

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Duluth Campus

*Department of Studies in Justice, Culture, & Social Change
College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences*

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3 January 2021

Global Cultures Welcome

[🔗](#) = leave page



[Tim Roufs](#), Brisbane, Australia, 2017

Available on-line in your

 **canvas** folder at

<<http://canvas.umn.edu/>> [🔗](#)

[Canvas Calendar](#) [🔗](#)

[Syllabus](#) [🔗](#)

Welcome!

General Orientation to the Course

I'm looking forward to Getting Underway.

If you haven't read my [Memo of 26 December 2020](#), please do that as it contains useful and important information about the course.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS NOTE:

Weekly Memos / Announcements

In the News

Media Bias Chart

REM: Textbook

REM: The Course in a Nutshell


Assignments

Readings for the Semester [↗](#)

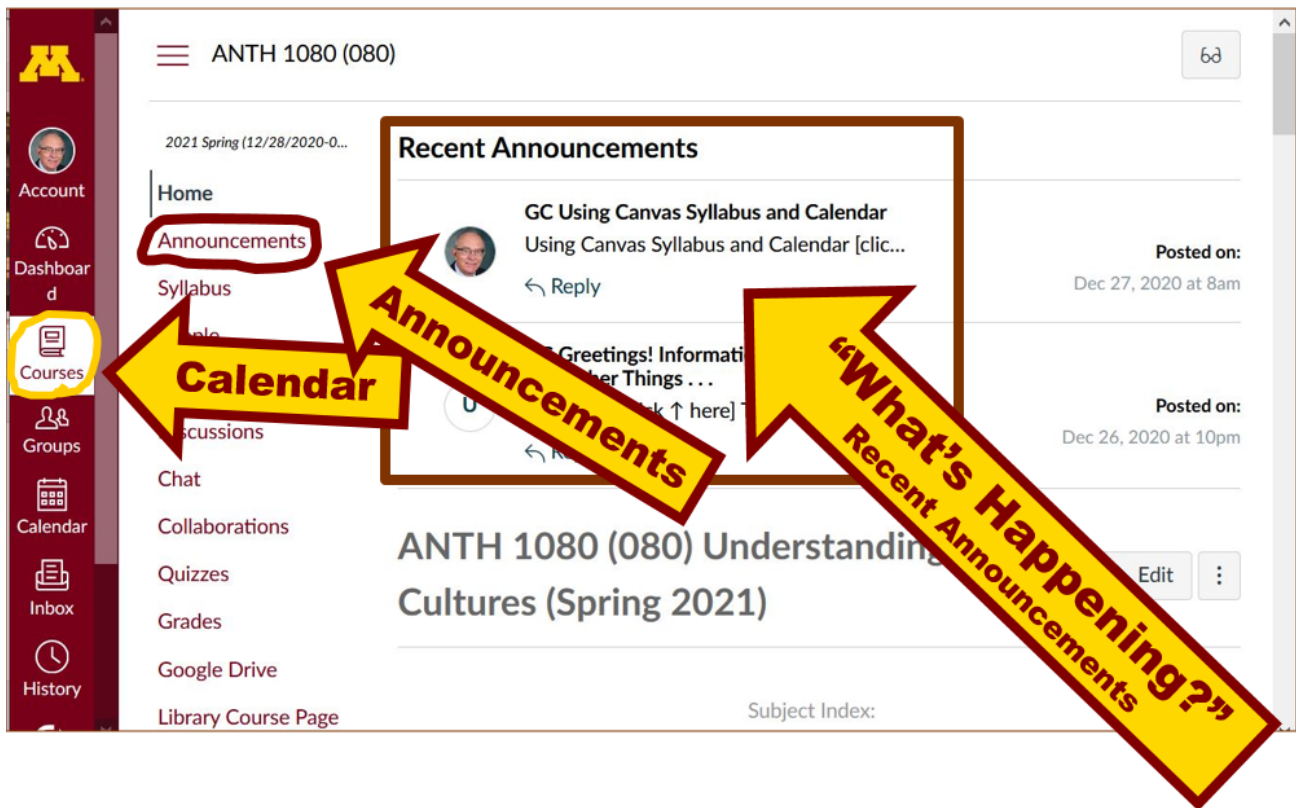
Thanks / Questions


Weekly Memos / Announcements

Every week—usually on Sunday—you will receive a memo like this which outlines what’s happening for the week.

