

17 March 2019

Peoples and Cultures of Europe Week 9



Ireland

Man of Aran

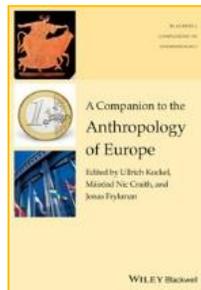
“How the Myth Was Made”

and introduction to

Éire

Ireland: The Emerald Isle, The Island of Saints and Scholars

(time permitting)



Welcome back to Spring Semester.
I hope you had a grand Spring Break.
This week we're off to Ireland.

The whole world, it seems, celebrates **St. Patrick's Day** this

Sunday, 17 March 2019, just in time for looking at Ireland in class. So, **this week and next we're off to Ireland: The Emerald Isle, The Island of Saints and Scholars.**

Everyone loves Ireland, and the Irish love the world and everyone in it. We'll start off with an orientation to Ireland, all of them. You will see that with Ireland you will test your skill at keeping the **Units of Analysis** straight. (Remember those from Weeks 1-2?)

One of the great films of all time is Robert Flaherty's *Man of Aran*. It's a classic, from just this side of silent movie days. *Man of Aran* is also a **"Master Text"** for Ireland and for Anthropology of Europe as a whole. *Man of Aran* did almost *all* of those things "Master Texts" and "Classics" are supposed to do—including create lasting images that become the popular conceptions of a people, and **it formulated the people as myth.**

We'll have a look at *Man of Aran*, when we return after Spring Break, we'll listen to what the Aran Island people have to say about "their" iconic film. Some of the very same people who "starred" in *Man of Aran*—will tell you what *they* think, in **"How the Myth Was Made"**.

And after we've had a chance to see *Man of Aran* and *How the Myth Was Made* this week, we'll take a walk around **Inis Óirr** (*Inish Beag* to John C. Messenger) and many other parts of the Emerald Isle.

So on Tuesday we'll have a look at Ireland, focusing on Robert Flaherty's ***Man of Aran*.**



Man of Aran created lasting images and formulated the insular people of Ireland as a popular myth.

What do the people of the Aran Islands think about that?

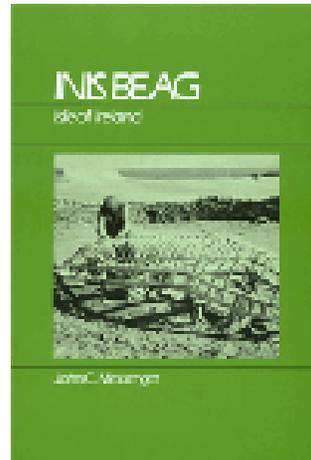
We'll see about that on Thursday in "**How the Myth was Made**".

“. . . The work of anthropologists is not only to invent, explore, and make useful the general concept of ‘culture’ but also to invent particular cultures”

-- Roy Wagner (1975), quoted in Susan Parman,
[*Europe in the Anthropological Imagination*](#) (1998), p. 2

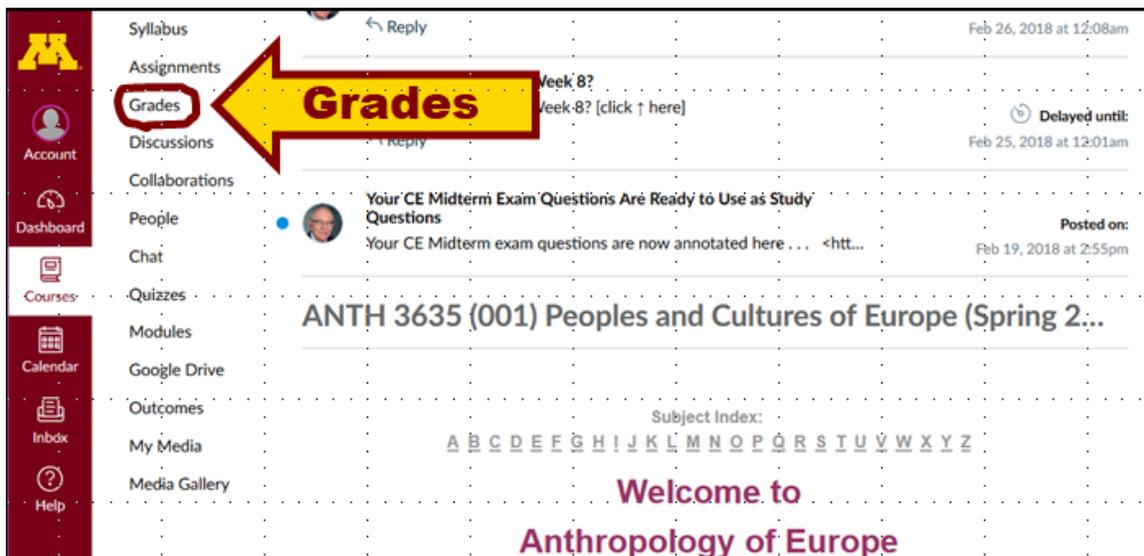
"How the Myth was Made" is a sixty minute documentary about the making of *Man of Aran*, where you will see the actors themselves reflect on the film, and find out what their neighbors think about it.

Next week on Tuesday, Week 10, we'll visit Inish Óirr (aka *Inish Beag*), the smallest of the three Aran Islands. We'll visit the knitters of the famous "Irish Fisherman Sweaters", and have a look around the island, and "the mainland", before we say *Slán agat*.



