

# TIDEWATER BIBLE COLLEGE

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### **CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

SOC. 101, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter - (4 credits)  
September 7 – November 9, 2010  
Tuesday: 6:30 – 9:50 PM

**Dr. Donald McNeeley**  
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#### **About the Instructor**

Donald McNeeley (DBS, Triune Biblical University) comes to Tidewater Bible College with over 26 years in biblical archaeology, education, spiritual formation, business management, and project management experiences. In September 2004, he began the Church and Biblical Research Group with an emphasis on reaching, keeping, and teaching men and women for Christ through studies in biblical archaeology, spiritual formation, and worship. Dr. McNeeley has used his understandings from these three areas to create innovative retreats for the church and other presentations. He has authored a Bible Handbook, a multitude of articles and presentations on the integration of scripture with archaeological remains, and several book reviews, in addition to a periodic biblical archaeology conference entitled *Faith and Archaeology*. A recent presentation was *Essene Ethics Revealed at Qumran* which analyzed the ethics revealed in their *Rule of the Community*. His current research interests are with the development of concepts that integrate spiritual formation into a holistic worship environment and the biblical understanding we can obtain from study of biblical archaeology.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an overview of cultural anthropology and how our understanding of scripture and missionary activities can be enhanced by that understanding.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this course, participants will:

1. Possess a broad understanding of cultural anthropology from a Christian perspective.

2. Be able to apply cultural anthropological concepts to appropriate scripture obtaining a better and more complete understanding of the meaning for that scripture.
3. Be able to apply cultural anthropological concepts to a culture obtaining a better and more complete understanding of the culture that missionaries will encounter.
4. Be able to discuss anthropology concepts from a theological basis.

## **Textbooks**

Required:

Bible

Grunlan, Stephen A and Marvin K. Mayers.

1988 *Cultural Anthropology*, Academie Books, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI.

## **COURSE EVALUATION**

### **1. 20% - Cultural Anthropology Quiz 1**

- a) Due Class Four – **28 September 2010**
- b) Approx. Time = 30 minutes
- c) The quiz will cover the material covered during the first three weeks of the class..

### **2. 20% - Cultural Anthropology Quiz 2 -**

- a) Due Class Eight – 26 October 2010
- b) Approx. Time = 30 minutes
- c) The quiz will cover the material covered during weeks four through seven of the class.

### **3. 30% - Applying Cultural Anthropology Concepts to Mission Field Paper**

- a) Due Class Seven – 19 October 2010
  - i. Using the concepts learned in class and additional research, select a people group and analyze their general culture.
  - ii. After analyzing the culture from a general viewpoint, select one specific cultural concept and develop your cultural anthropological understanding of that specific concept.
- b) Approx. Time = 5 Hours
- c) The paper should be between 800 to 1,000 words, approximately 4-5 pages of content plus Cover Sheet, Bibliography, and Foot Notes. Double Spaced, 1" margins, 12 pix. Font. A minimum of three references from references and the Bible are required. You must use the Turabian citation method in this paper.
- d) Present highlights from your paper in class (three minutes maximum). Do not read the paper.

#### **4. 30% - Applying Cultural Anthropology Concepts to Scripture Paper**

- a) Due Class Ten – 9 November 2010
  - i. Using the concepts learned in class and additional research, select a portion of scripture and analyze it using the concepts learned in class.
  - ii. Demonstrate how your understanding of cultural anthropology assisted in understanding the scripture.
- b) Approx. Time = 5 Hours
- c) The paper should be between 800 to 1,000 words, approximately 4-5 pages of content plus Cover Sheet, Bibliography, and Foot Notes. Double Spaced, 1" margins, 12 pix. Font. A minimum of three references from references and the Bible are required. You must use the Turabian citation method in this paper.
- d) Present highlights from your paper in class (three minutes maximum). Do not read the paper.

Note: All work is expected to be presented with proper grammar, sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation (Turabian). Occasional mistakes will be overlooked, but CARELESSNESS will definitely affect the grade (but not more than one grade level.) All assignments are to be completed and submitted on or before the assigned time. If late, the grade received for them will be no higher than a "B" in accordance with the school catalog.

#### **GRADING SCALE**

In order to earn credit for a course, participants must earn at least a "70%". Percentage grades are converted into final grades according to the following scale:

A = 94-100	Excellent
B = 86-93	Above Average
C = 78-85	Average
D = 70-77	Passing
F = Below 70	Failing
W = Withdrawal	G.P.A. Not Affected

#### **COURSE ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE**

Through lectures, presentations, class discussions, and videos, the instructor will seek to inspire a prayerful, reverent, discriminating, and eager spirit in pursuit of a greater understanding of Cultural Anthropology. Our **TENTATIVE** schedule is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Class Content</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
<b>Class 1 9/7/2010</b>	Review syllabus. Take notes, view videos on culture, scripture and missions.	♦ None

