Instructor: Christina W. O’Bryan  
Department of Anthropology  
Office: Condon 355  
Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays 1:00 – 1:55, after class or by appointment  
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Meets requirements for social science group and international cultures multicultural–satisfying credit.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  
Through a combination of readings, lectures, and a course research project, this class explores the impact and meaning that chocolate has had on cultures around the world and on the human body. Cacao and its various products have played important roles in indigenous societies, colonial and post-colonial societies in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and Europe, and in modern industrial nations. We will use the production and consumption of cacao and chocolate through time and across cultures as a way to understand political economy and exchange, racial and ethnic difference, ritual, child and gendered labor issues, industrialization, the construction of taste and its reflection in popular culture and globalization, the role that indigenous and subsequent knowledge of the medicinal use of cacao have had on its consumption as medicine, and the meaning of socially responsible and sustainable consumption. While centered on concepts that are central to cultural anthropology, this course also draws on archaeology, ethnohistory, biological anthropology and concepts drawn from the broadly defined social sciences and humanities.

There is no midterm and no final exam. The only tests are 3-4 quizzes. Most of the work is intentionally loaded into the first 8 weeks so that you can focus on finishing your final paper in the last weeks.

Learning Objectives: by the end of this class, students will have the tools to:  
1. Explain fundamental “cocoanomic” cultural patterns ranging from child labor to sustainable chocolate culture.  
2. Identify and explain “commodity chains” of social, political, cultural, and economic relations behind commodity production and consumption.
3. Evaluate the labor issues found today and historically in cacao production.
4. Outline the role of colonization in chocolate and contemporary patterns of industrialization and globalization.
5. Articulate consumption habits in a larger historical and global context.
6. Designate criteria for evaluating fair trade products.
7. Articulate and discuss consumer responsibility and sustainability standards.

PARTICIPATION

- **Discussion.** Because this is a 4-credit course and there is no discussion section, you are expected to put in somewhat more time outside class than you would if we had a formal discussion section. The advantage, in this case, is that you don’t have to show up for weekly discussion classes.
- **Emails.** In the 21st century, class participation includes checking your email regularly—at least daily. You are responsible for knowing information that I email to you.

HELP

- We will be doing some YouTube presentations for this course, so download the UO’s free Office 365 PowerPoint if you haven’t already done so.
- If you will be working off campus (at a eatery, visiting friends or relatives, or if you live at home), you will need to download the UO vpn link (virtual private network).
- If you have technical issues with any part of the course, contact the helpdesk (541-346-HELP).
- If you have content or process issues, contact Dr. O’Bryan (cwobryan@uoregon.edu).

**ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING**

This course is project-driven, which means that all assignments, quizzes, readings and lectures are meant to assist you in developing a research project, so you are expected to read all required readings, actively participate in class discussions and workshops, and complete the following assignments:

1. Attendance in class (10%)
2. 3 quizzes (15%) given in class (NOTE: makeups will not be given if you miss class).
3. Regular project assignments to help you complete your project (15%)
4. Research project (project guideline will be provided under Modules).
   a. Presentation: Individual or Group project on some issue relating to the course themes about chocolate (20%)
   b. Peer evaluations (15%)
   c. Final Paper 150-3000 words (25%)

**Grading Scale**

A+ = 98-100%  A = 93-97.9%  A- = 90-92.9%
B+ = 87-89.9%  B = 83-86.9%  B- = 80-82.9%
C+ = 77-79.9%  C = 73-76.9%  C- = 70-72.9%
D+ = 67-69.9%  D = 63-66.9%  D- = 60-62.9%
F = < 59.9%
If the class is taken P/NP, a C- or higher is required to pass the course

Grading guidelines:
A: student demonstrates exceptional understanding of and ability to analyze well the course material, including theoretical concepts; a demonstrated ability to integrate this material within an analytical framework.
B: student demonstrates substantial understanding of the course material, including analytical procedures, and theoretical concepts; an ability to integrate this material within an analytical framework.
C: student does the assignment but not more, demonstrating reasonable knowledge of the course material, including analytical procedures, and theoretical concepts; an adequate ability to integrate this material within an analytical framework.
D: student demonstrates minimal effort to complete the assignment and/or limited understanding of the material.
F: student makes little or no effort to integrate this material within an analytical framework; poor written communication skills; an inadequate ability to integrate this material within an analytical framework.

UG Educational activity: (UG Hours UG Comments (if any) can be found on Canvas website).

PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN AN ‘F.’
Plagiarism consists of:
- turning in a paper or exam or exam question written by someone else,
- taking something written in a book by someone else and including it in a paper without quotation marks, and
- paraphrasing parts of books as if they were your own.
- This includes anything that is on the Internet in electronic form, power point slides used in class lectures, as well as in printed form.
If you are quoting more than four words, put quotation marks around it and footnote it. Even if you note something in your bibliography and fail to put quotation marks around it in the text, it is still plagiarism. Plagiarized work will receive an F for the assignment, possibly an F for the course and a report to the Office of the Dean of Students.

