Anthropology 114
Anthropology of Pirates & Piracy
Prof. Angela Montague
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CRN: 36228
Meets: M/W 2:00-3:20
Lecture Hall: Lillis 282
Office: Condon 356
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays: 11-12 and by appointment
GTF: James Daria, jldaria@uoregon.edu

Overview: Piracy has been part of human commerce probably as long as humans have traversed the seas for trade. This course examines the social, political, and economic aspects of piracy in human history with a special emphasis on the Americas. We ask such questions as: What was the structure of democracy on a pirate ship? What about women? What is the difference between a pirate and a privateer? What is pirate code and did it ever exist? What was daily life like for pirates? Who became pirates and who didn’t? What role has contemporary popular culture played in the depiction of pirates and their enduring appeal? We also investigate modern piracy and the use of the term in contemporary life and culture.

Academic Outcomes: This class aims to produce an understanding of both the geopolitical and historical origins of piracy in a variety of regions and time periods. The class will develop critical thinking skills, and encourage the student to apply historical and anthropological knowledge to current issues in global piracy, both at sea and with intellectual property. Students will be asked to demonstrate their knowledge in a series of exams and also in discussions groups, both online and in class.

Required Books:
3. All other readings will be available on Canvas
Grading/Requirements:

-Mid Term Exam: The mid term exam will cover the first 4 1/2 weeks of course material. It will be worth 35% of your final grade. IN CLASS Wednesday Week 5

-Final Exam: The final exam will cover the remaining 5 weeks of the class and will be worth 35% of your grade. IN CLASS at our scheduled exam time

-Discussion Section Attendance: Attendance in discussion sections is mandatory. You may miss one class without penalty. Extra credit for 100% attendance. Worth 15% of your overall grade.

-Discussion Section Participation/Assignments: Please see Discussion Section Syllabus on Canvas. No late assignments accepted. Worth 15%.

Expectations:

- Preparation: I expect you to come to class prepared, having read the material before hand, and thought critically about it. If there is anything that you do not understand, please make a note of it so that we can address it as a class. Also, if you find anything pertinent to the class (news articles/books/videos) please share!

- Absences: If you need to miss a class, please make a plan to make-up what you missed (get notes from a classmate, watch a film outside of class, etc.). I will not give you your own personal lecture; you are responsible for your absence. The only way to make up a discussion section absence is to go to another section on the same day (please get prior approval). In the event of an excused absence, and only if it will affect your grade, we can work out a plan to make up the point(s).

- Attendance: Arrive on time and leave at the end of class! On a rare occasion, you might need to arrive late or leave early. You must inform the instructor or GTF if you plan on leaving early. If so, sit in the back of the room near an aisle.

- Respect: Please be respectful of other students and the instructor. This is a large lecture hall and sound carries, please do not chat with your neighbors! Please do not use computers for anything other than taking notes and plan to sit in the first few rows. Do not text, watch videos, use social networking sites during class—these things are disruptive and rude and will not be tolerated!

- Diversity and Discrimination: The University of Oregon is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity institution. Discrimination on the basis of any of the categories covered in the University’s anti-discrimination policy will not be tolerated in this class. If you have a concern in this regard, please contact the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity at 346-3123 or visit them at 677 East 12th Ave., Suite 452.

- Academic Integrity: All assignments in this class are designed to assess your individual knowledge and understanding of the material covered/presented in the course. Thus, cheating or plagiarism -- in any form -- will not be tolerated. The work you present must be entirely your own. Please take the time to review the definitions of academic misconduct, available at: http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct/tabid/248/Default.aspx.

- Canvas/Email: We will be using Canvas for a number of things in this class (journals, discussions, tests). If you are unfamiliar with it, please meet with me ASAP. Also, please check your email frequently as I will use it for many class-related announcements. Please let me know if you find challenges in meeting this requirement for whatever reason so that we can make an alternative available to you.

