

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

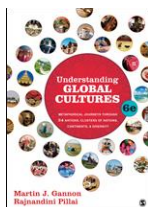
Duluth Campus

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20 August 2023




Welcome to the Global Cultures Class!



Direct Links  
to Canvas




Available on-line in your  canvas folder at  
<<http://canvas.umn.edu/>>

- [f2023 Canvas Modules](#)
- [f2023 Module Pre-Term](#)
- [f2023 GC Simple Syllabus](#)



Tim Roufs Inspecting Durians in Singapore Market, 2017

**Class officially starts on Monday, 28 August 2023.**

<b><u>1.0 What's Happening?</u></b> <b><u>"Sunday Memos"</u></b>	<b>2.0 Video Explorations</b>	<b>3.0 Slides</b>	<b>4.0 <u>Textbook</u></b> <b><u>Readings for the Semester</u></b>
<b>5.0 Other Assignments</b>	<b>6.0 <u>Exams</u></b> <b><u>An Important Note on the Exams</u></b>	<b>7.0 Project</b>	<b>8.0 Discussion</b>
9.0 (optional) <b>For Fun Trivia</b>	10.0 (optional) <b>Extra Credit</b>	11.0 (optional) <b>Other</b>	(click links for details)  = leave page
12.0 <b><u>In the News</u></b> (brief review) <b><u>Media Bias Chart</u></b>	13.0 (optional) <b>Live Chat</b> Tuesday 7:00-8:00 p.m.	(optional) 14.0 <b><u>Questions / Comments</u></b>	<b>Items DUE this week:</b> *enter on-line **upload file

REM:  
**The Course in a Nutshell**  
**Structure**  
**Content**

# Welcome!

## General Orientation to the Course

I'm looking forward to Getting Underway.

If you haven't read my memos . . .

**“Greetings” Memo**

(Textbooks)

of Sunday, 13 August 2023 [🔗](#),

**my “Canvas ‘Modules’ / ‘Sunday Memos’”**

(General Organization of Stuff)

Memo of Wednesday, 16 August 2023 [🔗](#),

**and my “Using the Canvas Modules -- REVIEW” Memo**

(skip if you are comfortable using Canvas "Modules")

of Friday, 18 August 2023 [🔗](#),

. . . please do that as they contain useful and important information about the course that will make your life much easier.


These are not required reading,  
but it would be a good idea to read them anyway.

(That's a lot of stuff to read, but the “stuff” lightens up after next week.)

## Weekly Memos / Announcements

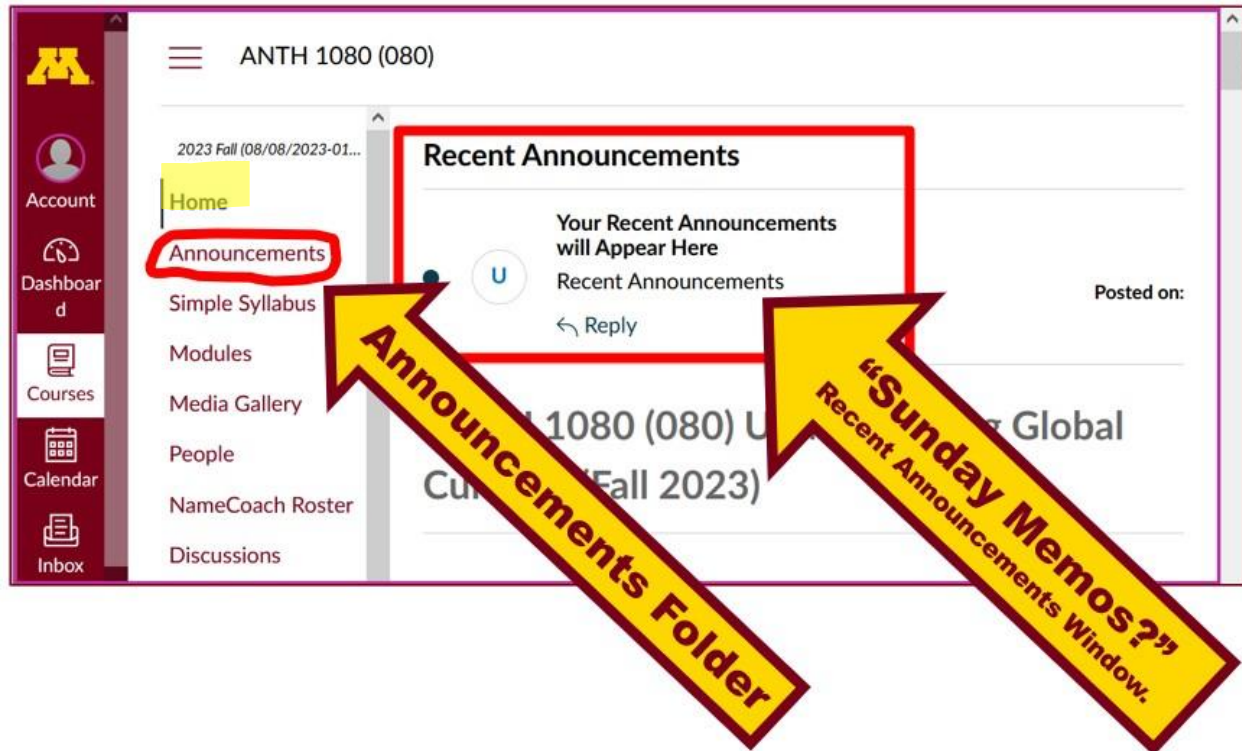
Every week—usually on Sunday—you will receive a .pdf memo like this, which outlines what's happening for the week.

