Culture, Power, and Social Relations
Anth 247/374

This seminar focuses on politics in the generic sense identified by Harold Lasswell in his book "Politics: Who Gets What, When, How" (NY: McGraw-Hill, 1936); hence, on political economy and on power, the phenomenal equivalent in the social and cultural world of energy in the physical. Our approach is Boasian holism, an attempt to integrate everything from human biology & evolution to global historical processes and everything in between, particularly human minds.

Grades for graduate students will come from 3 sources:

1) 30% will come from 3 (of 10 potential) detailed lecture outlines (or, up to 3000 word prose summaries) based on the readings for each week. These lectures/summaries should provide historical and or theoretical context for the material you summarize. Distribute copies to all seminar members each day we meet. If I can, I will provide early critical evaluation on initial drafts submitted electronically: (handwerker@UConn.edu).

2) 60% will come from 6 (of 10 potential) detailed presentations (or, up to 3000 word prose summaries) which relates course material to important future research questions and directions and to pertinent policy and program issues. Distribute copies to all seminar members each day we meet. If I can, I will provide early critical evaluation on initial drafts submitted electronically: (handwerker@UConn.edu).

3) 10% will reflect my personal evaluation of your progress (preparation, interest, and other contributions).

Grades for undergraduate students will come from 3 sources:

1) 45% will come from 2 (of 10 potential) detailed lecture outlines (or, up to 3000 word prose summaries) based on the readings for each week. These lectures/summaries should provide historical and or theoretical context for the material you summarize. Distribute copies to all seminar members each day we meet. If I can, I will provide early critical evaluation on initial drafts submitted electronically: (handwerker@UConn.edu).

2) 45% will come from 2 (of 10 potential) detailed presentations (or, up to 3000 word prose summaries) which relates course material to important future research questions and directions and to pertinent policy and program issues. Distribute copies to all seminar members each day we meet. If I can, I will provide early critical evaluation on initial drafts submitted electronically: (handwerker@UConn.edu).

3) 10% will reflect my personal evaluation of your progress (preparation, interest, and other contributions).

Orientation August 31
A Case-Study

Week 1: September 7


Six Dead White Men and One Dead White Woman

Week 2: September 14

Read 1:
Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations, 1776

Recommended:
Sigmund Freud (various)
Edward B. Tylor, Primitive Society, 1871.
Margaret Mead (various from Coming of Age in Samoa, 1928 to Blackberry Winter, 1972, including her Redbook column)

Week 3: September 21

Read 1:
Charles Darwin, The Origin of Species, 1858

Recommended:
Sigmund Freud (various)
Edward B. Tylor, Primitive Society, 1871.
Margaret Mead (various from Coming of Age in Samoa, 1928 to Blackberry Winter, 1972, including her Redbook column)

Where Do We Go From Here?

A RETHINKING OF BASICS

Week 4: September 28

Geertz, Clifford
Handwerker, W. Penn
Tooby, John, and Leda Cosmides
CULTURE, CONSCIOUSNESS, AND REASON

Weeks 5 & 6: October 5, 12


BANDS, TRIBES, CHIEFDOMS & STATES

Week 7: October 19


A NEW WORLD ORDER

Week 8: October 26

Wilson, Monica 1977. For Men and Elders: Change in the Relations of Generations and of Men and Women among the Nyakyusa-Ngonde People 1875-1971. N.Y: Africana Publishing Co. (Chapter 1)

Recommended:

THE 20TH CENTURY

Week 9: November 2

Winder, R. Bayley 1963. The Lebanese in West Africa. In Immigrants and Associations, Lloyd Faller (ed). The
Hague: Mouton.

Hill, Polly
1963 The Migrant Cocoa-Farmers of Southern Ghana. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press. (Chapter 1).

Gerlach, Luther P.

Cohen, Robin (ed)
1995 The Cambridge Survey of World Migration. NY: Cambridge Univ. Press. (selections)

ON POWER & FREEDOM

Week 10: November 9
Handwerker, W. Penn

Martinez, Samuel

Handwerker, W. Penn

Jorgensen, Joseph G.

IDENTITY, COMPETITION, & COOPERATION

Weeks 11 & 12: November 30, December 7