

**ANTHROPOLOGY 345.01**

Applied Anthropology

Fall 2017

TR 3:05-4:20 pm RSS 106

Dr. Hector Qirko  
Office Hours: TR 9:00-11:00 am,  
MW 10:00-11:30 am, 1:00-2:30 pm, and by appt.

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**Course description:** An examination of the practical uses of anthropological methods, concepts and theories to bring about technological, cultural, economic or social change. Although applied anthropology can involve any of the four major sub-fields of anthropology (sociocultural, archeological, biological, and linguistic), and virtually all aspects of anthropological inquiry, this course will focus on applied cultural anthropology. The first section provides an overview of the history of applied anthropology, its general method and theory, associated ethical issues, and a description of typical roles played by applied anthropologists. Section two explores, through case study readings, lectures, films, and discussion, some of the many specific areas and methods of applied anthropological practice (environmental, medical, and educational, organizational culture, business, etc.). The last brief section of the course provides materials and some discussion of career development, both in terms of applied anthropology as a career and the value of applied skills and perspectives in other occupational contexts. The course will also provide you an opportunity to identify and research a problem or issue of particular interest, develop a draft proposal for an applied project to address it, and present your research and project design to the class.

**Course objectives and student learning outcomes:** Students will

- learn basic applied cultural anthropology theory and methods;
- learn contexts in which anthropology is and can be applied;
- research and develop a proposal for applying anthropology to a specific issue of interest; and
- improve critical thinking, effective writing, and oral discussion skills.

**Readings:** All required readings will be available electronically at our course Oaks site. Please contact me or the Helpdesk ([Helpdesk@cofc.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@cofc.edu), 843 953-5457) with any questions regarding access. You are expected to read selections prior to class periods for which they are assigned (see course schedule below). Announcements regarding reading updates, revisions, and other relevant topics will be made in class and via email.

**Additional course materials:** Additional online course materials (reports, news articles, videos, etc.) are listed in the course schedule by class meeting date. These can be accessed by following the links provided later in this document.

**Grade scale:**

A 92-100%; A- 90-91; B+ 88-89; B 82-87; B- 80-81; C+ 78-79; C 72-77; C- 70-71; D+ 68-69; D 62-67; D- 60-61; F 59 or below.

**Course structure:** Class periods will consist of lectures, films, and discussion of topics, readings, additional course materials and, at the end of the semester, student presentations. Course grade will be based on two exams (25% and 25%), a research project (40%), and class participation (10%).

**Exams** (10/3, 11/21): There will be two in-class, long answer/short essay exams designed to ensure general course engagement and understanding of specific materials covered in readings, lectures, films, and class discussion. Study guides will be provided and discussed. You will be expected to identify researchers and relate them to their work as read, viewed, or discussed. Exams missed due to excused and documented absences can be made-up on 12/5 (Reading Day) at 10:00 a.m., my office. You **must** contact me prior to that date if you need to make up a test.

**Research project:** This project, for 40% of your course grade, will involve several work products. The first (due 9/26, 5% of course grade) is a sourced list and brief discussion of three specific problems that you would be interested in exploring from an applied anthropological perspective (note: 3-4 sources for each problem are typical). After my review of your choices and sources, we will settle on one of your chosen problems for the research project. The second work product (due 11/7, 15%) is an annotated bibliography of literature – theory and case studies, applied reports, etc. – relevant to an understanding of the problem you have selected and approaches researchers have taken to addressing it (12-15 sources are typical). The third assignment (12/12, 15%) is a detailed proposal (as if to a client) for a specific applied anthropology project related to that problem, incorporating both your earlier research and a description of the methods you propose and outcomes you expect (12-15 pages are typical). Finally, you will briefly present the results of your research and project design work to the class (5%, also on 12/12).

Bibliographies and proposals will be graded for content, organization, and presentation (including clarity of writing, grammar, and spelling). Citation and reference style should follow APA guidelines (see <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>). Bibliography and project proposal drafts may be submitted at any time prior to due dates for content feedback and editorial suggestions. Detailed discussion of sample problems and methods will take place in class, and bibliography and proposal guidelines and examples will be posted on the course Oaks site.

**Class participation:** Class attendance, engagement, and participation are essential for success in this course, as much of the material on exams will stem directly from lectures, films, and class discussion. You are (obviously) expected to attend **all** classes and are responsible for all information disseminated in the course. Further, 10% of your course grade will be based on your consistent, constructive, and informed contributions to class discussion of course topics. If you must miss a class, obtain notes from classmates and feel free to meet with me during office hours to discuss them prior to the relevant exam. I will not provide lecture notes, although I will post study and assignment guides and other course materials on the course Oaks site.

For absences that require documentation (i.e., missed exams or assignment due dates, or extended absences related to health, personal or emergency situations), you must complete and turn in the appropriate forms to the Absence Memo Office at 67 George St. (more information and downloadable forms at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/about/services/absence.php>).

**Honor code:** Violations of the honor code will be taken seriously. If you need reminding, you can find the sections of the Honor Code relevant to course work in a document on our Oaks page, as well as in the Student Handbook at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>. As plagiarism is a common (and sometimes unintentional) infraction, I recommend that you watch the “You quote it, you note it” tutorial video (<http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/>) and/or read the material from the Purdue Online Writing Lab (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/1/>).

**Special needs:** If you have a documented disability and have been approved to receive accommodations through SNAP Services (<http://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/>), please bring me your Professor Notification

Letter (PNL) during the first week of classes, and feel free to discuss related issues with me at any time during office hours or by appointment.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

*(Subject to revision. Assigned readings are noted in brackets, and listed links can be found below course outline.)*

#### **I Introduction and basics-**

- 8/22 Introduction to course
- 8/24 Introduction to applied anthropology [Podolefsky 08, Ervin 05:4; Link A]
- 8/29 A brief history of applied cultural anthropology [Gwynne 03:3, Link B]
- 8/31 Culture [Rapport & Overing 00: “culture,” “agency,” Link C]
- 9/5 Roles [Ervin 05:6, 7, 8]
- 9/7 Applied methods 1: ethnography, etc. [Ervin 05:11, Beaudreau et al. 11]
- 9/12 Applied methods 2: beyond traditional ethnography [Feldman 11]
- 9/14 Applied methods 3: coding, sampling, etc. [LeCompte & Schensul 99:4, 5]
- 9/19 Applied methods 4: rapid assessment and participatory research [Ervin 05:14, 15]
- 9/21 Advocacy and ethics [Ervin 05:10, Link D]
- 9/26 Development (**FILM**: The Goddess and the Computer) [**problems lists due**]
- 9/28 Development part 2 [Nolan 02:3, Lewis 05, Links E, F]
- 10/3 **Exam I**

#### **II Areas and case studies-**

- 10/5 environment/ecology [Hume et al. 09, Links G, H]
- 10/10 education, language [Henry 02, McCarty & Watahomigie 02]
- 10/12 law, human rights [Gwynne 03:08, Edberg 10, Link I]
- 10/17 **no class- fall break**
- 10/19 military [Rohde 07, Ferguson 13, Link J]
- 10/24 medical [Behrhorst 93, Foster 02, Link K]
- 10/26 urban, community [Peattie 90, Helweg-Larsen 08]

- 10/31 organizational, business [Baba 06 pp. 23-37, Qirko 12]
- 11/2 consumer [Sunderland & Denny 07, Denny & Sunderland 05, Baer 14, Link L, M]
- 11/7 marketing, popular culture [Gwynne 03:10, Brown 97, Link N] [**bibliographies due**]
- 11/9 tourism, heritage and eco- [Bunten 08, Stronza & Gordillo 08, LINK O]
- 11/14 media [Pink 07, Ruby 08]
- 11/16 **FILMS:** Nanook excerpts, Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change [Huntington 11]
- 11/21 **Exam II**
- 11/23 **no class- Thanksgiving break**
- 11/28 Careers in applied anthropology (or using it whatever you do) [Camenson 04:10, Nolan 02: appendix]
- 11/30 Careers in applied anthropology, part 2 [Link P]
- 12/12 – 4:00-7:00 pm Student project presentations [**project proposals due**]  
(Final exam period)

### INTERNET LINKS

*(NOTE: more may be added based on your specific interests.)*

**LINK A:** Applied Anthropologists at Work. Case studies.

[http://www.wadsworth.com/anthropology\\_d/special\\_features/anthro\\_at\\_work.html#](http://www.wadsworth.com/anthropology_d/special_features/anthro_at_work.html#)

