

GRADUATE COURSES IN ANTHROPOLOGY
Fall Term 2021

Please refer to the Online Directory of Classes for: Course Listings, Days and Times, Classroom Locations

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/bulletin/uwb/#/cu/bulletin/uwb/subj/ANTH/ Fall2021.html>

COURSES IN SOCIOCULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY:

AFAS GU4080 TOPICS IN THE BLACK EXPERIENCE. 4 pts. Instructor: Steven Gregory. Please refer to Institute for Research in African American Studies for section-by-section course descriptions.

Anthropology GU4118 SETTLER COLONIALISM IN N AMERICA. 3 pts. Instructor: Audra Simpson. This course examines the relationship between colonialism, settlement and anthropology and the specific ways in which these processes have been engaged in the broader literature and locally in North America. We aim to understand colonialism as a theory of political legitimacy, as a set of governmental practices and as a subject of inquiry. Thus we will re-imagine North America in light of the colonial project and its technologies of rule such as education, law and policy that worked to transform Indigenous notions of gender, property and territory. Our case studies will dwell in several specific areas of inquiry, among them: the Indian Act in Canada and its transformations of gender relations, governance and property; the residential and boarding school systems in the US and Canada, the murdered and missing women in Juarez and Canada and the politics of allotment in the US. Although this course will be comparative in scope, it will be grounded heavily within the literature from Native North America.

Anthropology GU4282 ISLAMIC LAW. 3 pts. Instructor: Brinkley Messick. An introductory survey of the history and contents of the Shari'a, combined with a critical review of Orientalist and contemporary scholarship on Islamic law. In addition to models for the ritual life, we will examine a number of social, economic, and political constructs contained in Shari'a doctrine, including the concept of an Islamic state, and we also will consider the structure of litigation in courts. Seminar paper.

Anthropology GU4653 ART BEYOND AESTHETICS: DECOLONIZING APPROACHES TO REPRESENTATION. 4 pts. Instructor: Elizabeth Povinelli. This course is a combination of lectures, seminar participation, and group practicums which probes the possibility of a decolonial art research practice. This course introduces students to western approaches to politics and art through a sustained engagement with critical Indigenous and anticolonial theories of human relations to the more-than-human world. It is a mixture of lectures, class discussion, and individual practicums which lead to final projects that combine image and text.

The permission of the instructor is required. Enrollment limit is 16. ENROLLMENT PRIORITIES: Majors preferred.

Anthropology GR5201 PRIN/APPL OF SOCIETY & CULTURE. 3 pts. Instructor: Ellen Marakowitz. Prerequisites: graduate standing. Introductory survey of major concepts and areas of research in social and cultural anthropology. Emphasis is on both the field, as it is currently constituted and its relationship to other scholarly and professional disciplines. Required for students in Anthropology Department's master degree program and for students in the graduate programs of other departments and professional schools desiring an introduction in this field. Open to MAs IN ANTH. OTHERS MUST E-MAIL em8@columbia.edu

Anthropology GR6070 MAKING ETHNOG: METHOD & WRITING. 3pts. Instructor: Juan Carlos Mazariegos. This course begins with two central and related epistemological problems in conducting ethnographic research: first, the notion that objects of scientific research are 'made' through adopting a particular relational stance and asking certain kinds of questions. From framing a research problem and choosing a 'research context' story to tell, to the kinds of methods one selects to probe such a problem, the 'how' and 'what' – or means and content – are inextricably intertwined. A second epistemological problem concerns the artifice of reality, and the nebulous distinction between truth and fiction, no less than the question of where or with whom one locates such truth. With these issues framing the course, we will work through some key themes and debates in anthropology from the perspective of methodology, ranging from subject/object liminality to incommensurability and radical alterity to the politics of representation. Students will design an ethnographic project of their choosing and conduct research throughout the term, applying different methodological approaches popular in anthropology and the social sciences more generally, such as participant observation, semi-structured interview, diary-keeping and note-taking. Intended for MAs in ANTH & Grad students in other Depts.

