

Peoples and Cultures of Europe Week 10



COVID-19 Update Revised 2020.03.21



These are difficult and uncertain times, no doubt about it. In the lifetimes of your parents and grandparents many European countries and cultures have been through times like this, and worse.

As with WW I and WW II and the “Spanish Flu” of 1918-1919 (which didn’t actually have much to do with Spain; it was called “the Spanish flu” at the time by our politicians and their “fake news” of the day to deflect criticism of their political actions), and the Great Recession, and the 2008 Great Recession II, we will endure and persist and especially if we work together on the problem.

My good friend, Robin Blagburn, Vice President of Bass Brewing, the largest brewery in the world at the time, and former British Army officer in Berma, used to remind me that when people recognize a problem and have the will to solve it, they can and do.

Anxieties and pain nevertheless remain. Don’t ignore that, recognize it, and deal with it the best you can. And wash your hands; wash your hands. And remember lots of folks are available to help out.

We, and by that I mean myself and the folks at the University of Minnesota are here to help, and we will. Be sure to speak up when you need to. My e-mail is easy to remember: troufs@d.umn.edu.

As with all of your other classes at the direction of Joan Gabel, the University President, we have shifted this class to a 100% on-line format for the remainder of the semester.

You should soon be given an option by the UM Administration of how you would like your final grade for the course to be entered. As I understand it, the choice will be yours, although in other universities they have shifted classes to all P/N (S/N). If you would like guidance on doing that, when you get the information from the UM, please e-mail.

I have been teaching 100% on-line courses longer than almost anyone at the University of Minnesota. They are different, to be sure, but they do have some advantages. About 10 years ago the Anthropology of Food course was designed by Vrushali Moghe, now in Australia, from the ground up as a 100% on-line course.

One of the things guiding our on-line course development was that even by then, ten years ago, research pretty well had shown that the lecture is the LEAST effective way to learn. (Note I said *learn*, not transmit facts and simple pieces of information. When Vrushali first told me that, I was each term teaching classes of 195 students in Life Science 175, and, I thought, doing it very well. I taught Prehistoric Cultures to over 28,000 students, in large lecture halls, including Ed 90. I have taught more individuals than anyone else in the history of UMD, largely in lecture format. Vrushali was essentially telling me that I was doing that in the *least* effective way possible. And although we had excellent video production facilities available (a whole department, in fact), she would not allow taped lectures to be included in "our" course.

So, thanks to Vrushali, we will not have home-movie type lectures in this class. This includes the scheduled appearances with our three guests, which have been cancelled. As with the on-line Food course, the

subject matter content of the remainder of this course will basically be delivered with videos and slides. I will add some case-based asynchronous discussions (usually one per week), an extra “live chat” or two. You may actually have noticed that we were following a “blended” class pattern already, for the first part of the semester (one which blended features of on-line and in-class materials).

Our UMD Librarian, Mags David, has already requested a steaming license for the French film *After Winter, Spring* which is scheduled for the 31st of April, in order that we can present it legally on-line.

One other change in emphasis we will make is to shift your efforts a bit towards working on your Presentation and final Term Paper. More on that shift as we go along. All Presentations will be on-line. For the present, get started on your project, if you have not already done so.

If you haven’t done a course on-line before, that’s OK. If you have done an Independent Study course it might help if you think about your on-line course(s) being similar to an Independent Study course where from time-to-time you communicate with others in the course, and always communicate directly one-on-one with the instructor *whenever* you have a question or need clarification.

OK?

The materials for this week follow.

1. In the News

CANCELLED

**2. Ireland / Inis Óirr
Ireland / Newgrange**

**Fáilte ar ais Inish Óirr (aka Inish Beag)
and
Newgrange**

3. Guest: Morris Levy

(Belgium)

CANCELLED

4. Old Business

Units of Analysis
Master Texts and “Classics”

5. Assignments

Readings for the Semester
Class Slides for the Semester

1. In the News

CANCELLED

Since one of the main reasons for the In-the-News reports was to give you a chance to give a brief presentation to the class In-the-News reports are cancelled until further notice

2. IRELAND

Fáilte ar ais Inish Óirr (aka Inish Beag)
and
"Newgrange"

We'll finish our Ireland materials with the slides from 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 have a brief look at Newgrange and say *Slán agat*.



