TEXTS READING AND LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS: All required articles and audio/videos are listed in CONTENT in BLACKBOARD. Check BLACKBOARD CALENDAR before each class.

TEACHING STRATEGIES AND UNIQUE QUALITIES OF THIS COURSE: Lecture, paperless exclusive use of BLACKBOARD, student questions and presentations, quizzes, exams, papers.

REQUIREMENTS, TEST DATES, AND MAKE-UP POLICY: Communication for this course between the instructor and students takes place during the assigned class schedule, office hours, or in BLACKBOARD COURSE MESSAGES. Paper on holism: Tu 15 Sept (10%); Exam: Tu 6 Oct (20% of grade); Abstract (3%) for Paper and Presentation (24%); Final: Tu 22 Dec 8:30 AM (28%). There will also be pop quizzes (15%). Make-up exams will be given for official absences only. Many quizzes will be given at random times; several missed quizzes will be thrown out. No late Abstract will be accepted. The paper will be counted down 10% in not properly sent to the professor in digital form and will also be counted down 10% if turned in late. Attending the Final Exam is mandatory, except for documented illness.
ATTENDANCE: Required.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Course will briefly examine the geography, history (including the slave trade, colonialism, contemporary political economy), and contemporary cultures in the Caribbean area. There will be special emphasis on folklore of the Caribbean area. Utilizing a holistic, anthropological approach, the focus in the course will be on traditional and especially rural, sub-Caribbean.

COURSE OUTCOMES: Students will learn how to organize and creatively use the information from class sessions, BLACKBOARD, and the internet to gain an understanding of essential characteristics about various Caribbean cultures, as mentioned in the tentative course outline below. The following topics are especially important: basic concepts in cultural anthropology as applied to Caribbean cultures, slavery, colonialism, and folklore and music as a mirror of culture. These course objectives (outcomes) will be assessed in exams, quizzes, and in a student presentation and papers. The exams will have essay questions (sometimes as take-home assignments) and identification of terms.

ADA (AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT) STATEMENT

Students Diagnosed with a Disability—All individuals who are diagnosed with a disability are protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. As such, you may be entitled to certain accommodations within this class. If you are diagnosed with a disability, please make an appointment to meet with Student Disability Services (SDS), 209 Alumni Hall, ext. 2137. All students with the necessary supporting documentation will be provided appropriate accommodations as determined by the SDS Office. It is entirely your responsibility to contact SDS and concurrently supply me with your accommodation plan, which will inform me exactly what accommodations you are entitled to. You will only receive accommodations once you provide me with an SDS accommodation plan. Any previously recorded grades will not be changed.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

I. Introduction
   The Study of Anthropology & Folklore Preface, Chapters 1 & 4 (“Scholarship and Approaches”)
   Regional Survey
   The Caribbean, Africa & Europe
II. Caribbean Folklore & Folklife Chapter 2 (“Definitions and Classifications”)
III. Review of Traditional Caribbean Ethnography The Impact of Migration
IV. Colonialism, Slavery & Maroonage Video: “Sugar Cane Alley”
V. Case Studies of Caribbean Folklore Chapter 3 (“Examples and Texts”)
VI. Folklore in Caribbean Popular Culture Chapter 5 (“Contexts”)
VII. Summary and Conclusions

Check BLACKBOARD COURSE CALENDAR AND MESSAGES for urgent class announcements the night before and the morning of class, especially for weather-related or other emergencies. Arrive in class on time. Do not leave class during the assigned period except for emergency. Exams will be given only at time assigned except for illness (no request for early exams will be allowed). Class attendance is required.

Familiarize yourself with the information on this web page for the College’s Emergency Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Procedures: http://www.oneonta.edu/security/ Evacuate to the quad and then to the Fine Arts Theater if instructed to the designated Shelter-in-Place.
Sugar Adam, famous Carriacouan Drummer, 1971

Late 19th Century Cane Train on Latifundium