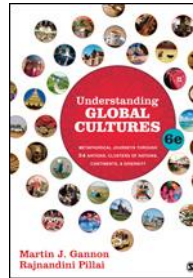






Anthropology of Europe Week 9
(Module 9)



Direct Links
to Canvas



Available on-line in your  canvas folder at
<<http://canvas.umn.edu/>> 
[Canvas Calendar](#) 
[Syllabus](#) 

What's Happening this Week . . .

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

(click links for details)

 = leave page



General Comments for the Week

This week we end our visit to the famed Aran Islands of Ireland, and go on to briefly visit a few other highlights of Ireland.

From Ireland we venture to India—a country intimately connected with England and the United Kingdom for hundreds of years. As a result British Indians today are the single largest visible minority in the United Kingdom, numbering about a million and a half people (2011 Census). And they contribute much to modern-day life in the United Kingdom.

From Ireland we're going to the city of Varanasi in India, located along

the banks of the sacred Ganges River, where several families share with us their very last moments with their beloved relatives. We'll visit with families who are saying goodbye to their relatives. To die in the city of Varanasi, on the banks of the sacred Ganges, is one of the most cherished of Hindu religious aspirations in India.

In anthropology **“Life Cycle” events** involving life and death have always been of great interest, including how living folks interact with both their departing and departed ancestors, and how the transition from this life to the next (for those who believe in a next life) takes place.

And we'll have a look at the week's news from India, courtesy of Danae B.

In the News . . .

[Media Bias Chart](#)

India – Danae B.

Live Chat: Open Forum / Office Hours

[Contact Information](#)

This Week's Video Explorations

Real People . . . Real Places . . .

[Videos for the Semester](#)

Ganges: River to Heaven

[India]

(52 min., 2003)

This Week's Slides

[Class Slides for the Semester](#)

Ireland / Inis Oírr
Ireland / Newgrange

Readings for the Week

[Readings for the Semester](#)

REM: [Textbooks](#)

Other Assignment Information

Main Due Dates [↗](#)

Calendar [↗](#)

Week 9 (Module 9) Calendar

REM: **Project Time**

REM: **The Course in a Nutshell . . .**

For other optional items for the week check "Calendar" [↗](#) or "Syllabus" [↗](#)

Questions? Comments?

General Comments for the Week

This week we end our visit to the famed Aran Islands of Ireland, and go on to briefly visit a few other highlights of Ireland.

India is a country that has been intimately connected with England and the United Kingdom for hundreds of years, essentially beginning with the establishment in A.D. 1600 of the East Indian Company under the Tutor Queen Elizabeth I (daughter of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn).

India did not gain its Independence from England until 1947 (171 years after the American Colonies declared its independence from England.) British Indians today are the single largest visible minority in the United Kingdom, numbering about a million and a half people (2011 Census).

The Irish, and especially the Irish Catholics, are known to deal with death in a matter-of-fact manner, and get on with living. So too are Hindu individuals from India. This week some share with us the last hours of their beloved family members. It is a way of life and death not familiar to most of us.

In anthropology these “Life Cycle” events including birth and death have always been of great interest, including how living folks interact with their departed ancestors, and how the transition from this life to the next (for those who believe in a next life) takes place.

This week we visit with families in India who are saying goodbye to their relatives at a sacred location along the Ganges River, in the city of Varanasi. To die in the city of Varanasi, on the banks of the sacred Ganges, one of the most cherished of Hindu religious aspirations in India.

And we'll also have a look at this week's news from India, courtesy of Danae B.

In the News . . .

[Media Bias Chart](#)



Sign Up in Canvas "Collaborations":
<<https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/209315/collaborations>>

India – Danae B.

Live Chat: Open Forum / Office Hours

[Contact Information](#)

Tuesday, 9 March 2021 @ 7:00-8:00 p.m. (CDT)

"ZOOM" [↗](#)

[click ↑ here]

or

e-mail anytime: <mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu> [↗](#)

[click ↑ here]



Live Chat is optional.

Video Explorations

Real People . . . Real Places . . .

[Videos for the Semester](#)

This week we have a look at the internationally acclaimed film . . .

Ganges: River to Heaven

[India]
(52 min., 2003)

[On-line Access](#)

[click ↑ here]

[course viewing guide](#)

"Trigger Alert"

**Warning:
This Film Contains Graphic Images**



"This documentary explores one of the most cherished of Hindu religious aspirations: to die in the city of Varanasi, on the banks of the sacred Ganges, in the faith that dying here assures liberation from the cycle of earthly life."

"In the city of Kashi [in the location of modern-day Varanasi] the power of Ganga, the Hindu mother-goddess of the Ganges River, is strongest. Each dawn she calls her children to the *ghats*, the steps leading down to the water's edge. The young and strong purify themselves in Ganga's polluted waves. The old and the infirm, too weak for rituals, wait for death. In time, Ganga carries their souls, released from the bondage of reincarnation, to heaven. Their bodies, as ash afloat her crests or flesh submerged in her depths, return to the river. Once privy only to the dead and those who mourned them, the final journey of the devout Hindu is the subject of Gayle Ferraro's latest film, 'GANGES: River to Heaven.'"

"Filmed in a hospice for the dying and on the *ghats* of Kashi, India's religious heart, 'GANGES' follows four families' struggle to grant a loved one's final wish: to go to heaven. In their common quest the families become a fraction of the hordes of Hindus drawn to Kashi's holy promise of freedom from reincarnation. As the clans prepare for death, the citizens of Kashi manage life—praying for health, dumping industrial waste, begging for pocket change, bathing their children, selling to tourists, monitoring fecal chloroform levels, cremating their mothers—all along the banks of the Ganges River.

