

ANTH 601, Winter 2009

**INTER-CULTURAL THEORIES IN ANTHROPOLOGY:
DECOLONIZING ANTHROPOLOGICAL EPISTEMOLOGY, THEORY, AND PRACTICE**

Course Director:

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Office Hours:

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Winter Semester, 2009

03 credits

07 January – 08 April, 2009

Meeting days and times:

Wednesdays : 6:00pm—9:00pm

Campus: SGW, Room H-1120

Course Website:

<http://www.openanthropology.org/ANTH601/>

Science is a social field of forces, struggles, and relationships that is defined at every moment by the relations of power among the protagonists. Scientific choices are guided by taken-for-granted assumptions, interactive with practices, as to what constitutes real and important problems, valid methods, and authentic knowledge. Such choices also are shaped by the social capital controlled by various positions and stances within the field.

---Pierre Bourdieu, "The Peculiar History of Scientific Reason," 1991.

A. INTRODUCTION

"This course explores the roots of anthropological theory in Western culture and the decolonization of anthropology since the 1960s." (From the Graduate Calendar)

The leading concern of this course lies in the historical emergence of anthropology as part of the structures of knowledge of nineteenth-century Europe and the imbrication of the discipline with colonial ideologies and practices, and how these historical forces have been challenged by more recent shifts in anthropology. While it is true that many scholars and political leaders have singled out anthropology as colonialist in its mission, sometimes with ample evidence, this course is not designed as a simple indictment of anthropology. Instead, we will examine the various trends, contradictions, and openings in this disciplinary venture that has, in the words of different interlocutors, been hailed as the "science of man," the "science of difference," and the "science of otherness." We will jointly explore some of the underpinning conceptual frames that have introduced and maintained the tension within anthropology between the universal and the particular, between objectivity and subjectivity, between emic and etic, between theory and practice, and between science and advocacy. As such, the course straddles the divides between the history of anthropology, anthropological theory, research methodology, and applied anthropology.

B. OVERVIEW

The course begins with discussion of the dominant epistemological facets associated with European expansionism, specifically Eurocentrism, and we will then consider how imperialism and Eurocentrism structured (and were shaped by) the rise of the social sciences and the position of anthropology within that historical framework. We then proceed to explore tendencies that constituted anthropology as a science of difference, and the interrelationships between the discipline, its practitioners, and colonialist ideological and practical projects. Having done that, we consider the more contemporary ways that some anthropologists have militated for the decolonization of the discipline. We examine indigenous critiques of anthropology, and reflect on efforts to create indigenous and home-based anthropologies. In line with some very penetrating and controversial critiques within anthropology, that echo some of the more prominent indigenous critiques, we will analyze and discuss anthropological methodology, specifically with reference to advocacy, reciprocity, and accountability. We end the course by raising questions as to whether “world anthropologies” and “post-colonialism” offers avenues for the further decolonization of anthropology.

C. STUDENT and INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Reading and discussion constitute the core work of this course. Students are required to do all assigned readings, and to come prepared to actively engage in class discussions. Attendance and participation are not optional. Students are required to be respectful of others in class discussions.

The course director is responsible for individual advising, the timely review of all written work, moderating class discussions, and preparing supplementary lecture material. He will be available during office hours, and to some extent by email. It is also the course director's duty to maintain an atmosphere in class that permits frank and collegial discussion, without animosity and acrimony among any of the participants. The course director must also maintain, as much as possible, consistent and fair standards for evaluating course work, without unwarranted favour or prejudice to any student.

D. POLICIES

The course director's policy on late work is very simple: **it is not accepted**. All late work is assigned a grade of zero. *Serious illness* as documented by a doctor, for the exact period of the work in question, or a death in the family (documented by a published obituary or other formal documentation) may, if adequate, be accepted as the basis for negotiating an extension. Such an extension will only cover the period of the illness or other crisis. Any other exceptional case can be discussed in private with the course director.

In the event that the course director is absent due to illness, we will need to schedule a make-up day in the second week of April. Notifications of any absence will be sent out by email and via Concordia's class cancellation announcements on campus and online.

E. GRADING

Grades for this course are assigned using the following scheme, adapted from the Graduate Calendar:

LETTER & GPA EQUIVALENT	PERCENT	QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT
A+ = 4.3	95-100	Meets or exceeds highest expectations
A = 4.0	88-94.99	Excellent work of an advanced quality
A- = 3.7	85-87.99	Excellent work, with some room to improve
B+ = 3.3	80-84.99	Very good, demonstrates insight and ability
B = 3.0	73-79.99	Good, requires further improvement
B- = 2.7	70-72.99	Fair, little beyond the minimum expected
C = 2	50-69.99	Meets minimum expectations
Fail = 0	0-50	Unacceptable quality/ non-submission/ late
and Fail/Absent = 0	0-50	Absent/ non-submission/ late

Numerical grades are assigned to course work (to facilitate easier calculation of a final grade), with the qualitative assessments above used to justify which numbers seem appropriate for a given piece of work. Students should note and understand that grades in the “A” range are not automatically assigned or guaranteed, and course work that does the bare minimum that is expected for a graduate course will receive a “C.”

F. ASSIGNMENTS and GRADE VALUES

Class participation (coupled with evidence of coverage of assigned readings): **20%** of the final course grade.

More details on written assignments will be discussed and provided in class, and due dates will also be set in the context of class discussion. In general, essays will be based primarily on assigned readings for the course, inviting maximum reflection, and will generally be due two weeks after they have been assigned. There will be no exams.