**LINK B:** Price, David. Anthropology, the Second World War, and the “Strategies of Professional Denial.” [http://homepages.stmartin.edu/fac\\_staff/dprice/NYAS-PRICE.htm](http://homepages.stmartin.edu/fac_staff/dprice/NYAS-PRICE.htm)

**LINK C:** Dudgeon, Roy. “The anthropological perspective: What makes it unique?” <http://www.actforlibraries.org/the-anthropological-perspective-what-makes-it-unique/>

**LINK D:** Jacobs, Sue-Ellen. “Cases and solutions.” Chapter 3 of Handbook on Ethical Issues in Anthropology. <http://www.aaanet.org/committees/ethics/toc.htm>

**LINK E:** MDG MONITOR, “What is development?” <http://www.mdgmonitor.org/what-is-development-guide/>

**LINK F:** Vandergrift, Darcy (1997). “What is development? Who is the community?” (Case study). <http://www.soc.ucsb.edu/projects/casemethod/vandergrift.html>

**LINK G:** “Seed Swap” (video). <http://www.aetn.org/programs/seedswap>

**LINK H:** “Hanging In The Balance: The Future Of A Forest” (video).

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m\\_yn5-YxkxI#t=705](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_yn5-YxkxI#t=705)

**LINK I:** “The Voice of the Ogiek” (video).

<http://participatorygis.blogspot.com/2011/11/in-2006-little-known-ethnic-group.html>

**LINK J:** “Damning Revelations Prompt Social Science to Rethink Its Ties to the Military”

<http://umaincertaantropologia.org/2015/07/21/damning-revelations-prompt-social-science-to-rethink-its-ties-to-the-military-the-chronicle-of-higher-education/>

**LINK K:** Devoted to Keeping Lobster Divers of Honduras Alive.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/10/world/americas/10honduras.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/10/world/americas/10honduras.html?_r=1)

**LINK L:** NY TIMES, “Intel’s Sharp-Eyed Social Scientist.”

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/16/technology/intels-sharp-eyed-social-scientist.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/16/technology/intels-sharp-eyed-social-scientist.html?_r=0)

**LINK M:** AP NEWS, “The toughest challenge for self-driving cars? Human drivers”

<https://apnews.com/65e1c800ff0c4532abbdabc134e5f9b8>

**LINK N:** NY Times. “Foods With Benefits, or So They Say.”

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/15/business/15food.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/15/business/15food.html?_r=1)

**LINK O:** The Onion. “Woman Who 'Loves Brazil' Has Only Seen Four Square Miles Of It.”

<http://www.theonion.com/articles/woman-who-loves-brazil-has-only-seen-four-square-m,343/>

**LINK P:** AAA. “Careers in Anthropology”

<http://www.aaanet.org/profdev/careers/>

## **FILMS/VIDEOS**

*You may also view portions of some of the following in class or for extra credit – details and scheduling TBA.*

Anthropologists at Work  
 Anthropology: The Four Fields  
 Anthropology: Real People, Real Careers  
 Just for Kicks  
 The Navigators  
 Tim Kennedy  
 Young, Armed and Dangerous  
 Four Horsemen  
 Nanook of the North (excerpts)  
 Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

## **CRITICAL SKILLS**

*There are many good online articles on critical skills helpful to navigating this course and others. For example:*

Critical thinking

[http://www.criticalthinking.org/files/Concepts\\_Tools.pdf](http://www.criticalthinking.org/files/Concepts_Tools.pdf)

Active reading

<http://www.mycollegesuccessstory.com/academic-success-tools/active-reading.html>

<http://www.mycollegesuccessstory.com/academic-success-tools/advanced-reading.html>

Critical reading

[http://www.criticalreading.com/critical\\_reading.htm](http://www.criticalreading.com/critical_reading.htm)

Effective writing

[http://www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/kingch/How\\_to\\_Write\\_a\\_Research\\_Paper.htm](http://www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/kingch/How_to_Write_a_Research_Paper.htm)

And don't forget that you can always make use of the walk-in labs and individualized tutoring for working on your study, writing, and presentation skills at the Center for Student Learning (<http://csl.cofc.edu/labs/index.php>).