Anthropology GR6245 PERSONHOOD. 3 pts. Instructor: Maria Jose de Abreu. This seminar seeks to engage with materials that question personhood. Drawing on both fictional and non-fictional accounts, we will be involved with textual and visual documents as well institutional contexts in order to revisit such notion under contemporary capitalism. We will cover topics like rites of passage and life cycle, the role of the nation state and local communities in defining a person, the relation between self and non-self, between the living and the dead. We will likewise address vicarious forms of personhood through the prosthetic, the avatar or the anonymous. But we will also look into forms of dissipation of personhood and unreliable agency where subjects become more like a medium through which to think rhythms and ongoing infrastructures of the living. As a whole, the course will bring to light how the question of personhood cross-culturally relates to language, performativity, religion, law, gender, race, class, care, life and death.

Anthropology GR6601 QUESTIONS-ANTHROPOLOGY I: TEXTS. 3 pts. Instructor: TBA. Day/Time: TBA. Presents students with critical theories of society, paying particular attention to classic continental social theory of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. We will trace a trajectory through important French and German writings essential for any understanding of the modern discipline of anthropology: from Saussure through Durkheim and Mauss, Marx, Weber, and on to the structuralist elaboration of these theoretical perspectives in Claude Lévi-Strauss, always bearing in mind the relationship of these theories to contemporary anthropology. We come last to Foucault and affiliated theorists as successors both to French structuralism and to German social theory and its concerns with modernity, rationality, and power. Throughout the readings, we will give special care to questions of signification as they inform anthropological inquiry, and we will be alert to the historical contexts that situate the discipline of anthropology today. Only open to 1st-year PhD Ant students. Others not allowed

Anthropology GR6649 DARK ECOLOGIES: ECOCRITICAL THOUGHT NOW. 3 pts. Instructor: Marilyn Ivy. This seminar aims to disclose what an anthropologically informed, Eco critical cultural studies can offer in this moment of intensifying ecological calamity. With global warming and associated crises of pollution, habitat and species extinction, new forms of disease, and the ongoing issue of the nuclear, there is a pervasive anxiety about the fate of the earth and, with it, life itself. How can Eco critical thought grapple with this “great unraveling,” as Eco theorist Joanna Macy has put it? This seminar will engage significant works in anthropology, ecocriticism, philosophy, literature, political thought, and art to help us think about this central question. Readings will include works by Morton, Bonduel and Frescos, Bennett, Size, Kohn, Escola, Stingers, Hardaway, LA tour, Macy, and others. Enrollment limit is 15 and the instructor's permission is required.

Anthropology GR6653 POROUS BODIES. 3 pts. Instructor: Vanessa Agar-Jones. How are bodies in the world? How is the world in bodies? Building from these deceptively simple questions, ours will be an interdisciplinary reading seminar on how bodies (mostly human, but sometimes nonhuman) are made and remade in and through their environments and via their relationships to the material world. Privileging porosity as a rubric, we consider the ever-permeable boundaries between bodies and the other beings (be they viral, chemical, microbial or otherwise) with which they become entangled. Alongside the monographs under study, we will tackle article-length engagements with theories of new feminist/queer materialisms, decolonial and critical science studies. Further, a key aim of this course is to provide students the opportunity to hone some of the most important skills we have in our toolbox as academics, relative to our teaching, our public voice/s as critics, and to our own research. Advanced undergraduates may apply. Must email vaj2116

COURSES IN ARCHAEOLOGY:

Anthropology GU4066 HYDROPOLITICS: GIS APPROACHES TO URBANISM AND THE POLITICS OF WATER IN MADAGASCAR. 4 pts. Instructor: Zoe Crossland and Eric Glass. GIS course with training in landscape analysis, digital mapping and web-based presentations of geospatial data. We will draw on archaeological and historical evidence, aerial photographs and satellite imagery to map and explore the history and politics of the irrigated landscape around Madagascar's capital city. We will critically assess what different mapping techniques offer, and what kind of narratives they underpin or foreclose upon.

Anthropology GR6031 CONTESTING THE PAST. 3 pts. Instructor: Terence D'Altroy.