Each week you will get the memo in your UM e-mail account and it will be available in your  canvas folder in three places . . .

in your UM E-mail account: 123student@d.umn.edu



HINT: You can synchronize your  canvas calendar with your UMD Google calendar, if you want. Information for that is here for s2021.


These weekly memos contain lots of valuable and timely information, so pay careful attention to them. They contain . . .

- The Weeks' **Assignments and Activities Schedules**
- **Due Dates** for the Weeks
- The Weeks' **Calendar Summaries**
- **Reminders** for the Weeks
- Suggestions and Hints for **Exams**
- **Interesting tidbits** of the week, including, from time to time, **For-Fun Trivia** . . .
- **Optional links** that might be generally interesting and/or useful, for example, with the **Extra Credit Opportunities**
- Information on **In-Class Films and Videos** (of which there will be many, starting next week)
- **Breaking News Items** . . .

In the “Greetings!” Memo I mentioned **“Tomorrow’s headlines. . . . We’ll soon see what the future brings in global cultures.”**

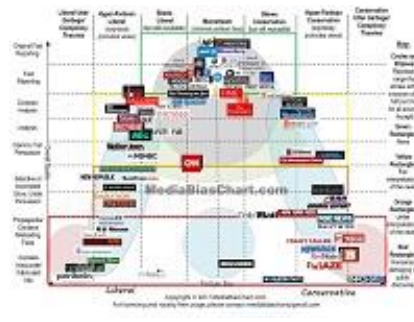
In the News (brief review)

In the “Greetings!” memo I also mentioned that interest in Understanding Global Cultures has never been higher, and or more important. We will be exploring relevant news issues throughout the semester, often including a “What’s in the News?”

feature each week. You will be responsible for the equivalent of one five minute report during the semester, so **sometimes in the next week** have a look in your  **“Collaborations”** section <<https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/184180/collaborations>> at the countries that will be featured in the “What’s in the News?” segments of the class, and sign up for a country. More information can be found on-line on the “In the News Report” WebPage <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/gc_in_the_news_report.html#title>.

***Disclosure:** Items selected from on-line news sources will under normal circumstances be limited to sources classified as legitimate “News” (the green rectangle on the chart) and “*Fair Interpretations of the News*” (the yellow rectangle on the chart) by the authors of the

Media Bias Chart



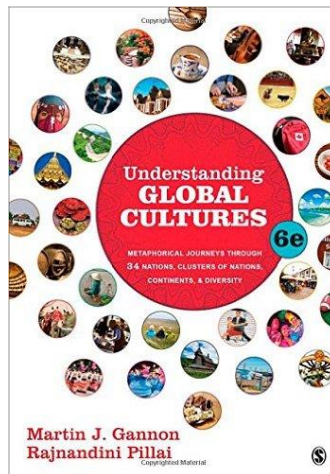
We’ll be exploring many aspects of global cultures—cultural, spiritual, social, political, psychological, historical, prehistorical, recreational, economic, technological, ethical, and the like—so stay tuned.

REM: **Textbook**

Detailed information on the textbook for the course can be found at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/fstext.html#title>.

The text is *Understanding Global Cultures: Metaphorical Journeys Through 34 Nations, Clusters of Nations, Continents, and Diversity, Sixth Edition*

(Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, 2015)



Understanding Global Cultures, Sixth Edition (2015) is currently available on-line from \$102.63 new pbk., \$67.10 used, and rent (from Amazon) \$40.20.

(+ p/h, where applicable, at amazon.com & eligible for FREE Super Saver Shipping on orders over \$25).

[It has also been offered on-line for as much as \$333.28, or even more, so be careful to check prices.]

