

Anthropological Theory
ANTH 3300
Spring 2013
Mon/Wed 4:00 -5:20 (UH 09)

Dr. Khanduri

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Department of Sociology & Anthropology
UH 417

Office Hours: Wed: 3:00-4:00 & by appointment

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This lecture-seminar introduces students to methods of knowledge construction and explanation in sociocultural anthropology. We will focus on the development of anthropological theory since the late-19th century and current directions. Key paradigms studied include functionalism, structuralism, Marxist approaches, interpretive turn, Foucauldian approaches, feminist critiques, postmodernism and sensory ethnography. With this spectrum of readings, the aim is to acquaint students with a broad range of competing theoretical approaches so that they may learn to understand the relationship between anthropological knowledge, power and politics.

Required Texts

Benedict, Ruth. 2006. *The Chrysanthemum and the Sword*. Mariner. 0618619593 (Reprint)

Boellstorff, Tom. 2008. *Coming of Age in Second Life: An Anthropologist Explores the Virtually Human*. Princeton University Press. 0691135282

Sahlins, Marshall. 1981. *Historical Metaphors and Mythical Realities: Structure in the Early History of the Sandwich Islands Kingdom*. University of Michigan Press. 0472027212.

Wiley, Andrea. 2010. *Reimagining Milk*. Routledge. 0415806577

Supplementary readings are posted on Blackboard. If you'd like to familiarize yourself with some new research in anthropology, you can visit my monthly column, J Drive in Anthropology News, which is published by the American Anthropological Association:

<http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/tag/j-drive/>

Requirements: All students will be assigned teams in the first week of class. Each student will collaborate with their team member to lead one weekly presentation based on the course material. Please consult your calendar and themes of interest before signing-up. Attendance is required and will impact your participation grade. This lecture-seminar requires students' active participation and preparation. Professional conduct in the classroom, Blackboard discussion board, during peer-review and email is required.

Evaluation

Three Essays	60
Presentation	20
Participation	20
Total:	100 Points

Essays will be an 800- word analytical response to a question based on the readings. You need to submit any three of four essays.

Presentation will be on a weekly topic per the syllabus that you and another student will sign-up for in advance. Your Presentation should be posted on your team page via Blackboard at the end of the week, after you have presented. Details will be discussed in class.

Late assignments will be accepted only in cases of emergencies and documented circumstances that prevent you from completing assignments.

Participation includes attendance, discussions and in-class weekly activities.

UTA Email and Blackboard will be used as a means of communication with students. If you are unable to access your email or course website then please contact UTA's OIT Help Desk at (817) 272-2208. You will be responsible for checking your **UTA e-mail and course website** regularly for class work, electronic readings, assignments, discussions, and announcements.

Academic Integrity and Scholastic Honesty: Academic integrity and scholastic honesty is expected of all students and applies to all assignments, quizzes, and exams in this course. Policy on cheating—students who violate University rules on academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. In the case of the team based assignments collaborative work is expected but the standards of integrity and honesty still apply. Please read all of the information in: <http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/aiwhatconstitutes.html>

Accommodations for Persons with Documented Disabilities: As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in University Hall room 102 or call them at (817) 272- 3364.

***Class Etiquette:** Please switch off your cell phones and electronic gadgets in class. Laptops may only be used for notes and designated in-class activities. Professional conduct in class and email is required. No late entries or early exits without Dr. Khanduri's prior permission. Unprofessional conduct will affect your final course grade.

I enjoy meeting with students, so please come by during my office hours on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 4:00.

Week 1: Jan 14: Introduction and Overview

Mon

- Introduction, Syllabus, Blackboard and questions
- Visit the World Anthropologies Network (WAN) journal: <http://www.ram-wan.net/html/journal-1.htm>
- Visit the World Council of Anthropological Associations Blog (WCAA): <http://www.wcaanet.org/blog/>
- Visit American Anthropological Association's online *Anthropology News*: <http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/tag/j-drive/>

Wed

- Film: *Everything is Relatives*
- Discussion

Week 2: Jan 21: Patterns of Culture

Mon

MLK Holiday

- **Ruth Benedict.** *Chrysanthemum and the Sword*. Mariner Books. 2006 (reprinted). Chapters 1-7

Wed

- Babcock, Barbara. **Not in the Absolute Singular: Rereading Ruth Benedict.** In Behar and Gordon eds. *Women Writing Culture*, 1996.
- Discussion

Week 3: Jan 28: Politics of Anthropology

Mon

- **Ruth Benedict.** *Chrysanthemum and the Sword.* Mariner Books. 2006 (reprinted). Chapters 8-13.
- Said, Edward. **Representing the Colonized: Anthropology's Interlocutors.** *Critical Inquiry* 15(2):205-225, 1989.

Wed

- Sanjek, Roger. **Anthropology's Hidden Colonialism: Assistants and their Ethnographers.** *Anthropology Today* 9(2):13-18, April 1993. (W)
- Discussion/Presentation

Week 4: Feb 04: Marxian Approaches

Mon

- Marx, Karl & Friedrich Engels, *Selections from The Marx-Engels Reader* (2nd ed.), edited by Robert Tucker, New York: Norton, 1978.