<b>Class 2</b> <b>9/14/2010</b>	<p>Discussion on Anthropology and Missions</p> <p>Discussion on Humanity, Culture, and Society as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Read pages 19 – 52 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.</li> </ul>
<b>Class 3</b> <b>9/21/2010</b>	<p>Discussion on Enculturation and Acculturation as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p> <p>Discussion on Verbal and non-verbal Communication as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Read pages 69 – 106 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.</li> </ul>
<b>Class 4</b> <b>9/28/2010</b>	<p>Take Quiz #1.</p> <p>Discussions on Economy and Technology as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Read pages 107 – 126 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.</li> <li>♦ Study for Quiz #1</li> </ul>
<b>Class 5</b> <b>10/5/2010</b>	<p>Discussions on Role, Status, and Stratification as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p> <p>Discussions on Marriage and Family as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Read pages 127 – 160 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.</li> </ul>
<b>Class 6</b> <b>10/12/2010</b>	<p>Discussions on Kinship as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p> <p>Discussions on Groups and Communities as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Read pages 161 – 200 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.</li> </ul>
<b>Class 7</b> <b>10/19/2010</b>	<p>Discussions on Social Control and Government as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups</p> <p>Hand in paper #1 and briefly discuss your paper.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Read pages 201 – 218 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.</li> <li>♦ Complete paper #1 and be prepared to discuss in class.</li> </ul>
<b>Class 8</b>	Take Quiz #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Read pages 219 – 232 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be</li> </ul>

<b>10/26/2010</b>	Discussions on Religion as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups	prepared to discuss in class. ♦ Study for Quiz #2
<b>Class 9 11/2/2010</b>	Discussions on Anthropological Research as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups	♦ Read pages 233 – 250 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.
<b>Class 10 11/9/2010</b>	Discussions on Biblical Authority and Cultural Relativity to missions and people groups  Discussions on Anthropology and Theology as it applies to understanding scripture and people groups  Hand in paper #2 and briefly discuss your paper.  Celebration	♦ Read pages 251 – 276 in <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> and be prepared to discuss in class.  ♦ Complete paper #2 and be prepared to discuss in class.

\*\*\*\* **NOTE:** The above schedule is **TENTATIVE**. There is much material to cover, Readings and topics might change as needed.

### **TIDEWATER BIBLE COLLEGE GROWTH PROFILE**

Tidewater Bible College courses are designed to encourage firm discipleship essentials (100 Level), Christian Service Awareness (200 Level), Ministry Lifestyle Exploration (300 Level), and Ministry Leadership Formation (400 Level). It is our goal that upon graduation every Tidewater Bible participant would be “more profitable” to serve the Kingdom of God (Philemon 1:10-12). Each class is designed to help participants achieve various aspects of the participant profile. The following will be addressed in this particular course:

1. A Hunger to Know and Enjoy God’s Presence. (2 Corinthians 3:17; Matthew 6:33)
2. A Passion to Know and Do God’s Word. (2 Timothy 3:16; Acts 20:27)
3. A Resolution to Complete the Harvest (Matt. 9:35-38; Matt. 24:14; and Romans 15:20, 21)
4. A Lifestyle of Bold Discipleship (2 Timothy 2:2)

### **CHRIST- HONORING CONDUCT**

Participants are expected to be Christ-honoring examples while learning together at Tidewater Bible College. The campus area should be maintained by staff, faculty, and participants as a smoke-free, drug-free, dishonesty-free, profanity-free environment. Participants are expected to avoid language and behavior which appears to discriminate, harass, or harm on the basis of ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation or age. Rather, participants should overwhelmingly offer concern, respect, blessing, protection, and encouragement to one another and to all

people. A vibrant community of faith and learning—where Christ’s love and holiness are flourishing—is the responsibility of all staff, faculty, and participants.

## **RECOMMENDED RESOURCES**

Note: The following resources are listed for the student's future study and while not intended for use in this course reference may and will be made to many of them during the course of instruction.

Barna, George.

2003. *Think Like Jesus*. Issachar Resources, Ventura, CA.

Beattie, John.

1964. *Other Cultures*. The Free Press, NY.

Benedict, Ruth.

1934. *Patterns of Culture*. New American Library, NY.

Ember, Carol R. and Melvin Ember.

1973. *Anthropology, 4<sup>th</sup> edition*. Prentice Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, NJ.

Edersheim, Alfred.

2003. *Sketches of Jewish Social Life in the Days of Christ*. Logos Research Systems, Inc., Bellingham, WA.

Freeman, James M. and Harold J. Chadwick.

1998. *Manners & Customs of the Bible*, Rev. ed. Bridge-Logos Publishers, North Brunswick, NJ.

Greenwold, Doug

2007. *The Rest of the Story*. Bible in Context Ministries, Columbia, MD.

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2007. *Making Disciples Jesus' Way*. Bible in Context Ministries, Columbia, MD.

Gottwald, Norman K.

1985. *The Hebrew Bible: A Social Literary Introduction*. Fortress Press, Philadelphia, PA

Hammond, Peter B.

1975. *Cultural and Social Anthropology: Introductory Readings in ethnology*. MacMillan Publishing Co., Inc. NY.

Harper, Michael.

1977. *Let My People Grow*. Logos International, Plainfield, NJ.

Harris, Marvin.

1985. *Culture, People, Nature: An Introduction to General Anthropology*. Harper and Row, NY.

- Hodder, Ian.  
1982. *The Present Past*. Pica Press, NY
- Hoebel, E. Adamson.  
1966. *Anthropology*. McGraw Hill, NY.
- Matthews, Victor H and Don C. Benjamin.  
2001. *Social World of Ancient Israel: 1250 – 587 BCE*. Hendrickson Publishers, Peabody, MA.
- Mead, Margaret.  
1973. *Coming of Age in Samoa*. American Museum of Natural History, Washington
- Pannenberg, Wolfhart.  
1985. *Anthropology in Theological Perspective*, trans. Matthew J. O'Connell. The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, PA.
- Stott, John R. W.  
1978. *Christian Counter-Culture*. InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL.
- Walton, John H.  
2006. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the old testament*. Baker Academic, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Semeia Journal Series.  
1972 – 2002. Various editors. Society of Biblical Literature, Missoula, MT.