On Tuesday we'll briefly review the **Midterm Exam,**

so if you have questions, bring them along. If you took the exam, the results are in your  **canvas** Gradebook (check the left-hand Course Navigation column on your “Home” page).



Profs “grading” exams is a lot like an ump in Major League Baseball calling balls and strikes. The Major League rules are clear <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/cegrades.html#strikezone> as are the

stated criteria for written projects and exams

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/cegrades.html#title>.

But, in the end, they are both human judgments.

The biggest difference between a Major League Umpire calling balls and strikes and a professor calling a grade is that you get ejected from the baseball game if you argue balls and strikes (see Section 9.02 Official Baseball Rules http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/official_info/official_rules/foreword.jsp) and one *should* really question the prof if they didn't like the call, and that is especially true for midterm exams as one can often learn quite a bit that is helpful for the Final Exam by looking over and discussing a midterm exam.

Maybe a better analogy would be judging **Olympic Figure Skating, or Gymnastics, or Ski Jumping, Diving** and the like . . . <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/cegrades.html#gymnastics>.



If your style is to look at charts, the grading “chart” is

at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/cegrades.html#gradingpolicies>.

So if, for whatever reason, you didn't like “the call,” e-mail, or stop in Cina 2015.

Go back and look over your Midterm Exam, including your answers.

Please pay attention to what the numbers mean in terms of the final course letter grade. Click **“View Rubric”** on the exam page for details.

Score for this quiz: 348 out of 400
Submitted Feb 15 at 9:47am
This attempt took 51 minutes.

Question 1 / 100 pts

Discuss what you consider to be important ways cooked food related to the development of modern-day humans.

Your Answer:

Submitted: Feb 15 at 9:47am

Assessment
Grade 348 out of 400

[View Rubric](#)

AF Essay Exam Answer

Criteria	Assessment
Quality of Essay Exam Answer	/ 90.0 p
view longer description	

Review . . .



Writing Essays for Exams
Test Taking Strategies

If you have any questions about the [Final Exam](#), please raise them in class or in canvas.

EXTRA CREDIT

If you didn't do quite as well as you might have liked on the Midterm Exam, or if you did better than you even hoped on the Midterm exam but want to “bank” some insurance points for your final course grade, think about doing one (or even two—one of each) of the optional extra credit papers.

There are **two Extra Credit options: (A) a case study**, and/or **(B) a review of a lecture or event, or an approved film** (*other* than one of the films we see in class). For the review option you may also *compare* two or more films. (Remember from Week 1, one of the main features of anthropology is that it is *comparative*?)

Details on the extra credit are on-line at

http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/extra_credit/ceextracredit.html#title

REM: The Course in a Nutshell . . .

In a nutshell, ANTH 3635 Peoples and Cultures of Europe consists of three main segments:

I Orientation and Background ([slides](#))

Introduction

Basic Concepts

History

Theory

Methods and Techniques

II Explorations

Comparative / Cross-Cultural

Holistic

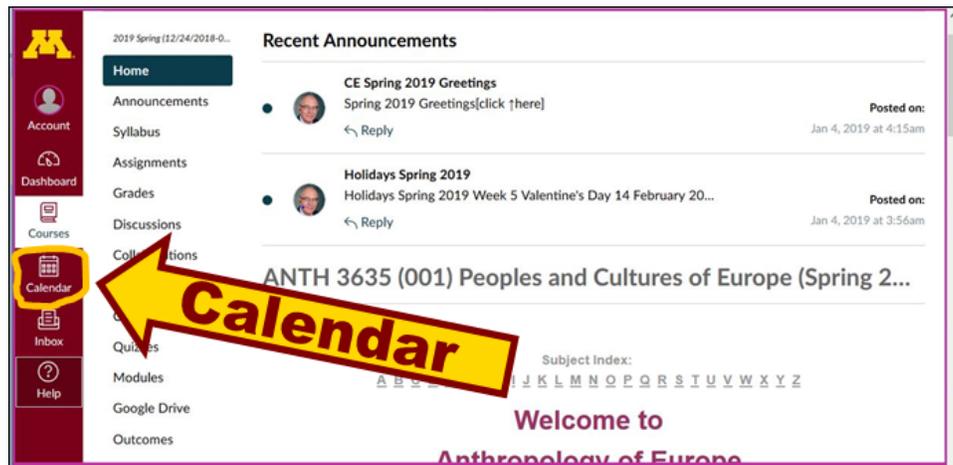
Ethnographic Case Studies from the Real World: Real People . . . Real Places from Around Europe

III Student Presentations on Term Research Project

Assignments and Events

... this week are listed on your "Calendar".

They are also listed on the "Syllabus" section of your  canvas folder, if you prefer to have them in another form (see below).



This Week's "Calendar"

17	18	19	20	21	22	23
 Week 9	 1a CE Wk 9 Readings	 12p CE Day 16 Video: Man of Aran		 12p CE Day 17 Video: "How the Myth Was Made"		

And the "Syllabus" version is found here:



In the “Syllabus” version the assignments look like this:

Sun Mar 24, 2019	Week 10
Mon Mar 25, 2019	CE Wk 10 Readings CE Sign Up for Your Presentation
Tue Mar 26, 2019	Current News: Ireland CE Day 18 Ireland
Thu Mar 28, 2019	Current News: France CE Ireland (cont.)



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

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

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