# Bachelor in Communication Sciences and Culture

**Course title:** Anthropology of Intercultural Processes  
**Course year:** 1st  
**Semester:** 1st  
**Course code:** 17204  
**Scientific sector:** M-DEA/01  
**Lecturer:** Dorothy Louise Zinn, Associate Professor  
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**Module:** no  
**Lecturer other module:** -  
**Credits:** 6  
**Total lecturing hours:** 45  
**Total Hours of availability for students and tutoring:**  
**Office hours:** from Monday to Friday upon request; other hours communicated during the course

**Attendance:** According to the regulation.  
**Teaching language:** English  
**Propaedeutic course:** none

**Course description:** As the study of human cultures, cultural anthropology has been a discipline at the forefront of analyzing situations arising from the intersection of differing cultural norms, perspectives, practices, styles, values and beliefs. The course features two parts: a general part acquainting students with anthropological ways of thinking, and a part that will deal in greater depth on anthropological perspectives regarding specific issues in intercultural settings.

**Specific educational objectives:** The course is of a “caratterizzante” type within the overall program and complements the social science elements. It offers a general overview of anthropology relevant for Communication Sciences. Course objectives aim at giving the students conceptual and critical tools for accurately analyzing intercultural dynamics in our contemporary world. The course also seeks to enhance students’ academic research and reading skills.

**List of topics covered:** Background and methods of the anthropological study of culture, cultural comparison, cultural change, social structure, gender, symbols and rituals, human communication, embodiment; specific intercultural issues related to globalization, identity, ethnicity, racism and multiculturalism.

**Teaching format:** Lectures, short exercises, discussion, active audiovisual viewing, participation in the OLE-Moodle platform for the course

**Learning outcomes:** Knowledge and understanding
Knowledge of basic concepts in the anthropological study of culture.
Acquisition of appropriate scientific languages for the description and analysis of social-cultural phenomena.

**Applying knowledge and understanding**
- Ability to apply anthropological approaches and concepts to the analysis of concrete social-cultural dynamics.
- Ability to apply anthropological approaches and concepts in engaging scientific and cultural products.

**Making judgements**
- Development of critical and independent thinking regarding social-cultural dynamics in intercultural contexts.
- Development of reflexive self-awareness in intercultural settings.

**Communication skills**
- Ability to recognize the fundamental elements of scientific writing.
- Ability to participate in scientifically grounded discussions and express an informed opinion.
- Ability to communicate with appropriate sensitivity in intercultural contexts.
- Presentation skills (attending students).

**Learning skills**
- Ability to autonomously extend the knowledge acquired during the course in dealing with various types of cultural products (scientific, journalistic, film, literary) and communication settings.
- Ability to acquire new concepts and information consistent with the analysis of changing social-cultural dynamics.

**Assessment:**

**Attending students** will be assessed based on:
- a group research project, with oral and written presentations
- final exam (oral)

The group project and final exam will verify students’ capacity to apply course concepts and instruments to the analysis of other cases/contexts of intercultural dynamics. The oral exam will consist in a discussion of the group research project in relation to the course.

Further instructions for OLE-Moodle platform, exercises and group project will be presented during the course.

**Non-attending students** will be responsible for studying all of the reading and audiovisual material assigned through the OLE-Moodle platform. They will be assessed on the basis of a final exam (written) that will feature a mix of multiple choice questions, short answer questions and short essays. Exam questions will be used verify the acquisition of disciplinary concepts and instruments.
| **Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks:** | The evaluation of **attending students** will be weighed as follows: final project oral presentation (40%), final project written work (50%), final oral examination (10%). The evaluation of **non-attending students** will be based on the written final exam (100%).

The criteria for all students' evaluation of will consider the ability to accurately apply course concepts and instruments, the attempt to formulate analyses, and the logical structure of exposition and argumentation, and formal correctness in citing scientific literature. |
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| **Required readings:** | **Primary textbook:**


Selected materials from:


Other required readings and resources will be made available during the course. |
| **Supplementary readings:** | Supplementary resources will be made available through the OLE platform. |