

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE FRASER VALLEY

COURSE INFORMATION

DISCIPLINE/DEPARTMENT: Social, Cultural & Media Studies

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Feb. 1994

Revised:

Anthropology 220

SUBJECT/NUMBER OF COURSE

Culture Change: People of the
Third World

DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

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UCFV CREDITS

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: By far the majority of the World's population live in the underdeveloped world. In this course, we look at the lives of such people by considering case studies from Latin America. Particular attention is given to the peasantry as a social group and to cultural changes within that group due to processes such as urbanization and commercialization of agriculture. The course will be of interest to anyone concerned with the present and future of the undeveloped world. It is of particular value to those who plan to enter the teaching profession, travel or work abroad, or who want to have an appreciation for Canada's international role.

RATIONALE:

COURSE PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE COREQUISITES: None

HOURS PER TERM FOR EACH STUDENT	Lecture	30	hrs	Student Directed	
	Laboratory		hrs	Learning	hrs
	Seminar	15	hrs	Other - specify:	
	Field Experience		hrs		hrs
				TOTAL	45 HRS

MAXIMUM ENROLMENT: 35

Is transfer credit requested?

:

Yes

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No

AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:

Course Designer(s): Colin Ridgewell

Chairperson: E. Davis
Curriculum Committee

Department Head: Jean Ballard

Dean: J. D. Tunstall, Ph.D

PAC: Approval in Principle

(Date)

PAC: Final Approval:

(Date)

NAME & NUMBER OF COURSE

SYNONYMOUS COURSES:

(a) replaces _____
(course #)

(b) cannot take _____ for further credit
(course #)

SUPPLIES/MATERIALS:

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS (List reading resources elsewhere)

E. Burgos-Debray (ed.): *I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala*

E. Wolf and E. Hansen: *The Human Condition in Latin America*

OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to help students become more familiar with the problems of social and cultural change in the underdeveloped world (the so-called "Third World"). In achieving this general goal, specific attention is given to that group known as the peasantry. By the end of the course, students should have:

- an appreciation of the broad problems and changes faced by the peoples of the "Third World" in general
 - an understanding of the peasantry as a social group and of some of the ongoing changes affecting that group
 - been introduced to changes within the peasantry itself (peasant attitudes, worldview, aspirations and responses as well as structural changes)
 - developed an understanding of stratification within agrarian reforms and development projects
 - been introduced to the impact of "cultural diffusion" from the developed world, with emphasis on the religious sphere
 - an appreciation of the interconnectedness of the social sciences and of the usefulness of an holistic approach to the study of society and culture
 - been sensitized to some of the major problems facing developing countries.
- Other, more general, objectives of the course would include:
- the development of an informational and theoretical base from which to better understand international current events
 - the development of an informational and theoretical base from which to better understand and work within underdeveloped countries
 - the exercise and improvement of the logical thinking skills needed for full participation in a changing society and work environment
 - the exercise and improvement of literacy skills in general and writing skills in particular.

METHODS:

The course will be taught through lectures and seminar discussions. Film will be used where budget conditions permit.

STUDENT EVALUATION PROCEDURE:

1 essay outline	10%
1 essay	30%
1 midterm exam	25%
short reaction papers (500 words)	20%
participation	15%

COURSE CONTENT

The "Third World" (or "underdeveloped world") has undergone considerable transformation historically, and is the subject of policies and speculation concerning further changes. This process of change is of enormous importance both to the people of the Third World and to those of us living in "developed" regions. This course examines the day-to-day lives of Third World peoples and considers their past, present and their futures. Although we shall survey a variety of Third World "lives," we shall pay most attention to a broad category of people known as *the peasantry*. Case studies will be drawn from the Latin American experience.

In particular, we shall examine the nature and structure of the peasantry and how it is related to other class groupings in both rural and urban areas. In doing so, we shall be looking at the impact of an expanding commercial capitalist economy; the problem of rural poverty; changes in peasant worldview and consciousness; "peasants" in an urban setting; the nature and effects of development projects; the role and position of women; the influence of missionaries and the church; land reform; the environmental costs of development and the ways in which people respond and resist politically to their situation.