This course provides an overview of the theories and methods developed over the past century to understand organizations. More specifically, it focuses on the anthropological study of organizations and the use of “Organizational Culture,” the perspective that organizations, and subsets within organizations, have their own unique cognitive, sociopolitical, and material culture. This perspective can be used to understand the full range of organizations: large and small, corporate and non-profit, government and non-government, local and multi-national.

An understanding of “Organizational Culture,” empowers individuals to organize information, symbols, and people in ways that influence planning, evaluation, policies, and resource allocations. Through readings, discussions, and participant-observation, the student will become familiar with facilitating directed culture change to proactively adjust an organization to a changing environment.

BOOKS

Jay M. Shafritz, J. Steven Ott, and Yong Suk Jang
Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth.

Ann Jordan

Instructed by Dennis Wiedman, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology and Anthropology, DM 336B
University Park Campus
Florida International University
305-348-2262
Email: wiedmand@fiu.edu
Web page: www.fiu.edu/~wiedmand