Wed

- Discussion/Presentation

Week 5: Feb 11: Weberian Approaches

Mon

- Weber, Max. *Selections from Wolf Heydebrand ed. Sociological Writings.* New York: Continuum, 1994.
- * Essay 1 Due

Wed

- Discussion/Presentation

Week 6: Feb 18: Boas

Mon

- Franz Boas. **A Year Among the Eskimo.** In *The Shaping of American Anthropology 1883-1911: A Franz Boas Reader.* George Stocking ed.
- _____. **Race Language and Culture, The Interpretation of Culture,** in *The Mind of a Primitive Man.* Rev. ed. New York: Macmillan.

Wed

- Trouillot, Michel Rolph. **Culture, Color and Politics in Haiti.** In *Race.* Stephen Gregory and Roger Sanjek eds. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1994.
- Discussion/Presentation

Week 7: Feb 25: Structure and Function

Mon

- Malinowski, Bronislaw. **Introduction: The Subject, Method and Scope of this Enquiry,** and **The Essentials of the Kula** in *Argonauts of the Western Pacific.* New York: E.P. Dutton, 1961 (1922).
- Levi-Strauss, Claude. **History and Anthropology, Structural Analysis in Linguistics and Anthropology and The Sorcerer and his Magic.** In *Structural Anthropology.* Basic Books, 1963.

Wed

- Pierre Bourdieu: *Sociology is a Martial Art* (Film).
- Discussion/Presentation

Week 8: Mar 04: Event and Structure

Mon

- Marshall Sahlins. *Historical Metaphors and Mythical Realities.*

Wed

- Thompson, E. P. **Folklore, Anthropology and Social History**. *The Indian Historical Review* 1977. (W)
- Hall, Stuart. **Gramsci's Relevance for the Study of Race and Ethnicity**. *Journal of Communication Inquiry* 10 (2): 5-27, 1986.
- Discussion/Presentation
- * Essay 2 Due

Week 9: Mar 11:

Spring Break

Week 10: Mar 18: Structure and Agency

Mon

- Andrea, Wiley, *Reimagining Milk*.

Wed

- Discussion/Presentation

Week 11: Mar 25: Political Economy

Mon

- Roseberry, William. **Political Economy**, in *Annual Review of Anthropology*.

Wed

- Ong, Aihwa. **The Gender and Labor Politics of Postmodernity**. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 20: 279-309, 1991.
- Svart Arbete and the Informal Economy: Fiscal Anthropologist Lotta Bjorklund Larsen (Interview with Ritu Khanduri)
- Discussion/Presentation

Week 12: Apr 01: Feminist Ethnographies

Mon

- Stacey, Judith. **Can there be a Feminist Ethnography**. *Women's Studies International Forum* 11(1):21-27. 1988. (W)
- Hewamanne, Sandya. **Pornographic Voices**. *Feminist Studies*
- Doi Moi and Public Discourses of Sexual Violence: Feminist Anthropologist Huong Thu Nguyen (Interview).

Wed

- Mohanty, Chandra Talpade. **Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and the Colonial Discourses**. In *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*. Chandra Mohanty, Ann Russo and Lourdes Torres eds. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. 1991. (W)*
- *Essay 3 Due

Week 13: Apr 8: Nation, Modernity, and Identity

Mon

- Anderson, Benedict. **Introduction, Cultural Roots, and ch.3** in *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism* London: Verso, 1991 (1983).
- Appadurai, Arjun. **Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy**. *Public Culture* 2 (2): 1-24, 1990.

Wed

- Fong, Vanessa. **Filial Nationalism among Chinese Teenagers with Global Identities**. *American Ethnologist* 31 (4): 2004.
- Foucault, M. **Governmentality** in the Foucault Effect. Graham Burchell et.al eds. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 1991.
- Discussion/Presentation

Week 14: Apr 15: Future Directions and World Anthropologies

Mon

- Anthropological Perspectives on Knowledge in the Digital Age: Andrew Kelty: **Introduction: Culture In, Culture Out.** *Anthropological Quarterly* 83 (1): 7-16. 2010.
- Clifford, James. **On Ethnographic Authority.** In *The Predicament of Culture.* James Clifford ed. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1988.

Wed

- Selections from *Anthropology News* online

Week 15: Apr 22: Anthropology in Virtual Worlds

Tue

- Boellstorff, Tom. *Coming of Age in Second Life: An Anthropologist Explores the Virtually Human.*
- Anthropology of the Internet

Wed

- Discussion/Presentation

Week 16: Apr 29: Ethnography, Emotion and Senses

Mon

- Boellstorff, Tom. *Coming of Age in Second Life: An Anthropologist Explores the Virtually Human.*
- Lutz, Catherine and Geoffrey M. White. *The Anthropology of Emotions.* *Annual Review of Anthropology* 15: 405-36. 1986.

Wed

- Stoller, Paul. *The Taste of Ethnographic Things.* University of Pennsylvania Press. Selections: 3-35. 1989.
- Discussion/Presentation
- * Essay 4 due on May 08 by 5: 00 PM

Your Team Number: _____

Your Name _____

Your Presentation Week/Topic: _____

WEEK	TOPIC/S	WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS	NOTES
3	Politics of Anthropology		
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16	Ethnography, Virtual Worlds, Emotion and Senses		