Anthropology GR6085 THING THEORY. 3 pts. Instructor: Hannah Chazin. An intensified concern with thingness and materiality has emerged in the past decade as an explicitly interdisciplinary endeavor involving anthropologists, archaeologists, art historians, literary critics, and philosophers among others. The new material culture studies that has resulted inverts the longstanding study of how people make things by asking also how things make people, how objects mediate social relationships--ultimately how inanimate objects can be read as having a form of agency of their own. Readings will be drawn from foundational texts in this recent work by Daniel Miller, Alfred Gell, Bill Brown, Nicholas Thomas, and others that have situated their work at the boundaries between

COURSES IN MUSEUM ANTHROPOLOGY:

Anthropology GR5115 POLITICAL HUMAN-ANIMAL STUDIES. 3 pts. Instructor: Brian Boyd. In a number of academic disciplines the concern with relationships between humans and non-humans has recently resulted in a radical revision of the ways in which we think people and animals construct their social worlds. This course addresses how humans and animals enter into, and interact within, each other's worlds. It draws upon perspectives from anthropology, geography, (political) philosophy, ethics, literary theory, and the sciences, placing current debates within the context of the deep history of human-animal relations. Topics to be discussed include "wildness", domestication, classification, animal rights, biotechnology, "nature/culture", food/cooking, fabulous/mythical animals, the portrayal of animals in popular culture, and human-animal sexualities.

Anthropology GR5361 ETHICAL ISSUES IN MUSEUMS. 3 pts. Instructor: Sally Yerkovich. Ethical questions about museum activities are legion, yet they are usually only discussed when they become headlines in newspapers. At the same time, people working in museums make decisions with ethical and legal issues regularly and seldom give these judgments even little

thought. In part, this is due to the fact that many of these decisions are based upon values that become second nature. This course will explore ethical issues that arise in all areas of a museum's operations from governance and management to collections acquisition, conservation, and deaccessioning. We will examine the issues that arise when the ownership of objects in a museum's are questioned; the ethical considerations involved in retention, restitution and repatriation; and what decolonization means for museums. Students not enrolled in MUSA program need permission.

Anthropology GR6352 MUSEUM ANTHROP: HIST & THEORY. 3 pts. Instructor: Brian Boyd. Museum Anthropology: history & theory (Fall 2019) focuses primarily on different theories of museum anthropology and on the history of anthropology as it relates to museums. The second semester's exhibition classes (Spring 2020) develop the themes introduced during the Fall class, concentrating on exhibitions and on current issues and controversies. Practical concerns and the development of museological skills will be addressed in both semesters, and the Spring class GR6192 will devise and install an exhibition.

Anthropology GR6652 MUSA DIGITAL MEDIA, MATERIALITY&PRACTICE. 3 pts. Instructor: Marco Castro. Class sessions will include the discussion of assigned readings, multimedia, and digital resources, as well as short lectures. Each student will co-lead one discussion section during the term. During most classes there will be presentation and discussion of student assignments. In this course we will learn how to digitally map and visualize museum systems and use this knowledge to facilitate a visitors journey from thinking to making. In the first part of the semester readings, class discussion and weekly "experiments" will be used to investigate how mapping, sketching, and modeling techniques can help develop sustainable frameworks for exhibition. In the second part of the semester we will begin modeling solutions and use these models to refine the way we communicate them to various stakeholders and audiences. Ultimately, the course aims to help students clearly articulate their thinking, explore ways of planning and communicating solutions and develop new models of engagement and action in an exhibition context. The class will combine lectures, seminars, field observation and prototyping.

Anthropology GR9110 MUSEUM ANTHROPOLOGY INTERNSHIP I. 3-9 Pts. Instructor: Brian Boyd. An internship arranged through the Museum Anthropology program of 10 hrs/week (for 3 credits) or 20 hrs/week (for 6). Involves meaningful work, requires keeping a journal and writing a paper at the completion of the semester. Not to be taken without permission of the program directors, usually after completing the Museum Anthropology core courses. Open only to Museum Anth students.

Anthropology GR9111 MUSEUM ANTHROPOLOGY INTERNSHIP II. 3-9 Pts. Instructor: Brian Boyd. An internship arranged through the Museum Anthropology program of 10 hrs/week (for 3 credits) or 20 hrs/week (for 6). Involves meaningful work, requires keeping a journal and writing a paper at the completion of the semester. Not to be taken without permission of the

program directors, usually after completing the Museum Anthropology core courses. Open only to Museum Anth students.