Incomplete Policy. Incompletes will be given only for extreme circumstances such as a documented critical illness (mental or physical). If you have a serious issue that comes up and causes delays in your assignment or interrupts your attendance, tell me immediately and let me know what is going on as soon as you can. DO NOT WAIT until the term is over or nearly over. The University does not allow us to give Incompletes retroactively.
If you register for the class and do not complete the assignments and do not communicate and attain my agreement for the specific terms for granting you an Incomplete, you will be given credit for the work you turned in and receive an F for work not turned in. This will be calculated as part of your final grade. The official University grading policy, can be found at http://registrar.uoregon.edu/incomplete_policy.

Open Learning Environment
The intention and structure of university level courses are to provide open, thoughtful forums for a wide variety of topics. While discussing these topics, students shall not discriminate on the basis of “The University of Oregon affirms and actively promotes the right of all individuals to equal opportunity in education and employment at this institution without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, age, religion, marital status, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other consideration not directly and substantively related to effective performance. This policy implements all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and executive orders” as, outlined in the handbook on the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity. http://aaeo.uoregon.edu/AAE0%20Booklet%20Color.pdf

Accessible Education
The University of Oregon is dedicated to the principles of equal opportunity in education and accepts diversity as an affirmation of individual identity within a welcoming community. Disability is recognized as an aspect of diversity integral to the university and to society. Accommodations will be made for all students needing them in consultation with that student and any other support team members. Contact the Office of Accessible Education if you are not already documented but wish accommodation.

Computer and Other Electronic Devices Policy
We will sometimes use smartphones and/or laptops for classroom exercises. Otherwise, when we are not using them as a class, they must be turned off and put away (i.e., don’t keep the phone on your desk to check). Students who take notes tend to get better grades on average, so I recommend you adopt the habit if you want to do well.

READINGS:
Required Books:
3. Additional required readings are posted on the class website on Canvas. Each week will contain a folder with the actual reading material posted as PDFs for download that is required beyond that in the two required books listed above.
Schedule

Check the Introduction under each Module to find links to readings that are not in the required textbooks. Most films or videos will be shown during class.

Module 1: Beginning Chocolate Ruminations 9/26 & 9/28
Read/view:
2. A Chocolate War is about to Heat up in the U.S. [MarketWatch](http://www.marketwatch.com)
3. Ebola and Chocolate [National Public Radio](http://www.npr.org)

Discussion 1: Project Research Plan DUE by midnight Sunday October 3.
   a. Choose a topic for your research project.1 (It should be a topic for which you could find someone to interview, observe or survey.)
   b. Conduct and submit a preliminary library search for potential sources.
   c. Research plan: who will you interview, observe or survey and how will you find them?
   d. (Bonus point if you do this in Week 1): Schedule your interview, observation or survey.

POST your research plan under Discussion 1 on the course Canvas website by midnight Sunday October 2. (Yes, I’m getting you started early so you will have less work at the end of the term.)

Module 2 Origins and Uses 10/3 & 10/5
Read/view:

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1 We will go over ways to find topics in class during Week 1.
   READ 2057S-2059S including Abstract up to heading beginning “New World”
   READ 2070S “Medicinal Uses. . ..”
   SKIM the rest and read more closely whatever interests you.

Discussion 2: Quiz and Project Assignment Due by midnight Sunday October 10.
Project Assignment:
   a. Conduct your interview, observation or survey.
   b. Submit a draft—a DRAFT—account of your interview, observation or survey. This can be notes describing your ethnographic work or the actual interview transcription.

Module 3 Histories 10/10 & 10/12
   Read/view:
   1. Coe & Coe, Chapters 3 and 4
   3. To be announced.

Discussion 3 due by midnight Sunday October 16.

Module 4 Chocolate Colonizes Europe/Europe Colonizes the World 10/17 & 10/19
   Read/view:
   1. Coe & Coe, Chapters 5 & 6
   2. To be announced

Discussion 4 due by midnight October 30 Sunday.

Module 5 Cocoanomics I 10/24 & 10/26
   Read/view:
   1. Coe & Coe: Chapters 5 – 7
   2. Chocolate Nations, Chapters 1-3.

Discussion 5: Nothing due for this week, but stay caught up on reading and project.

Module 6 Cocoanomics II: Production and Global Political Cocoanomics 10/31 & 11/2
   Read/view:
   3. To Be Announced
Discussion 6: Quiz and Readings assignment due by midnight November 6.

Module 7 Race and Political Economy in the History of Chocolate 11/7 & 11/9
Read/view:
Discussion 7 Assignment due by midnight November 13 Sunday.

Module 8 Women and Children First Labor Cocoanomic Cultures 11/14 & 11/16
Read/view:
2. Cocoa Farms, Child Labor on Ivory Coast http://www.slideshare.net/ssuser63877e/cocoa-farms-child-labor-ivory-coast
3. Chocolate Nations, Chapters 5 & 6
4. Begin viewing class presentations.
Discussion 8 due by midnight November 20.

Module 9 Project presentations and peer evaluations 12/21 & 12/23
10/21 ATTEND class
10/23 No class: watch remaining presentations
Discussion 9 Assignment: Finish viewing presentations and writing evaluations.
Peer evaluations due by midnight Monday after Thanksgiving. (Do not skip class to work on evaluations.)

Module 10 The Anthropology of Chocolate 12/28 & 12/30
Read/view:
2. Chocolate Nations, Chapter 8
3. To Be Announced
Discussion 10: Submit final paper online by midnight Friday December 2.

FINALS WEEK: congratulations on finishing your paper!!

HAVE A WONDERFUL WINTER BREAK!