

Course Outline

AN201 Introduction to Anthropology

Semester 2/2019 (January 13 – May 10, 2020)

Number of Credits: 3 credits (3-0-6)

Lecture Time: Tuesday, 14.00 – 17.00 hrs.

Lecture Venue: Room 304

Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University, Tha Prachan campus

Instructor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yukti Mukdawijitra

Office: 3rd Floor, Anekprasong III, TU Tha Phrachan.

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Office hours: by appointment

Prerequisites: -

Course Description:

Basic concepts in anthropology including four major fields: biological anthropology, linguistic anthropology, prehistoric archaeology, and social and cultural anthropology.

Course Objectives:

1. Learn major anthropological theories, concepts, and methodologies.
2. Read, write and discuss about anthropological articles and books.
3. Practice anthropological research and ethnographic writing.

Teaching Materials and Resources:

Required textbook and reading:

- Nina Brown, Thomas McIlwraith, Laura Tubelle de González. Perspectives: An Open Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (2nd Edition). Arlington: American Anthropological Association, 2020. (Open access at <http://perspectives.americananthro.org/Chapters/Perspectives.pdf>)

Evaluation Methods:

- (1) One Book Review 20%

Write a 5-7—page critical book review essay. Students can choose any academic book on anthropology to be reviewed. The book review essay must presents the book's main

arguments or issues as well as the reviewer's (the student's) critical and academic discussion about the book's content, argument, and information. Students are encouraged to bring issues discussed in this class or the class materials into the book review. Turn in the book review on the midterm examination day. The book to be reviewed is either of these:

- Boonlert Visetpreecha. Street Ways: Anthropology on the Street in Manila (สายสตรีท มานุษยวิทยาข้างถนน ในมะนิลา). Bangkok: Way of Book, 2561BE (In Thai).
- Zora Neale Hurston. Barracoon: Story of the Last "Black Cargo". London: HarperCollins Publishers, 2018.

(2) One Research Paper 30%

Write a 15-page research paper based on field experiences, documents, course materials, interview, participant observation, and other significant information that are necessary to your research. Topic of the paper are various. Students can deliberately choose your own topic and design your own research method under the guidance of the instructor. Use theories, concepts and information taken from the assigned readings as a starting point and analytic tools and materials for writing the paper. Turn in a one-page research topic and research question on the midterm examination day. Students must consult the instructor while gathering data and report briefly to the class occasionally in class Week 7, Week 11, and Week 15. Turn in the paper one week after the final examination date or an appointed date.

(3) Field Trip Essays 20%

Students are required to take a three-day-trip (organized by the Faculty) to have living experiences of the people's lives at an arranged site. The field site, the date, and the itinerary are to be announced. During the trip, students must take fieldnotes collecting information relating to issues of anthropology discussed in the class. Students must write a two-page academic essay based on fieldnotes gathered from the trip. Turn in the essay within a week after the trip.

(4) Final Take-home Exam 30%

The exam tests students' comprehensive knowledge of the course. Materials used for the examination included both the course reader and related key issues discussed in the class. The date to turn in the exam is to be announced.

Grading Criteria:

A	= 90 % up
B+	= 85-89.99
B	= 80-84.99
C+	= 75-79.99
C	= 65-74.99
D+	= 60-64.99
D	= 55-59.99
F	= below 55

*can also be adjusted as according to group performance

Teaching-Learning Methods:

- Instructor presentations and lectures
- Reading and discussion of various topics
- Guest speaker discussion
- Other activities, including in-class assignments and field trips
- Self-study

Class Policy:

Class attendance

- Students with more than 3 absences will not be allowed to take the final examination.
- Students must arrive on time. Coming to class more than 10 minutes late is considered as one late and if you come to class late 3 times, it will be counted as one absence.
- The only acceptable reason for an absence that will not result in deduction is illness proved by a medical certificate.

Make-up exams/ quizzes

The instructor will not make up any tests or exam that occur on the day students are absent. Please talk to the instructor beforehand if there is any conflict in your schedule.

Late work

It is students' responsibilities to know the deadline of each assignment, late work will not be accepted.