COURSE IN PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY:

Anthropology GU4002 CONTROVERSIAL TPCS-HUM EVOL I. 3 pts. Instructor: Ralph Holloway. Prerequisites: an introductory biological/physical anthropology course and the instructor's permission. Controversial issues that exist in current biological/physical anthropology, and controversies surrounding the descriptions and theories about particular fossil hominid discoveries, such as the earliest australopithecines, the diversity of Homo erectus, the extinction of the Neandertals, and the evolution of culture, language, and human cognition.

SUPERVISED INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH COURSES:

Anthropology GR9101 RSCH IN SOCIAL/CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY. 3-9 pts. STAFF. Prerequisites: the instructors permission. Individual research and tutorial in archaeology for advanced graduate students.

Anthropology GR9102 RESEARCH IN ARCHAEOLOGY 3-9 pts. STAF. Prerequisites: the instructors permission. Individual research and tutorial in archaeology for advanced graduate students.

Anthropology GR9103 RESEARCH IN PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY. 3-9 pts. Instructor: Ralph Holloway. Prerequisites: the instructor's permission. Individual research and tutorial in physical anthropology for advanced graduate students.

Anthropology GR9105 RESEARCH IN SPECIAL FIELDS 3-9 pts. STAFF. Prerequisites: the instructor's permission. Individual research and tutorial in archaeology for advanced graduate students.

Anthropology GR9999 WEDNESDAY SEMINAR. 0 points. Instructor: Catherine Fennell. All anthropology graduate students are required to attend. Staff members, students, and special guests present reports of ongoing research

CROSS-LISTED COURSES:

CGTH4200 GU4200 **GLOBAL FOOD WORLDS**. 4 pts. Instructor: Rebecca M Feinberg. Food is a deeply global object, one that manifests the complex ties structuring the contemporary world. Once a topic relegated to agricultural science, food has become a focus of the social sciences, one that exceeds the boundaries of any single discipline or perspective. The study of contemporary foodways demonstrates both the global interconnectedness of our world *and*

the importance of local contexts and knowledges. While any given individual, household, region, or nation may have a distinctive set of food practices, each is constructed by a constellation of relations and exchanges, both past and present. This course takes a cross-cultural approach to explore how and why food makes worlds. It begins with the micro: examining how individuals and communities craft themselves through food practices, and considering how food serves as a site for struggles over power, sovereignty, and belonging. The course then scales upwards to explore international systems of agricultural trade, labor, and migration, with a focus on the lives and places caught up in it. It concludes with a critical look at contemporary food politics and activism to consider possible food futures for the world we share. Readings combine ethnographic examples with a robust collection of social science theory, including the work of sociologists, historians, political economists, and geographers. Each weekly theme examines foodways in a different frame, and each prompts a different set of questions about how food shapes the world as we know it. Assignments ask students to apply a variety of disciplinary approaches to analyze examples from their own daily lives.

MESAAS GR5000 THEORY AND METHODS I. 4 pts. Instructor: Mahmood Mamdani. This course will be the first part of a two part introduction to theoretical approaches to modern social science and cultural studies in Asian and African contexts. The first course will focus primarily on methodological and theoretical problems in the fields broadly described as historical social sciences - which study historical trends, and political, economic and social institutions and processes. The course will start with discussions regarding the origins of the modern social sciences and the disputes about the nature of social science knowledge. In the next section it will focus on definitions and debates about the concept of modernity. It will go on to analyses of some fundamental concepts used in modern social and historical analyses: concepts of social action, political concepts like state, power, hegemony, democracy, nationalism; economic concepts like the economy, labor, market, capitalism, and related concepts of secularity/secularism, representation, and identity. The teaching will be primarily through close reading of set texts, followed by a discussion. A primary concern of the course will be to think about problems specific to the societies studied by scholars of Asia and Africa: how to use a conceptual language originally stemming from reflection on European modernity in thinking about societies which have quite different historical and cultural characteristics. The instructor permission is required