Fall 2011
Anthropology Department
American University of Central Asia

ETHNICITY AND IDENTITY (ANTH 320)

Instructor: Cholpon Chotaeva, PhD
Classes: Tue & Thu 9:25
Office hours: Tue & Thu 14:00-16:00
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Course Description

Recently more people have identified themselves with a particular ethnic group. Ethnicity became an important source of identity. On the one hand, ethnicity has been challenged by national and state identity. On the other, ethnic groups have threatened the integrity and security of multiethnic states, while ethnic conflicts disturbed the world order.

The course will discuss definitions, methods and main approaches to the study of ethnicity and ethnic identity, ethnic stratification and ethnic relations in multiethnic states. It will explore the relationship between ethnicity and culture, ethnicity and race, ethnicity and nationalism, ethnicity and democracy. The course will discover the origins of ethnic conflicts, the ways of its prevention and resolution, and finally the contradiction existing between ethnicity and globalization.

The knowledge and skills obtained during the course will be helpful in understanding and evaluating the situations with ethnicity in various multiethnic countries.

Course Readings

The course syllabus and all reading materials will be provided in the H:\Courses Information Support\Anthropology\ANTH 320 Ethnicity and Identity electronic folder.

The following books are recommended on various topics of the course:

Cholpon Chotaeva, Ethnicity, Language and Religion in Kyrgyzstan (Tohoku University, 2004) (at the AUCA library).
Assignments

Attendance - 10%
Attendance is required. Attendance will be checked in the beginning of each class period. If you are late you will not be allowed to the class. Or, you can attend the class but will get an absence in the attendance list. Each unexcused absence will reduce your attendance grade by 2%. If you got sick, you have to notify an instructor or the office manager in advance, and later submit an official document (spravka) from a physician, especially if you are scheduled to make a class presentation. Four unexcused absences will result in “X” for the whole course.

Participation – 20%
Participation means more than good attendance. You must be prepared and actively discuss the course readings as listed on the schedule.

Class Presentation – 15%
You have to sign up for a topic of the course in the presentations’ list provided by an instructor to make a group or individual presentation during a seminar class. It can be oral or power point presentation. Not more than two students could sign up for a topic. Each student should make at least one class presentation. If you fail to make a class presentation on time, you will not be given a second chance to do it and loose 15% assigned for the presentation. The presentation will be evaluated according to the developed criteria.

Midterm – 20%
Midterm will be carried out in the form of short questions and short answers. Questions will include the key terms and concepts of the course. In case of cheating you will receive a zero for the assignment.

Research paper – 35%
The research paper (5 pages minimum, typewritten, 12 point font, double spaced) should be written on the basis of a fieldwork (observation, interview, survey, etc) conducted by a student. It can be written in the form of a report or research paper showing the results and data of the fieldwork. The research paper should be submitted to the e-course. In case of plagiarism you will receive a zero for the assignment. The delayed papers will be not be accepted and graded.

Grading System

Your final grade will be determined as follows:
100-96 = A
95-91 = A-
90-86 = B+
85-81 = B
80-76 = B-
75-71 = C+

70-66 = C
65-61 = C-
60-56 = D+
55-51 = D
50-46 = D-
45 and lower = F

Course Policy

Mobile phones
Mobile phones and other electronic devices must be off while you are attending the class.

Laptops
Do not use laptops during the class.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism will not be tolerated during the course. Plagiarism is the appropriation of another person’s ideas and representing them as your own original work. You must either paraphrase the sentence by putting it completely in your own words and citing it with the proper footnote, endnote or in text citation, or put the quotation marks or make block quotation if you use the direct words of the source without any change with the following footnote, endnote or other citation after the copied words. All information must be cited. Always cite a legitimate source. Wikipedia is not a legitimate source. Books published by university presses and academic papers found on JSTOR are legitimate sources.

Cheating
Cheating will not be tolerated during the course. Cheating is the use of unauthorized sources during exams such as books, student’s notes, cellular phones, etc.

Deadlines
Papers must be submitted to the e-course before the deadline. Papers and assignments submitted beyond the deadline will not be accepted and graded. Deadlines can only be extended upon prior permission request and for medical reasons. Only those late papers with valid or legitimate excuse will be accepted but penalized that will affect the final grade for the assignment.

Appeals
If you don’t agree with your grade for an assignment or course, you must submit a written appeal for the name of the Anthropology Department head explaining the reasons of your disagreement. Oral appeals are not considered.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1
INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC STUDIES
Assigned:
Week 2
ETHNICITY, IDENTITY, ETHNIC GROUP
Assigned:

Week 3
METHODS OF ETHNIC STUDIES
Assigned:

Week 4
THEORIES OF ETHNICITY
Assigned:
Ethnicity, John Hutchinson and Anthony D. Smith (eds.), pp 7-10, 40-97.

Week 5
ETHNIC STRATIFICATION
Assigned:
Yang, Philip, Ethnic Studies: Issues and Approaches, pp 61-75.

Week 6
ETHNIC RELATIONS
Assigned:

Week 7
ETHNICITY AND CULTURE
Assigned:
Movie

Week 8
MIDTERM

Week 9
ETHNICITY AND RACE
Assigned:
Yang, Philip, Ethnic Studies: Issues and Approaches, pp 143-165.

Week 10
ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM
Assigned:
Week 11
ETHNICITY AND DEMOCRACY

Week 12
ETHNIC CONFLICT
Assigned:

Week 13
CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PREVENTION
Assigned:

Week 14
ETHNICITY AND GLOBALIZATION
Assigned:
Francis Gikonyo Wokabi and Stephen Omondi Owino, *Ethnicity and Globalization*
http://www.crvp.org/conf/Istanbul/abstracts/Wokabi%20and%20Owino.htm

Week 15
REVIEW CLASS
*Research Paper Final Draft*
American University of Central Asia. Start studying Ethnicity and identity. Learn vocabulary, terms and more with flashcards, games and other study tools. Peer group Why do ethnic minorities stick to cultural comfort zones? Because there is a dominant mainstream culture that middle class white males will be successful, so it's hard to overcome that barrier and integrate. Mass media How are ethnic minorities viewed in the media? They are usually stereotyped in negative ways. Ethnic Identity and Ethnicity For the formation of ethnic identity combination of factors-common descent, a socially relevant cultural or physical R.R. Regmi/ETHNICITY AND IDENTITY 3 characteristics, and a set of attitude and behaviors- is necessary. In this process, common descent may be real or putative (supposed); it is not necessary that there actually be a common racial origin. Cultural attributes like distinctive beliefs, institutions, practices, religion, and language often form the bases of identity. In some instances, physical attributes-pigmentation of the skin or body shape-provid