Teaching Plans:

We ek	Date	Topics	Content and Reading	Notes
1	14 Jan	Introduction	The Teaching Plans summary, pedagogic methods, assessments.	Main Instructor
2	21 Jan	What is anthropology?	Human Evolution, prehistoric culture, culture, society, history of world anthropology. Read: Perspectives, chapter 1 and 2 (Introduction to Anthropology, The Culture Concept)	Main Instructor
3	28 Jan	Classical Theory	Structural functionalism, structuralism, Marxism, interpretive anthropology Read: Perspectives, chapter 13 (The History of Anthropological Ideas)	Main Instructor

4	4 Feb	Contemporary Theory	Postmodernism, post-structuralism, ontological turn Read: Perspectives, chapter 18 (Seeing Like an Anthropologist)	Main Instructor
5	11 Feb	Anthropological Research	Research ethics, fieldwork, criticism on ethnography, ethnographic writing. Read: Perspectives, chapter 3 (Doing Fieldwork)	Guest Lecturer: Asst. Prof. Dr. Boonlert Visetpreecha
6	18 Feb	Kinship and Gender	Family, kinship, social structure, sex, feminism, gender, LGBTQ. Read: Perspectives, chapter 8 and 10 (Family and Marriage, Gender and Sexuality)	Main Instructor
7	25 Feb	Power Relation	Politics, conflict, legitimacy, resistance, human rights. Read: Perspectives, chapter 7 (Political Anthropology)	Main Instructor
	3 Mar	Midterm Exam		
8	10 Mar	Economy	Social and cultural dimensions of economy. Traditional exchange and money. Social, cultural, symbolic capitals. Read: Perspectives, chapter 6 (Economies)	Guest Lecturer: Professor Dr. Niti Pawakapan
9	17 Mar	Ethnicity and Nationalism	Problems of ethnic classification. Ethnic identity, relation, change, ethnic policy. Nation and nationalism. Ethno-nationalism. Trans-nationalism. Read: Perspectives, chapter 9 (Race and Ethnicity)	Guest Lecturer: Professor Dr. Niti Pawakapan
10	24 Mar	Symbolic Culture	Symbol, ritual, magic, and religion. Read: Perspectives, chapter 11 (Religion)	Main Instructor
11	31 Mar	Language and Senses	Language, culture, and society. Phenomenology of culture. Visual, olfactory, taste, and sound. Read: Perspectives, chapter 4 (Language)	Main Instructor

12	7 April	Expressive Culture	Cultural, social, and political aspects of art, music, performance, and literature. Read: Perspectives, chapter 15 and 16 (Performance)	Main Instructor
13	21 April	Urban Anthropology	Urban culture and society. The urban poor. Urban divide. World system, globalization. Read: Perspectives, chapter 12 (Globalization)	Guest Lecturer: Asst. Prof. Dr. Boonlert Visetpreecha
14	28 April	Contemporary World	Media, and the digital age. Ecology, the Anthropocene. Read: Perspectives, chapter 14 and 16 (Culture and Sustainability and Media Anthropology)	Main Instructor
15	5 May	Conclusion	Course summary, current issues and trends in anthropology, student presentation.	Main Instructor
	12 May	Final Exam		

Additional Activity (To be scheduled)

Trip	Site	Objective
1-Day Trip	Bangkok or Suburb	Culture of the city. Ethnicity in the city. Urban everyday life, sacred, and senses. Ethnography of the city.
3-Day Trip	Outside Bangkok	Rural society. Ethnographic field research.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR & HOLIDAY

Semester 2/2019

(January 13 – May 9, 2020)

Activities	Time Period
Classes Begin	January 13, 2020
Add-drop period	January 13 - 27, 2020
Tuition payment period	January 13 - 28, 2020
<i>Makha Bucha Day*</i>	<i>February 8, 2020</i>
<i>Substitution for Makha Bucha Day*</i>	<i>February 10, 2020</i>
Mid-term Examination Period	March 2 – 7, 2020
Withdrawal period with “W” on record	March 18 – 23, 2020
<i>Chakri Memorial Day*</i>	<i>April 6, 2020</i>
<i>Songkran Festival Day*</i>	<i>April 12 - 18, 2020</i>
<i>Coronation Day*</i>	<i>May 4, 2020</i>
<i>Visakha Bucha Day*</i>	<i>May 6, 2020</i>
<i>Royal Ploughing Ceremony Day*</i>	<i>May 11, 2020</i>
Last day of class for Semester 2/2019	May 9, 2020
Final exam period	May 11 – 22, 2020

* Holiday, No classes during this period

CONTACT INFORMATION

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