Each week you will get the **“Sunday Memo”** in your UM e-mail account (usually something like *name@d.umn.edu*), and it will be available in your

 **canvas** folder in two places . . . at the top of your Canvas “Home Page” and in your “Announcements” folder.

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

When the semester starts the links on the memos will be “hot” (active) and they will take you to more detailed information.



**These weekly memos** mimic the Modules section of Canvas and contain lots of valuable and timely information, so pay careful attention to them. This material is similar to, but more detailed than, the Canvas Modules information. They contain . . .

- The Weeks’ **Assignments and Activities Schedules**
- Important **Due Dates** for the Weeks
- The Weeks’ **Modules 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.”**

## 12.0 **In the News** (brief review)

**In the “Greetings!” memo I also mentioned that interest in Understanding Global Cultures has never been higher, 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 **class Google Drive** f2023 <[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nRmdKLFrkqrFcV0iPNNq\\_fPO9Iu7byokHQ0BGOZCLXo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nRmdKLFrkqrFcV0iPNNq_fPO9Iu7byokHQ0BGOZCLXo/edit?usp=sharing)> 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](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1095/gc_in_the_news_report.html#title)>.

(These are examples for you to check out, if you are so inclined. Sometimes folks get ideas for their **term project** by looking at news items the ones that will be suggested throughout the semester.)

**\*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.

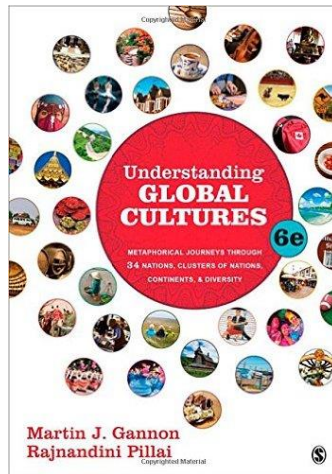
## REM: Textbook

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

[click ↑ here]

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)



by Martin J. Gannon, Professor, California State University San Marcos  
Professor Emeritus, Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, and Rajnandini (Raj) Pillai,  
Professor, California State University San Marcos, (SAGE Publications, Thousand Oaks, CA, 2015).

(It's expensive, so consider renting one, or buy a used copy;  
exams are open-book, so you should have a copy. We are using this text next semester in both ANTH  
1080 Global Cultures and in ANTH 3635 Anthropology of Europe. And students from last semester  
may have books for sale or loan.)

## AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON THE EXAMS

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.***

**In short, this class aims to give you practice in critical thinking, and even creativity, avoiding rote memorization if possible.**

**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](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anthfood/index_online.html#KarlaDudley)



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

## **THE COURSE *STRUCTURE* 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**

## **THE COURSE *CONTENT* IN A NUTSHELL**

primarily comes from the following sources . . .

[“Sunday Memos”](#) contain information on . . .



**IN-THE-NEWS** ...

GC 2.0 **VIDEO EXPLORATIONS** ...

GC 3.0 **SLIDE PRESENTATIONS** ...

GC 4.0 **READINGS for the week** ...

GC 5.0 **OTHER ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION** ...

GC 6.0 **MIDTERM** AND **FINAL** EXAMS ...

GC 7.0 **RESEARCH PROJECT for the term** ... on a topic of your choice related to the course

GC 8.0 **DISCUSSIONS** ... including your personal experiences

GC 9.0 (optional) **FOR FUN TRIVIA** ...

GC 10.0 (optional) **EXTRA CREDIT** ... on a topic of your choice related to the course

GC 11.0 **OTHER (optional)** ...

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Both the Midterm Exam and Final Exam are open-book/open-notes essay exams.**

**So there should be very little work and effort spent on memorizing facts, other than, perhaps, where to go to find the information you are looking for.**

**Additional General Course Information**

**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 in your  canvas

<sup>f2023</sup> **“Modules” folder.**

Have a look at the

<sup>f2023</sup> **“Using the Canvas Modules -- REVIEW”** materials if you are still not comfortable using the Canvas Modules and finding what you are looking for in the listing

(skip if you are comfortable using Canvas "Modules")  
Memo of Friday, 18 August 2023 [📧](#))

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

**You will see. . . .**

### **14.0 THANKS / QUESTIONS? / COMMENTS . . .**

If you have any questions or comments right now, please do not hesitate to e-mail [troufs@d.umn.edu](mailto: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](#)

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](#)**.