[Syllabus](#)
Ireland

This week have a look at

the **"Introduction / Inis Oírr"**

[<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/PowerPoint/Ireland_intro.pptx>](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/PowerPoint/Ireland_intro.pptx)

[click ↑ here]

and the

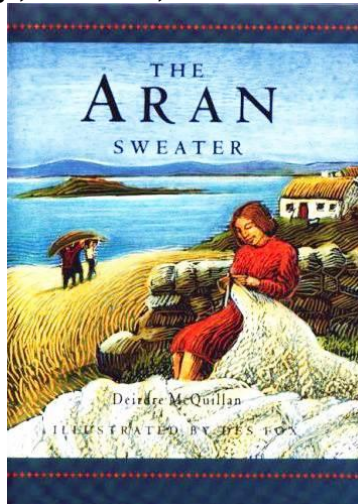
"Newgrange" . . . slides: (.pptx)

[<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/PowerPoint/Ireland_Newgrange.pptx>](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/PowerPoint/Ireland_Newgrange.pptx)

[click ↑ here]

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

- **Introduction / Inis Oírr** slides: (.pptx)
- **Aran, Galway, Clare, Conamara . . .** slides: (.pptx)



[Inis Oírr](#)
[Ireland](#)

- **Dingle, Kerry, Bantry, Cork . . .** slides: (.pptx)
- **Dublin . . .** slides: (.pptx)
- **Newgrange . . .** slides: (.pptx)
- **Analysis . . .** slides: (.pptx)

4. Old Business . . .

“units of analysis”
“master texts” and classics

as mentioned in the “Orientation”
units of analysis may include:

- one person
- the family
- the community
- a region
- a “culture area”
- a culture / “subculture”
- a nation
- the world
- an item or action itself
- a “cultural metaphor”

(.pptx)

“Master Texts”

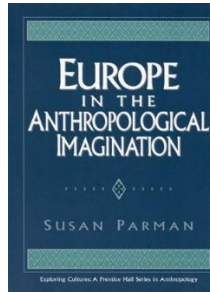
In brief, a “Master Text” is a work (video *or* print item *or* research technique *or* theoretical approach) that helped set the stage for what came later and which in one or more ways influenced the development of a discipline or sub-discipline.

Kypseli
Vasilika
Man of Aran



“Master Texts” is a term often used, and in the context of the Anthropology of Europe and is best discussed by Susan Parman in her book *Europe in the Anthropological Imagination* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1998, especially pp. 11 – 14):

slides: ([.pptx](#))



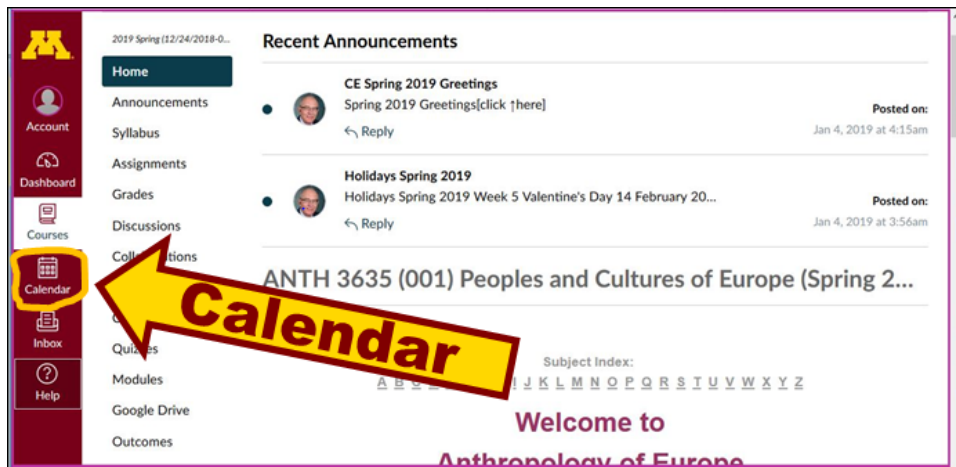
This week's

5. Assignments

Readings for the Semester
Class Slides for the Semester

as listed on your **”Calendar”**.

NB: Midterm Exam Question



This Week's **”Calendar”**

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

22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1a CE What's Happening Week 10?	1a CE Wk 10 Readings	12p CE Ireland -- Introduction / Inis Oírr .pptx 7p CE Wk 10 Live Chat -- Open Discussion, Tuesday, 24 March 2020, 7:00-8:00 p.m.		12p CE Ireland -- Newgrange .pptx CE Wk 10 Finish Old Business Units of Analysis (intro .pptx)	CE Wk 10 REM Work on Your Project	CE 10 Discussion: What Makes Finland and 13 Other European Countries the Happiest Countries in the World?

Live Chat
NB
[Nota Bene]

And the “Syllabus” version is found here:




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

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


Sun Mar 22, 2020

 CE What's Happening Week 10?

Mon Mar 23, 2020

 CE Wk 10 Readings


Tue Mar 24, 2020

 CE Ireland -- Introduction / Inis Oírr .pptx

CE Wk 10 Live Chat -- Open Discussion, Tuesday, 24 March 2020, 7:00-8:00 p.m.




Thu Mar 26, 2020


 CE Ireland -- Newgrange .pptx


 CE Wk 10 Finish Old Business Units of Analysis (intro .pptx)

Fri Mar 27, 2020

 CE Wk 10 REM Work on Your Project

Sat Mar 28, 2020

 CE 10 Discussion: What Makes Finland and 13 Other European Countries the Happiest Countries in the World?

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

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

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