- Accommodations: If you are having significant challenges in meeting the requirements of the course please let me or your GTF know immediately. Do not wait until you are falling behind. If you have a documented disability or variations on ability, please inform us if it interferes with any aspect of the course. Refer to the Accessible Education website for more information: http://aec.uoregon.edu

- Contact: Email is the best way to get a hold of me; I will do my best to get back to you within 24 hours on weekdays, and by Monday if you email me after 4 pm on Thursday. Please put ‘ANTH 114’ in the subject line for any email. Please use collegial salutations in your emails. Example: use “Dear Professor Montague,” not “Hey Prof!” Do not ask questions that can be found on the syllabus. We reserve the right to not answer emails that have answers elsewhere.
READING SCHEDULE

PLEASE NOTE: Lectures and Readings are two separate things. Lectures will not always cover readings specifically, as the lectures are designed to provide broader overviews of the historical time periods we are discussing. You will be tested on both readings and lectures so please be prepared. I will post some lecture slides on Canvas. Do not be deceived that this constitutes the only material of importance in the class, or that merely scanning the lecture notes online can substitute for class attendance. Readings not discussed in class are still required for exams. Some things discussed in lecture WILL NOT appear on Canvas. Ye be fairly warned...

Week 1 (3/28-3/30): Introducing Pirates
Question: What is an Anthropology of Pirates?
READ: Shannon Lee Dawdy & Joe Bonni: Towards a General Theory of Piracy (Canvas)  
(Recommended) Alexander Sebastian Dent: Understanding the War on Piracy (Canvas)
READ: Pennell Chpt. 5 Anderson: Piracy and World History: An Economic Perspective on Maritime Predation (pp: 82-106)
READ: Cordingly Chapter 1

Week 2 (4/4-4/6): Piracy and the State
READ: Pennell Chpt. 4 Starkey: The Origins and Regulation of Eighteenth Century British Privateering (pp. 69-81)  
READ: Cordingly Chapter 2

Week 3 (4/11-4/13): Piracy and Early Capitalism
READ: Pennell Chapter 6: Starkey, D. “Pirates and Markets” (pp. 107-124)  
READ: Pennell Chapter 7: Lopez Nadal, G. “Corsairing as a Commercial System: The Edges of Legitimate Trade” in Pennell (pp: 69-81)
READ: Pennell Chpt. 8 Rediker: The Seaman as Pirate: Plunder and Social Banditry at Sea (pp: 139-168)
READ: Cordingly Chapter 3

Week 4 (4/18-4/20): Maritime Women and Gender
Discuss Cordingly: Chapters 1-4
READ: Cordingly, “Women Pirates and Pirate’s Women” chapter 4
READ: Pennell Chapter 14: Appleby, J. “Women and piracy in Ireland: From Gránne O’Malley to Anne Bonney” (pp. 283-298)

Week 5 (4/25-4/27): INTRO to Pirate Culture
READ: Cordingly: Chapters 5-8 (pp. 79-157).
Tuesday: Midterm Review in Discussion Section
**Wednesday 4/27: in class MIDTERM (Covers weeks 1-5)**

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**Week 6 (5/2-5/4): Pirate Culture, continued**

**READ:** Pennell Chapter 9: J.S. Bromley. “Outlaws at Sea, 1660-1720: Liberty, Equality and Fraternity among Caribbean Freebooters”

**READ:** Pennell Chpt. 10 Kinkor: Black men Under the Black Flag (pp: 195-210)

**READ:** Pennell Chpt. 11 Burg: The Buccaneer Community (pp: 211-243)

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**Week 7 (5/9-5/11): Pirates and Popular Culture**

**READ:** Cordingly: Chapter 9: Sloops, Schooners, and Pirate Films (pp. 158-177)

**READ:** Bond, Richard “Piratical Americans: Representations of Piracy and Authority in Mid-Twentieth Century Swashbucklers” (Canvas)

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**Week 8 (5/16-5/18): Hunting Down the Pirates and Contemporary Sea Bandits**

**READ:** Cordingly: Chapters 10-12 (pp. 178-240)

**READ:** Konstam: Chapter 10: Modern Piracy (pp. 303-310) online

**READ:** Boot, Max. 2009. “Pirates, Then and Now: How Piracy was Defeated in the Past and Can Be Again” Foreign Affairs. 88(4):94-107. (Canvas)

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**Week 10 (5/30-6/1): Course Wrap-up**

**NO CLASS MONDAY (5/30 Memorial Day)**

(Re) **READ:** Shannon Lee Dawdy & Joe Bonni: Towards a General Theory of Piracy (Canvas)

**READ:** Alexander Sebastian Dent: Understanding the War on Piracy (Canvas)

**Tuesday:** Review for Final

**Wednesday:** Course wrap-up

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**Final Exam** will be held at the scheduled exam time during finals week.