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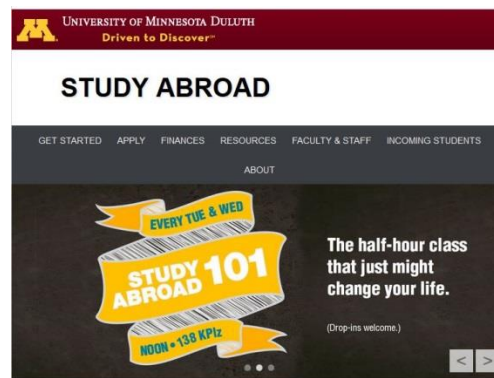
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7 February 2016

Peoples and Cultures of Europe Week 5

"Master Texts and "Classics" in the Anthropology of Europe"

Tuesday Amanda has an important message on [UMD Study Abroad](#) opportunities . . .



More information is available on-line at <https://studyabroad.wp.d.umn.edu/>

This week we have a look at **Units of Analysis**, with reference to refining the unit(s) you choose for your Project, and then we'll move on focus on the **"Master Texts" and "Classics"** in the Anthropology of Europe.

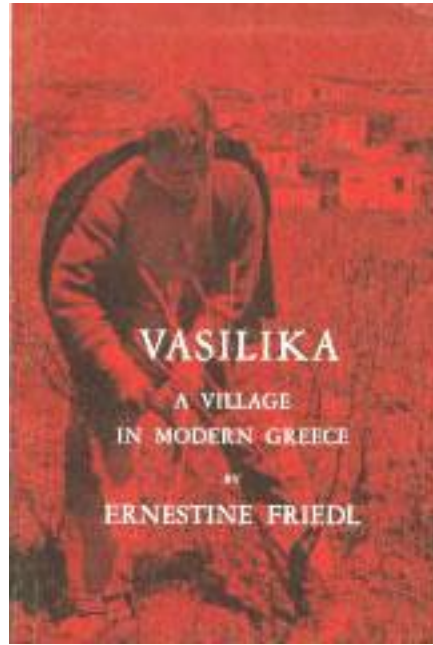
You probably have some notion of "Classics"—like the ancient ones . . . Buddy Holly and the Crickets of "rock and roll" fame—or maybe even some Aristotle, Socrates, and Plato who appear in **"Perennial Debates"** discussions.

What is a "*Master Text*"?

Good question, as Susan Parman and other authors use the term a lot. . . .

In brief, a "Master Text" is a work (video or print item or research technique or theoretical approach) that helped set the stage for what came later and which in one or more ways influenced the development of a discipline or subdiscipline. *Kypseli*, for e.g., is one. Ernestine Friedl's *Vasilika*, for e.g., is another one.

Speaking of **Vasilika**, this week (or as soon as possible thereafter) I'll try also to have a **short walk around Vasilika**, to give you some idea of what it looks like in more modern times, and to say goodbye to the Greeks.



On Tuesday of next week we'll have a look at what Carlos Fuentes has to say about his people and their relationship to “the Old World” in *The Buried Mirror: **The Virgin and the Bull***. But, Carlos Fuentes is a Mexican—a distinguished Mexican novelist and writer, who was best known for his works like *The Death of Artemio Cruz*.

What does Mexico have to do with Europe?

As you will see in Susan Parman and friends' work, in *Europe in the Anthropological Imagination*, Europe came into the anthropological imagination influenced very strongly by people in and associated with the University of Chicago and its focus on Mesoamerican and Chicano community and family studies. Without that influence, anthropological studies of Europe might still be lingering only in someone's imagination. Or it certainly would be a different breed. It would be difficult to understand the development of the Anthropology of Europe—and how we got here—without understanding the contributions of **the “Chicago School”** and its associated folks. I'll talk more about that in class.

*Be sure to check the **activities of the week**, including the due date.* As usual, if you have any questions, please let me know. And that goes also for questions about Part 2 of your project, your

Project Promissory Abstract, and Working Bibliography which are due next week.

And remember, it's always a good idea to **share your ideas** with others. You can discuss them on-line with the others in class. And you should do that.

s2016 **Student Collaboration Space**
for your own personal use



[Wiki for Project Collaboration](#)

The above item will be found at the top of your **Moodle** folder under "Student Collaboration Space".

A final reminder: If you haven't yet taken the **Selective Attention Tests** in Preparation for watching our upcoming video series, please do that. **Read and follow the instructions carefully.** They're short, about a minute-and-a-half each. (Be sure to take both tests.)

Selective Attention Test

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

The Monkey Business Illusion

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

You'll not want to miss any of the animals this week, or in the weeks to come. . . .

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 s2016 File resource](#)
-  [Results--Life Chances: Four Families in a Changing Cypriot Village s2016 File resource](#)
-  [Results--Süleyman the Magnificent s2016 File resource](#)

Your **(1) Topics** and **(2) Readings** and **(3) Assignments and Activities listings** are available in the **Week 5 Block** of your **Moodle** folder.

If you have **any questions**, please do not hesitate to stop in after class, or post them on **Moodle**, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu. And that goes also for **questions about getting started on your project, your project abstract, and the working bibliography for your Project**. Project information is on-line at <<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth4616/cpproject.html>>.

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. . . .)

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs