Programme	BS in Sociology	Course Code		Credit Hours	03
Course Title	Introduction to Anthropology				

Course Introduction

This course offers an in-depth exploration of the diverse ways in which human beings live, think, and interact within their cultural contexts. It focuses on understanding culture as a dynamic system of shared beliefs, practices, symbols, and meanings that shape human experiences across time and space. Through a comparative lens, the course investigates key themes such as kinship, religion, language, economy, politics, identity, and globalization. By engaging with ethnographic case studies from different societies, students will develop a critical appreciation for cultural diversity and learn to challenge ethnocentric perspectives. The course emphasizes the relevance of anthropological
thinking in addressing contemporary social issues and promotes cross-cultural understanding in an increasingly interconnected world.

Learning Outcomes

After completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and differentiate key concepts and theoretical perspectives in cultural anthropology.
2. Analyze the historical and social contexts that have shaped anthropological research and writing.
3. Understand the core elements of anthropological methodology and its distinctive features.
4. Evaluate the relevance of cultural anthropology in addressing contemporary issues related to cultural diversity and globalization.

Course Content		Assignments/Readings
Week 1	**Unit 1: Anthropology and Cultural Anthropology** • Fields of Anthropology	Reading: Ember & Ember (1990), Chapter 1 (What is Anthropology?). Assignment: Differentiate between the four main fields of anthropology.
Week 2	• Anthropological Research Methods	Reading: Robbins & Dowty Beech (2020), Chapter on Methodology. Assignment: Design a mini-ethnography proposal.
Week 3	• Cultural Anthropology and other Social Sciences • Significance of Cultural Anthropology	Reading: Evans-Pritchard, E. E. (2013), *Social Anthropology* (Chapter 1). Assignment: Discussion: How is Anthropology distinct from Sociology?
Week 4	**Unit 2: Culture** • Definition, Properties and Taxonomy	Reading: Peoples & Bailey (2014), Chapter 2 (Culture). Assignment: Define culture using the elements learned (symbols, language, norms).

Week 5	**Unit 3: Evaluation and Growth of Culture** • Evolution of Man • Evolution of Culture	Reading: Ember & Ember (1990), Chapters on Human Evolution. Assignment: Timeline creation: Stages of human cultural evolution.
Week 6	• Schools of Thought in Cultural Anthropology	Reading: Bodley, J. H. (1994), Chapter on Theoretical Perspectives. Assignment: Compare Historical Particularism with Functionalism.
Week 7	**Unit 4: Food Getting** • Food Collection • Food Production	Reading: Robbins & Dowty Beech (2020), Chapter on Subsistence. Assignment: Compare the lifestyle of hunter-gatherers with agricultural societies.
Week 8	• The Origin and Spread of Food Production	Reading: Diamond, J. (Excerpt on Agricultural Revolution). Assignment: Midterm Exam.
Week 9	**Unit 5: Marriage and Mate Selection** • Marriage and Mate Selection	Reading: Ember & Ember (1990), Chapter on Marriage. Assignment: Analyze marriage rules in Pakistani society (Endogamy vs Exogamy).
Week 10	• The Family: Types and Functions	Reading: Carsten, J. (2004), *After Kinship* (Chapter 1). Assignment: Compare Nuclear and Joint family systems.
Week 11	• Kinship System: Structure, Terminology • Rules and Types of Descent	Reading: Peoples & Bailey (2014), Chapter on Kinship. Assignment: Construct a kinship chart (Genogram) of your own family.
Week 12	**Unit 6: Religion and Magic** • The University of Religion	Reading: Eller, J. D. (2020), Chapter on Religion. Assignment: Compare the functions of magic vs. religion in a society.
Week 13	• Religious Beliefs and Practices • Witchcraft and Sorcery	Reading: Evans-Pritchard, E. E. (Classic excerpt on Witchcraft among Azande). Assignment: Case study discussion
		on belief systems.
Week 14	**Unit 7: Cultural Change** • Process of Cultural Change	Reading: Ahmad, A. S. (1990), *Pakistani Society* (Chapter on Social Change). Assignment: Identify agents of cultural change in Pakistan.
Week 15	• Cultural Change in the Modern World	Reading: Bhambra, G. K. (2022), *Colonialism and Modern Social Theory* (Selected reading). Assignment: Essay: Impact of Globalization on local cultures.

Week 16	• Problems of Cultural Change in Pakistani Society	Reading: Ritzer, G. (Globalization chapter). Assignment: Final Presentation: Presentation on a specific cultural change in Pakistan.

Textbooks and Reading Material

Ahmad, A. S. (1990). *Pakistani society* (2nd ed.). Royal Book Company.

Bodley, J. H. (1994). *Cultural anthropology: Tribes, states, and the global system* (2nd ed.). Mayfield Publishing Company.

Brogger, J. (1993). *Social anthropology and the lonely crowd*. Reliance Publishing House.

Carsten, J. (2004). *After kinship*. Cambridge University Press.

Carrithers, M. (1992). *Why humans have cultures: Explaining anthropology and social diversity*. Oxford University Press.

Cassidy, R. (2002). *The sport of kings: Kinship, class and thoroughbred breeding in Newmarket*. Cambridge University Press.

Descola, P. (1996). *The spears of twilight: Life and death in the Amazon jungle* (J. Lloyd, Trans.). HarperCollins. (Original work published in French)

Eller, J. D. (2020). *Cultural anthropology: Global forces, local lives* (4th ed.). Routledge.

Ember, C. R., & Ember, M. (1990). *Anthropology* (6th ed.). Prentice Hall.

Evans-Pritchard, E. E. (2013). *Social anthropology*. Routledge. (Original work published 1951)

Lloyd, A. F. (2017). *The social anthropology of the nation-state: Rituals and power*. Routledge.

Peoples, J., & Bailey, G. (2014). *Humanity: An introduction to cultural anthropology* (9th ed.). Cengage Learning.

Robbins, R. H., & Dowty Beech, R. A. (2020). *Cultural anthropology: A problem-based approach* (7th ed.). SAGE Publications.

Teaching Learning Strategies

1. Interactive lectures to introduce and explain key concepts
2. Guided class discussions to foster critical thinking and deeper understanding
3. Collaborative group work to encourage peer learning and practical application of concepts
4. Emphasis on active student engagement throughout the course

Assignments

The sessional work will combine written assignments, class quizzes, presentations, and class participation/attendance.