AN 315: Family in Cross Cultural Perspective  
Dr. Brice Obermeyer  
Office: Butcher Ed. Cent., Rm 115D, Roosevelt Hall, Rm 212  
Facebook Page: Dr. Obermeyer’s Anthropology Students

Course Description: An introduction to kinship studies that surveys kinship beliefs and practices around the world to reveal the socio-economic factors that help to shape our globally diverse family structures.

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning Outcome 1: This course will provide a survey of the field of Kinship Studies in Anthropology including the origin and history of the field, basic and advanced terminology and major theoretical perspectives.

Learning Outcome 2: This course will provide knowledge of, and appreciation for, the diversity of family systems through readings and videos from over a dozen world cultures that describe how different types of families function in other cultures.

Assessment 1: Exams - There will be four exams and each will be worth 50 points for a total of 200 points. The exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The exams will assess the student's comprehension of the readings (primarily) which will be expanded upon in lectures.

Assessment 2: Vocabulary Exams - This course will include four vocabulary exams and each will be worth 25 points for a total of 100 points. These exams will provide a list of terms and the student will be asked to define them.

Learning Outcome 3: This course will provide instruction on how to accurately construct a kinship diagram that will accurately depict a family system.

Assessment 3: Kinship Diagrams - This course will require the completion of four sets of Kinship Diagrams and each set will be worth 25 points for a total of 100 points. The student will be given a description of a particular family system and will be asked to accurately diagram the system.

Learning Outcome 4 - This course will provide a basic understanding of a psycho-anthropological systems theory approach to understanding the economic and emotional dynamics of the human family system.

Assessment 4: Case Study - This course will require the completion of 4 case study questions and each will be worth 25 points for a total of 100 points. The case study will give a real or hypothetical scenario about a family system and will ask for an accurate description of the dynamic. This assessment will be the student's opportunity to demonstrate their grasp of a psycho-anthropological approach.
**Course grading rubric:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(4) Exams</td>
<td>200pts</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>500-448 pts (100-89.6%) = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary Exams</td>
<td>100pts</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>89.4%</td>
<td>447-398 pts (89.4-79.6%) = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinship Diagrams</td>
<td>100pts</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
<td>397-348 pts (79.4-69.6%) = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Studies</td>
<td>100pts</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>69.4%</td>
<td>347-298 (69.4-59.6%) = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>500pts</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>59.4%</td>
<td>297-0 (59.4-0%) = F</td>
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**Textbook** (required):
Stone, Linda,

**Late Assignments Policy:** Late work will be accepted but for only half credit unless prior arrangements are made and the justification for the need to turn in work after the deadline is valid. All work must be turned in by the last day of class before finals week to be accepted.

**NOTE:** Sociology majors, sociology minors, and anthropology minors MUST have a minimum grade of “C” in this class to satisfy his/her degree plans.

**Course Attendance Policy:** Attendance is strongly encouraged in any course. Important announcements, course material and exams are only given during class.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty, a basis for disciplinary action, includes but is not limited to activities such as cheating and plagiarism (presenting as one’s own the intellectual or creative accomplishments of another without giving credit to the source or sources). The faculty member in whose course or under whose tutelage an act of academic dishonesty occurs has the option of failing the student for the academic hours in question. The department chair should be advised of any action taken by the faculty member regarding academic dishonesty.

The faculty member may consent to refer the case to other academic personnel for further action. Departments, schools and colleges may have provisions for more severe penalties than set forth above. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion from the university.

The student has the right to appeal the charge of academic dishonesty in accordance with the university’s Academic Appeals policy and procedure as set forth in section 9A-04 of the Faculty Handbook.

**Disability Services:** Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication between students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential.

**Faculty Initiated Student Withdrawal:** If a student’s absences from class or disruptive behavior become detrimental to the student’s progress or that of the other students in the class, the faculty member shall attempt to contact the student in writing about withdrawing from the
class and shall seek the aid of the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs to help insure contacting the student. The office of the Vice President of Student Affairs shall provide the student information about the existing appeals procedures.

Upon receiving a written report from the faculty member, the Vice President of Student Affairs may initiate a student withdrawal from the class. None of the above implies or states that faculty members are required to initiate the student withdrawals for excessive absence.