

Minnesota State University Moorhead

ANTH 307: Ecological Anthropology

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites:

ANTH 110 - Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 10 - People/Environment

An anthropological examination of cultural adaptation to the environment. Detailed analysis of the major human subsistence strategies in diverse ecological settings worldwide. MnTC Goal 10.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 04/11/2000 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Examination of pre-industrial human adaptive strategies: hunting and gathering, horticulture, pastoralism, intensive agriculture.
2. Detailed consideration of the rise of industrialized food production and an assessment of its costs and benefits.
3. Biotechnology and GMOs.
4. Conservation of natural/communal resources.
5. Indigenous technical knowledge and its potential to contribute to sustainable development.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Understand and appreciate the social and cultural adaptive strategies that humans groups developed in dealing with diverse environments prior to the industrial age.
2. Recognize the potential of this indigenous knowledge to contribute to sustainable solutions to future food needs, energy provision, and resource conservation.
3. Analyze and critically assess the sociocultural, economic, and environmental costs and benefits of industrialized agriculture, including biotechnologically engineered food crops.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 10 - People/Environment

1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted