeks when they close. You can find the results in the **Moodle** Blocks where they first appeared. This week have a look at . . .

-  [Results--Kypseli I s2015 File resource](#)

Your **Topics** and **Reading Assignments Listings** are available in the Week 3 Block of your **Moodle** folder. **Activities** are listed in your **Moodle** folder.

Enjoy the Super Bowl. (Europeans often have a difficult time understanding the hype for one game. They're used to **the World Cup matches**, which is like having SIXTEEN Super Bowls in a month—no, it's even worse than that. . . .)

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.

Enjoy the Super Bowl.

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs