

American University of Central Asia

Anthropology Department

History of Anthropological Theories II

Instructor: Rahimov Ruslan, PhD

Time and venue:

Tuesday: 10.00, room 119

Thursday: 10.00, room 119

E-mail: anthroporus@gmail.com

Attendance

Participation in the discussion is essential to this class. Therefore, regular attendance is expected and will be monitored through the quizzes, assignments, etc. Missing 5 or more class without proper documentation will result in a failing grade in the course. Avoid disrupting a class session by arriving late or leaving early. Coming late more than 15 minutes will result in a warning and then in a 5% penalty on the final grade. If an emergency forces you to miss a class or a test, notify the instructor before it. Cellphones or other electronic must be switched off during the class. Please do not make a noise during someone's presentation or class discussion, you should respect each other and contribute to the class discipline. Otherwise it will be reflected on your assessment.

Academic Honesty

All cases of plagiarism and cheating will be handled according to AUCA policies. Students are expected to present their own ideas and recognize the work of those who have provided them with the building blocks of their thought. Plagiarism, i.e. copying other people's work without proper attribution is a serious academic offence and will be heavily penalized. If you are caught plagiarizing or cheating, you will automatically receive a zero for the assignment (no make-ups or extra assignments will be given) and you will receive an F for the class. Students committing plagiarism run the risk of not only failing the course but also being expelled from the University. Students must always indicate that they used someone else's words and ideas if they have done so, by using quotation marks and mentioning the source in the text or a footnote. A bibliography must also follow after the end of your work.

Class Syllabus. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the class outline, exam dates or assignment. It is your responsibility to attend the class and be informed of any changes to the syllabus.

Assignments

- **Attendance: 30 points**
- **Reflection paper: 10 points**
- **In-class mid-term exam: 15 points**
- **Book or Article Presentation: 10 points**
- **Final paper (group work, 2 students) (7-9 pages, 12, Times New Roman, 1,5 space): 25 points**
- **Video presentation (group-work, 2 students): 10 points**

Attendance and participation (30 % of grade) Attendance is required. All students have to attend the class and come prepared. Active participation is encouraged and important to stimulate students understanding of contemporary anthropology through interactive discussions.

Mid-term exam (15 % of grade) 8 week

Exam will consist of 2 essay questions which will cover class topics.

Reflection paper (10% of grade)

Paper (2,3 pages) should reflect an outline of the article, main points and problems positioned by the author, merits and limitations, importance for contemporary anthropology and impact on student's understanding.

Video presentation (10 % of grade) 14-16 weeks, is a creative video movie (10-15 minutes) carried out by students team (up to 2 students) reflecting one of the course topic, with clear plot and critical insights.

Final paper (group work, 2 students) (7-9 pages, 12, Times New Roman, 1,5 space) : 25 points

This should be a library research based on class topics with evaluation of the state of field and critique.

Guest lecturers: 3 lecturers will be invited to explore interesting topics in contemporary anthropology and related fields.

All materials are posted on e-course.auca.kg

Course Program

1 week What is anthropological theory

Sherry Ortner: Anthropology since 60 (posted) (#1 reading critique due)

Henrietta Moore: What is anthropological theory (posted)

2 week Interpretive Anthropology (Revision)

Clifford Geertz. 1973. "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture." In The Interpretation of Cultures.

Clifford Geertz. 1973. "Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight." In The Interpretation of Cultures.

3 week Structure

Ferdinand de Saussure: The nature of linguistic sign (posted)

Claude Levi-Strauss: The structural study of myth (posted)

4 week Marxian Legacies

Antonio Gramsci. 1971. "State and Civil Society." In Selections from the Prison Notebooks.

Pierre Bourdieu. 1977. "Structures, Habitus, Power." In Outline of a Theory of Practice.

(Gramsci, Wolf)

Eric Wolf. 1982. Europe and the People Without History (excerpt).

Post-modernism versus Reflexive anthropology

5 week Post-modernism and Foucault

Jean-Francois Lyotard: The postmodern condition: a report on knowledge (posted)

Michel Foucault. 1975. Discipline and Punish (excerpt).

Michel Foucault. 1978. The History of Sexuality. Vol. 1. (excerpt).

6 week "Writing Culture" and Post-structural Critics

Derrida: "Of Grammatology"

Deleuze, Guattari and Lacan

7 week Feminist studies and anthropology

Judith Butler Gender is burning. Bodies that matter. On the discursive limits of Sex.

Gayle Rubin Traffic of women: towards a political economy of sex

8 week mid-term exam (in-class writing in the essay format)**8-9 week Post-colonial anthropology (Can the Subaltern speak)**

Gayatri Spivak: Can The Subaltern Speak?

Homi Bhabha: Of Mimicry.

10 week: Post-Socialist studies

Alexei Yurchak: Everything Was Forever Until It Was No More

Sergeui Oushakine: The Patriotism of Despair

11-12 weeks Contemporary anthropology "of" and "in" Central Asia

Alisher Ilkhamov Archaeology of Uzbek Identity (posted)

Sergeui Abashin Post-soviet Nationalism, ethnos theory and constructivist critique

Jeanne Feaux de la Croix, Moving metaphors we live by : water and flow in social sciences and around hydroelectric dams in Kyrgyzstan

Madeleine Reeves, On Borders

13 week Towards an anthropology of state

Akhil Gupta: "Blurred Boundaries: The Discourse of Corruption, the Culture of Politics, and the Imagined State"

Michael Herzfeld: "Cultural intimacy "

14 week Anthropology of globalization

Arjun Appadurai Disjuncture and difference in the global cultural economy(posted)

Arjun Appadurai (posted) Anthropology of globalization

15 week Medical Anthropology

Anthropological Perspective on Health and Disease (Chapter II: Andrea S. Wiley, John S. Allen)

16 weeks Ethnography of Communication and Workplace

Readings will be posted on the e-course