(26 December 2020)

As I mentioned in my last memo, **the exams will be open-book essays**

constructed from a list of study questions that you help create, so it would be a good idea for you to have your own copy of each text you plan to use in the exams.

For the exams you should normally just need to read the books *carefully* and be able to discuss them *intelligently*. That is, you should read these as if you had picked it/them up at an airport or neighborhood bookshop because you were interested in the subject and wanted to know more about it, like literally millions of people are doing in everyday life.

PLEASE NOTE WHAT I MENTIONED EARLIER:

Some students are used to principally memorizing facts in classes. This class is not one where that is the focus. It is about investigating new topics, reading, listening, synthesizing ideas, thinking, exploring, and becoming familiar enough with the various subjects, peoples and places to carry on an intelligent conversation in modern-day society.

Critical thinking, involving **evaluation** and **synthesis**, has long been regarded as essential for success in the modern-day world. In recent years, actually for two decades, **creativity** has also become central to success, and "process skills" vital to creativity. Process skills involve "strategies to reframe challenges and extrapolate and transform information, and to accept and deal with ambiguity" (Pappano, "[Learning to Think Outside the Box](#)," [The New York Times Education Life](#), 9 February 2014, 8). Laura Pappano, writer in residence at Wellesley Center for Women at Wellesley College, points out that "In 2010 'creativity' was the factor most crucial for success found in an I.B.M. survey of 1,500 chief executives in 33 industries. These days 'creative' is the most used buzzword in LinkedIn profiles two years running" (2014, 8). It still is. They still are.

With all of the class materials **you will be expected to share your ideas and comments with others** in the Class *Discussions* and wikis.

It is not accidental that *TAPS*, Canada's leading Beer Magazine—in fact it's *THE BEER MAGAZINE*—features an item in an editorial (Winter 2011-2012, p. 2); at least one major Editor in Chief thinks it's worth noting and imitating.
<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anthfood/index_online.html#KarlaDudley>

As I mentioned in the “Greetings!” memo . . .

REM: **The Course in a Nutshell**

Overall, this course consists of *three main segments*:

I Orientation and Background

Introduction
Basic Concepts
History
Theory
Methods and Techniques

II Exploration

Comparative / Cross-Cultural
Holistic ([holism slides.pptx](#))
Ethnographic Case Studies from the Real World:
Real People . . . Real Places from Around the Globe

III Student Presentations on Term Research Projects

For **the first part** of the course much of the material for the week will be presented in the form of **text and video materials and on-line slide materials**. Please note that many of the slide sets go hand-in-hand with the

materials in the anchor text. If your learning style is visual, focus first/more on the slides. **In the second section** of the semester, once you have mastered the basic information relating to Global Cultures, we will look (generally comparatively, *cf.*, Main Characteristics of Anthropology in Week 1) at **a series of additional video materials from around the world. The final section** will focus on your research projects.

Have a general once-over look at the . . .

Assignments and Events for Week 1

which are listed on your  canvas

“Syllabus” and on your “Calendar”.

REVIEW the **“Using the Canvas Syllabus and Calendar”** materials at
<[https://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/memos/weekly%20memos/gc Week 01b
calendar-syllabus_s2021.pdf](https://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/memos/weekly%20memos/gc%20Week%2001b%20calendar-syllabus_s2021.pdf)>.

**So once again, welcome to ANTH 1080
Understanding Global Cultures. This *will be* a
great course, and a great experience.**

You will see. . . .

If you have any **questions** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the  canvas “Discussions”, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu, or ZOOM <https://umn.zoom.us/my/troufs>. [e-mail is fastest].


I’m looking forward to “seeing” you in class.

Best Wishes,

Tim Roufs

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

<<https://umn.zoom.us/my/troufs>>

P.S. If you are new to the world of "technology" don't worry too much about that. Things may not "work" for you at first, but hang in there and we'll help you along. If you have not used  canvas course management system before, you might find it helpful to view the **Canvas Student Guide**.