Course Descriptions: This course of lectures, discussions, readings and films will explore the attempts of anthropologists to describe, interpret and analyze the social relations of a wide range of human societies, past and present. Topics will include kinship, marriage, descent, residence, modes of production, the control of sexuality and aggression, religion, and social evolution.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Objectives: At the end of this course attentive students will be able to: (1) Understand the historical development of anthropological thinking on the structure and organization of human social life; (2) Appreciate the great variety of social formats devised by different human populations; (3) Understand some of the principal forces at work on societies that promote social change and development.

Course Prerequisites: 12 hours of anthropology, graduate status, or the permission of the instructor

Reading List:
- Nuer web pages: [http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm#The Nuer](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm#The Nuer)
- Trobriander web pages: [http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm#The Trobriand Islanders](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm#The Trobriand Islanders)
- Netsilik & Eskimo web pages: [http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm#The Netsilik Eskimo](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm#The Netsilik Eskimo)
- Yanomamo web sites: [http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm# The Yanomamo](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm# The Yanomamo)
Michael D. Murphy, *Kinship Symbols, Terms, and Concepts* (A study guide on the web at [http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/kinship.htm](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/kinship.htm))

Examination Schedule: **MIDTERM EXAM** (Thursday, October 12): This exam will cover Evans-Pritchard’s *The Nuer* and Weiner’s *The Trobrianders* in their entireties, and all of the lectures to-date.

**ESSAY** (due date: **Thursday, Nov 21, 5 p.m.**): This take home essay will be sent to me as a Microsoft Word attachment to an email (mdmurphy@tenhoor.as.ua.edu). The essay topic may be found at [http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/takehomeessay.htm](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/takehomeessay.htm) and requires the student to demonstrate that the ethnographic monographs have been carefully read and considered in the light of the lectures.

**FINAL EXAM** (Tuesday, Dec. 12, 8-10:30 a.m.): This exam will cover all the readings and lectures assigned for the course, but with an emphasis on previously untested material, as well as Murphy’s *A Kinship Glossary: Symbols, Terms and Concepts*

Class Attendance and Participation: Attendance is required and excessive absences (3 or more) will lower the student’s grade for the course. Classroom participation is an important requirement of the course and it will figure in the final grade.
**Grading** The final grade for the course will be based on scores for the midterm (30%), the take-home essay (30%) and the final exam (40%). Poor attendance will lower the grade for the course.

**Make-up Examination Policy & Term Papers:** Students who miss the midterm—for whatever reason—will be required to write a 20 page, typewritten paper on a topic that must be approved in advance. Those who wish to substitute a paper for the mid-term may do so, but plans should be made early in the term.

**WebCT and Lecture Notes** By all means take advantage of the WebCT site I have constructed for this course. Among other resources, it provides you with easily downloadable pdf files of the Power Point Presentations used in class. Access WebCT at [http://webct.ua.edu/webct/public/home.pl](http://webct.ua.edu/webct/public/home.pl). To log onto WebCT for the first time, see [http://webct.ua.edu/student_faq.html#login](http://webct.ua.edu/student_faq.html#login)

Your WebCT userid and password are the same as your Bama userid and password. If you do not know your Bama ID, please visit the Help Desk’s website [https://bama.ua.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/helpdesk/reset.pl](https://bama.ua.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/helpdesk/reset.pl) to obtain it.

PDF files present you with material very similar to that of the Power Point Presentations used in class, but in a format that is much easier to print out. To take advantage of this feature you must have a copy of Acrobat Reader on the computer that you are using. You can download one from the website on the course web page.

**Course Web Pages**

**Syllabus** ([http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/436s.htm](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/436s.htm) Electronic syllabus for this course.

**Web Links to Focus Societies** ([http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/weblinks.htm)) Web resources for improving writing assignments.

**Anthropological Theories: A Guide Prepared for Students by Students** ([http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/anthros.htm](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/Faculty/murphy/436/anthros.htm)) Access web pages on anthropological theory constructed by UA grad students.

**Kinship and Social Organization Interactive Tutorial by Brian Schwimmer** ([http://www.umanitoba.ca/anthropology/kintitle.html](http://www.umanitoba.ca/anthropology/kintitle.html))

**Anthropology Department Web Site** ([http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/)) This web site provides comprehensive information about UA anthropology programs, faculty and facilities.

**Library Research in Anthropology Web Site** ([http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/libguida.htm](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/libguida.htm)) A guide to conducting library research in anthropology at UA.

**Anthropology on the Internet** ([http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/libguide.htm](http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/libguide.htm)) A jump site to interesting anthropology sites on the Internet

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If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call 354-5175 or visit Osband Hall to register for services.

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All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. This includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication of information, misrepresentations, and abetting of any of the above. The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event that academic misconduct occurs. Students should refer to the Student Affairs Handbook, which can be obtained in the Office of Student Life and Services in the Ferguson Center.