Prof. Pope Fischer

[Lpopefischer@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:Lpopefischer@citytech.cuny.edu)

ANTH 1102

**10 PAGE ANALYTICAL /PERSUASIVE PAPER PROJECT – (30%)**

**(Refer to Blackboard for guides and grade sheets)**

**Due Week 12**

Objectives: The objective of this assignment is to have you apply your understanding of the main thesis arguments of 3 to 4 articles from this course. (Karen McCarthy Brown’s book Mama Lola can be used as one source but you will still need to use 2-3 additional articles from the Lambek reader or optional readings listed on the syllabus). Do not try to bulk up your paper by using outside sources (anything from the internet, articles not listed on syllabus etc.) as I will simply cross it out and not consider it as part of your 10-page paper. If you look on the internet for information then you are not doing this assignment correctly. The point of this paper is to show me you can read the assigned reading and apply your understanding of the reading to your own raw observation data. Do not simply cut and paste your observation paper – this is not an analytical paper. The emphasis of the ***final paper is analysis as it is a persuasive form of essay not an observation paper*** (you must use topic sentences & analysis in every paragraph***)***. There are helpful guides and tips posted on blackboard. The homework worksheets are scaffolding exercises to prepare you for this final paper. ***Drawing on themes and concepts of the course, what did your observation reveal about culture? Why is this important?***

To connect your material to the articles, draw on one or more themes from the course such as religion, belief, worldview, symbolism, taboo, myth, ritual, rite of passage, witchcraft, magic, religious practitioners, ghosts, spirits, etc. **Possible problems to focus on:**

• Consider analyzing your observation as a ritual or a rite of passage. Explain how it is a ritual using the articles from the course as supporting evidence. How is basketball a ritual? How is joining a sorority/club/army a type of rite of passage? (Look at Turner, Stevens, Geertz, Montague)

• Consider doing a symbolic analysis. What kinds of symbols did you observe? Did you find any “key symbols” and how did they represent the values of American society? What can you learn about the society/culture from these symbols? (Look at Ortner, Wolf, Bellah, Montague)

• If you are looking at forms of magic, explain how it is used in times of uncertainty. Explain the use of metaphor and analogy. How is a blessing a form of magic? (Gmelch, Brown, Tambiah, Evans-Pritchard).

• Are you interested in exploring how belief systems can be related to the construction of identity? Why is identity important? What can expressions of identity tell us about American culture? (Behar, Myeroff, Chong, Bellah, Hobsbawm, Montague, Weber, Wolf, Ortner)

• Perhaps you would like to show how a particular myth or folktale reinforces our societal worldview and belief system. (Malinowski, Levi-Strauss, Wolf, Ortner, Weber, Bellah, Montague, Radin, Klaus)

• Consider addressing how belief systems can be a form of power and/or resistance (Kelly, Taussig, Radin, Brown, Hobsbawm, Wallace, Obeyesekre)

Format: (Incorrect format will result in point deductions)

1) 10 typed pages, double-spaced (excluding your original midterm description and bibliography). You must have 3200 words.

2) 1-inch margins, 10 to 12 point font

3) A minimum of 3 citations from the course reading. Show me you have a clear understanding of 3 articles from the course. (There is an article worksheet you can use for guidance posted on Blackboard)

4) Anthropologist typically use “Chicago Style”. See the following links for more information:

<http://www.americananthro.org/StayInformed/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=2044>

<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/>

5) Attachments: attach a full correct bibliography (author of the article listed last name first, in alphabetical order, year of publication, title of article, title of edited book with editors, publisher and location of publication).

You can use Microsoft word to prepare citations and bibliography – here is a brief how to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmaZMvxqkVE>

6) Late papers are not accepted. PAPERS ARE UPLOADED TO “TURNITIN.COM.” See the following instructional video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogu55Hhk6CU>

7) Use of material other than your observations and the articles will result in point deductions. (Do not rely on websites- such as Wikipedia)

8) Excessive typographical or grammar errors will result in point deductions. Please proofread your paper. See the following for tips on proofreading <https://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Proofreading.html>

