

Anthropology 7

Native Peoples of South America

3 units; 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: English 1 or eligibility for English 1A or qualification by appropriate assessment

Degree applicable Transfer CSU, UC

This course focuses on the study of the native peoples of South America. Special emphasis is placed on the understanding of the relationship between the environmental zones of South America and the social, economic, political, and religious institutions of indigenous societies. The current conditions of South American indigenous groups, most often the result of colonialist policies which include globalization and modernization, are also examined.

Course Objectives:

1. Describe the basic model that accounts for the early settling and population of the New World in general, and of South America in particular, and explain the environmental conditions present during the Paleoindian period.
2. Identify, locate on a map, and discuss the eight environmental zones present in South America, in reference to climate, geography, vegetation, and animal life.
3. Identify and evaluate the cultural features common to hunting and gathering societies, pastoralist societies, horticultural societies, and agricultural societies.
4. Discuss the features typical of each of the following types of sociopolitical organization: band, tribe, chiefdom, and state, and assess the importance of the environment on the development of each particular type of sociopolitical organization.
5. Determine and analyze the types of sociopolitical organization that correspond to each of the environmental zones in South America.
6. Compare and contrast the characteristics of three South American indigenous groups organized at the band level with reference to the particular physical environment, mode of production, settlement pattern, social organization, political organization, political economy, and ideology that correspond to each group, respectively.
7. Evaluate and differentiate the characteristics of three South American indigenous groups organized at the tribal level with emphasis on the particular physical environment, mode of production, settlement pattern, social organization, political organization, political economy, and ideology that correspond to each group, respectively.
8. Identify and assess the concept of vertical integration in relation to the emergence of state level societies in the Andean region during the pre-Hispanic period and explain how vertical integration still provides for an adequate adaptation to the environmental conditions characterizing the Andean region.
9. Examine the impact of colonization, globalization and modernization on the current conditions of indigenous groups in South America and assess the implications of these factors on indigenous identity, cultural and political autonomy, and economic dependency

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Cultural Ecology Approach

In an in-class written assignment, students will demonstrate an understanding of the cultural ecology approach by explaining the relationship between the level of sociopolitical organization achieved by two South American indigenous groups (one from the Patagonia and another from the Amazon Basin) and the particular environmental zone each group occupies. In addition, students will need to address the

subsistence strategy employed by each group and the limiting factors to population growth that each environment presents.

2. Vertical Integration

In an in-class assignment, students will explain how vertical integration provides for an adequate adaptation to the environmental conditions characterizing the Andean region by choosing an Andean group as an example, identifying each of the microenvironments utilized by the group, describing the particular subsistence activity carried out in each microenvironment, and listing the main resources procured.

3. European Contact

In a written assignment or objective exam, students will demonstrate an understanding of how contact with Europeans dramatically altered native populations of South America and their various cultures. Using a selected case study, students will need to identify specific areas of native culture that were changed by contact and describe the changes that took place.

ADA Statement:

El Camino College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Special Resource Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Special Resource Center.

Student Code of Conduct

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/2019-policies/AP%205500%20Student%20Conduct%20.pdf>

Student Rights and Grievances Procedure 5530

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/boarddocs/AP%205530%20STUDENT%20%20RIGHTS%20AND%20GRIEVANCES.pdf>