The families' preparations go virtually unnoticed on the river, where death is a daily part of life."

"GANGES: River to Heaven investigates the inextricable bond between a river and its people with unparalleled intimacy and depth. From the *ghat* workers gathering wood for the next cremation, to the chemists gathering water samples for contamination testing, each perspective sheds new light on India's evolving society and its unchanging veneration of the Ganges. The documentary of a sacred river, polluted from years of overuse, 'GANGES' wonders if the natural force strong enough to sculpt the peaks of the Himalayas and the beliefs of a nation will survive the adoration of generations to come."

This Week's Slides

[Class Slides for the Semester](#)

Slán agat IRELAND

We'll finish our Ireland materials with the slides from Inish Óirr (aka *Inish Beag*), the smallest of the three well-known 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 have a brief look at Newgrange and say *Slán agat*.



“Introduction / Inish Óirr”

(aka Inish Beag)

(.pptx)

[[click ↑ here](#)]

and

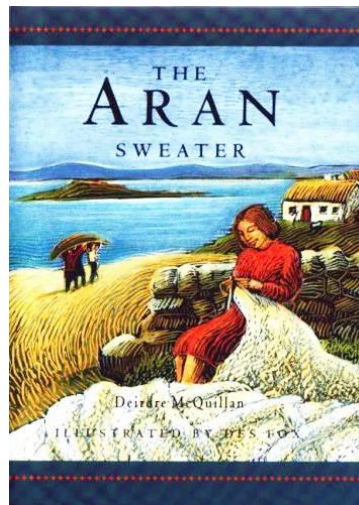
"Newgrange" . . .

(.pptx)

[[click ↑ here](#)]

The full Ireland slide sequence,
should you want to look at the other slides, includes

- **Introduction / Inis Oírr** slides: (.pptx)
- **Aran, Galway, Clare, Conamara . . .** slides: (.pptx)
- **Dingle, Kerry, Bantry, Cork . . .** slides: (.pptx)
- **Dublin . . .** slides: (.pptx)
- **Newgrange . . .** slides: (.pptx)
- **Analysis . . .** slides: (.pptx)

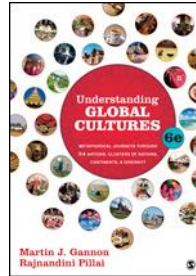


Inis Oírr
Ireland

Readings for the Week

[Readings for the Semester](#)

REM: [Textbooks](#)



[Textbook: Understanding Global Cultures](#)

PART IX: INDIA, TRADITION,
MODERNITY, AND DIVERSITY

Chapter 26: India: The Dance of
Shiva

**Chapter 27: India: A Kaleidoscope of
Diversity**

(assigned readings are in bold letters)

News-of-the-Week

- [India](#)

Video

***Ganges: River to
Heaven***

[India]

(52 min., 2003)

Other Assignment Information

[Main Due Dates](#)

[Calendar](#)

Week 9 (Module 9) Calendar



REM: Links on screenshots are not “hot” (active)

The “Calendar” and the “Agenda” and the “Syllabus” all have the same information.

The screenshot shows a Canvas calendar for March 2021. The calendar is displayed in a weekly view, with columns for SUN, WED, THU, FRI, and SAT. The dates shown are 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13. The calendar includes several events and assignments, such as "12:01a Module 9 = Week 9 Syllabus", "12:01a CE Revised Spring UMD Break", "8:01a CE Wk 9 Ireland -- Introduction / Inis Oírr .pptx", "8:01a CE Wk 9 Ireland -- Dingle, Kerry, Bantry, Cork ... (.pptx)", "8:01a CE Wk 9 Video: Ganges: River to Heaven (52 min.)", and "8:01a CE Wk 9 REM: Schedule Some Time Blocks to Work on Your Class Project".

Annotations on the screenshot include:

- A blue double-headed arrow labeled "(Revised) 'Spring Break'" spans from Sunday, March 7th to Wednesday, March 10th.
- A red arrow labeled "Syllabus" points to the "12:01a Module 9 = Week 9 Syllabus" event on Sunday, March 7th.
- A yellow arrow labeled "Readings" points to the "12:01a CE Revised Spring UMD Break" event on Monday, March 8th.
- A blue arrow labeled "Live Chat" points to the "7p (optional) CE Wk 9 Live Chat -- Office Hour" event on Tuesday, March 9th.
- A red arrow labeled "Agenda" points to the "8:01a CE Wk 9 Ireland -- Introduction / Inis Oírr .pptx" event on Wednesday, March 10th.
- A blue arrow labeled "Video On-line" points to the "8:01a CE Wk 9 Video: Ganges: River to Heaven (52 min.)" event on Friday, March 12th.
- A yellow arrow labeled "Project" points to the "8:01a CE Wk 9 REM: Schedule Some Time Blocks to Work on Your Class Project" event on Saturday, March 13th.
- A red arrow labeled "What's Happening" points to the "8:01a CE What's Happening Week 9?" event on Sunday, March 7th.
- A red arrow labeled "The links to the videos are live in Canvas" points to the "8:01a CE Wk 9 Video: Ganges: River to Heaven (52 min.)" event on Friday, March 12th.
- A red arrow labeled "Live Chat Tuesday 7:00 – 8:00 p.m." points to the "7p (optional) CE Wk 9 Live Chat -- Office Hour" event on Tuesday, March 9th.

REM: Project Time

If you haven't already done so, *schedule* some serious time blocks to work on your Project. And think about is how you might present your findings to others.

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

If you have any **questions or comments** 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, and most generally best as quite often URLs need be sent.)

Best Wishes,

Tim Roufs

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

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

[other contact information](#) 