9) Plagiarism will result in an automatic “F.” Do not copy people’s work or paste from the internet.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GRADING RUBRIC FOR FINAL ANALYSIS PAPER | POINTS | GRADE |
| ***Introduction – Research Purpose – approximately 300+ words or more*** |  |  |
| Start with a general idea to pull in the reader, \*Consider using an interesting quotation or an anecdote from your observation to draw the reader in. Then narrow the focus to your topic, your research question & developed thesis statement. What does your research tell us about American belief systems and why is this important? (Refer to argument driven analysis /*thesis worksheet*)  Tie to themes of the course (religion, symbolism, myth, ritual/rite of passage (communitas), worldview, religious identity, logic of magic, taboo, spirits, religious practitioners, etc.)  A. What is your research study about?  B. What is the purpose of the research?  C. What is the research problem? What is your research question?  D. What is the significance of your research study? Why is it important?  E. State your thesis statement clearly. (What, How, Why) (This is what you will prove in your data analysis.). The thesis statement is the last sentence in the introductory paragraph. | 15 points |  |
| ***Methodology:*** (Approximately 400 words or more) – How you gathered your data (not the observation itself) – |  |  |
| Developed description of fieldwork methods. The methods used to gather your primary data (This may be a revised version of the methods section from your observation paper – also refer to *methods worksheet*). |  |  |
| A. Source of subjects & Selection criteria, Rapport, one sentence summary of the group (number of people, age, gender, ethnic, class, etc.) | 2 points |  |
| B. Description of procedures: |  |  |
| 1. Where did you conduct research/research site? | 2 points |  |
| 2 Describe how you observed the event (length of time, how many times, etc.) | 2 points |  |
| 3. Describe how you recorded the information (fieldnotes, photos, audio recordings, etc.) | 2 points |  |
| C. Describe ethics (potential harm/benefit (gift?), confidentiality, pseudonym, informed consent, etc.) | 2 points |  |
| Other: Describe interview type, process, Participant Observation, Language, describe research problems (issues of microculture, culture shock, etc.) |  |  |
| ***Data Analysis (MUST BE 6+ PAGES, 3+ ARTICLES) – do not simply paste your observation paper without adding topic sentences & analysis*** |  |  |
| Understanding of main points of 3 articles from the course (refer to syllabus) – each article discussion at least 250 or more words.  Things to address:  •Topic of the article  • Author’s thesis  •Use of concepts or terms presented by the author  •Detailed Description of article with your critical analysis. Present/describe a cultural example.  Critically discuss the articles. Do you agree with the author &/or disagree? Avoid summarizing every detail of article – just focus on the thesis and at least one illustrative example of it.  \*\* Explain how the author’s thesis or concept relates to your thesis.  \*\*\*Show me **you read** the article) 3X10=30 (Refer to the article homework worksheet) | 30 points |  |
| Use quotations from each of the 3 articles (no longer than ¼ page) and explain what the quote means in your own words. Explain how the quote applies to your research data. (Quote the author not his/her literature review, not the editor’s description). Typically, a good quotation should illustrate the author’s thesis and/or author’s definition of main concept/term introduced in the article. (Refer to the article homework worksheet) | 10 points |  |
| \*You must use a topic sentence for each paragraph (refer to article driven analysis /*topic sentence worksheet*). This is the first sentence of the paragraph that identifies the topic of the paragraph and connects it to your core thesis idea. | 10 points |  |
| Use of your raw data to support your thesis argument—approximately 800 words  Overall sound & developed analysis. Your “raw data” must be reworked into analytical paragraphs – not simply cut/pasted directly from your observation paper. | 10 points |  |
| ***Conclusion*** (at least 300 words or more) |  |  |
| Connect back to the thesis you stated in your introduction. Restate again briefly the evidence (topics) used to prove your thesis (refer to your topic sentences). Summarize key points in text that you proved. The conclusion should “mirror” the introduction. Clearly state the importance of your thesis. Answer the “so what” question. | 15 points |  |
| ***Format & Point Deductions:*** |  |  |
| Attachments to the back/end of the 10 pages (3200 words) of written text:  •You must attach a proper bibliography (alphabetical by last name, any style (Chicago, MLA, APA, etc.)). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7QMPhElh1k>  Or how to do a Microsoft word bibliography:  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmaZMvxqkVE>  • Other Attachments to the back of the paper – interview questions, photographs, or other images, etc.  •10 full pages of 10-12 pt. font text, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, no excessive spaces, no large headers/footers. (word count 3200)  • Grade point deductions for excessive grammar & spelling errors. •Deductions for improper citations.  • **UPLOAD PAPERS TO “TURN IT IN” /NO LATE PAPERS ACCEPTED**.  See instructional manual on Blackboard or video – remember to upload AND submit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogu55Hhk6CU>  ***Academic Dishonesty:***  Plagiarism, such as the use of another student’s paper, copying information from a book or website without proper citations/references/quotation marks, etc. = automatic “F” and formal report to Academic Integrity committee. | TOTAL POINTS (100pts = 30% of your total grade): |  |