Essay #1—Anthropology and the Rise of Social Science: **20%** of the final course grade.

Due: February 11.

Essay #2—Colonialism, Decolonization, and Anthropology: **20%** of the final course grade.

Due: March 4

Essay #3—Indigenizing and Domesticating Anthropology: **20%** of the final course grade.

Due: April 1

Essay #4—Personal Manifesto: **20%** of the final course grade.

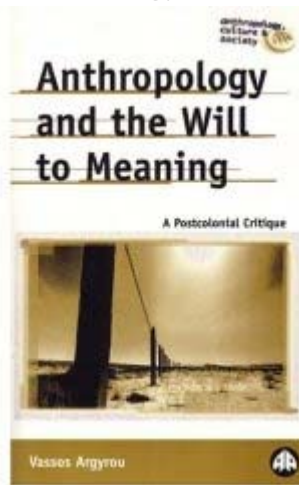
Due: April 23, by email, in .doc, .odt. or .pdf formats:
info@openanthropology.org

please note: do not send in .docx format

G. COURSE READINGS

Two items comprise all of the assigned readings for this course.

- (1) *Anthropology And The Will To Meaning: A Postcolonial Critique*



by Vassos Argyrou
Pluto Press, 2002

- (2) *Course Reader, see links below*

H. SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND READINGS

1. Weds., Jan. 7:

INTRODUCTION: Raising problems, setting terms

Overview of the course

- Kuper, Adam. 1994. "Culture, Identity and the Project of a Cosmopolitan Anthropology." *Man*, 29 (3): 537-554.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665021/KUPERCosmopolitanAnthro?secret_password=2n789qecfxprh242tcjn
- Young, Robert, 2001. *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. (chapters 2, 3, 4, "Colonialism," "Imperialism," "Neocolonialism," 15-56)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665020/YoungColonImper?secret_password=15rwq40dnmtfd33pdp2

2. Weds., Jan. 14:

EUROCENTRISM, UNIVERSALISM, AND IMPERIALISM

- Bourdieu, Pierre, and Loïc Wacquant. 1999. "On the Cunning of Imperialist Reason." *Theory, Culture & Society* 16 (1): 41-58.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665270/BOURDIEU-Cunning-of-Imperialist-Reason?secret_password=7wtmy72wwfl5h4go1st
- Wallerstein, Immanuel M. 1999. *The End of the World As We Know It: Social Science for the Twenty-First Century*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. (Ch. 11, "Eurocentrism and its Avatars: The Dilemmas of Social Science," 168-184)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665226/WallersteinEuroAvatars?secret_password=2mw56t64iobxz841t22b
- Wallerstein, Immanuel M. 2006. *European Universalism: The Rhetoric of Power*. New York: New Press. (Ch. 2, "Can One Be a Non-Orientalist? Essentialist Particularism," 31-49)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665227/WallersteinOrientalist?secret_password=2778sz1fsm7cgg4qj92z
- Wallerstein, Immanuel M. 1991. *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth-Century Paradigms*. Cambridge, MA: Polity Press in association with B. Blackwell. (Ch. 8, "A Comment on Epistemology: What is Africa?" 127-129; Ch. 9, "Does India Exist?" 130-134)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665224/WallersteinUnthinking?secret_password=298uq8pjhwxlcep9r7l

- Kuper, Adam. 2005. *The Reinvention of Primitive Society: Transformations of a Myth*. 2nd ed. New York: Routledge. (Ch. 1, "The Myth of Primitive Society," 3-19)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665225/KuperPrimitive?secret_password=26oh79463mm575ubvx1q

3. Weds., Jan. 21:

STRUCTURES OF KNOWLEDGE: RISE OF THE "SOCIAL SCIENCES", AND ANTHROPOLOGY

- Gulbenkian Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences. 1996. *Open the Social Sciences: Report of the Gulbenkian Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (Ch. 1, "The Historical Construction of the Social Sciences, from the Eighteenth Century to 1945," 1-32)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665323/WallersteinGulbenkian?secret_password=1l8m3lnl4jt3a1ezyq5k
- Bourdieu, Pierre. 1991. "The Peculiar History of Scientific Reason." *Sociological Forum* 6 (1): 3-26.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665819/BOURDIEU-History-of-Scientific-Reason?secret_password=29anzgb6p8ajudiun6vn
- Rowe, John Howland. 1974. "The Renaissance Foundations of Anthropology." In Regna Darnell, ed., *Readings in the History of Anthropology*, pp. 61-77. New York: Harper & Row.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665322/Rowe?secret_password=1fsrrladvlp7p4o369od
- Rainger, Ronald. 1978. "Race, Politics, and Science: The Anthropological Society of London in the 1860s." *Victorian Studies* 22 (1): 51-70.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665816/RAINER-Race-Science-Anthro-19thc?secret_password=2ma5poopco3897wosfr6
- Jenkins, David. 1994. "Object Lessons and Ethnographic Displays: Museum Exhibitions and the Making of American Anthropology." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 36 (2): 242-270.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665812/JENKINS-Ethnographic-Displays?secret_password=1qiqouro8o2u3wo1v7zu

4. Weds., Jan. 28:

ANTHROPOLOGY AS THE SCIENCE OF DIFFERENCE?

- chapter 3: The Salvation Intent (p. 28-59) [In *Anthropology and the Will to Meaning*]

- Arens, W. 1979. *The Man-Eating Myth: Anthropology and Anthropophagy*. New York: Oxford University Press. (v-vii, 5-40)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665885/Arens?secret_password=bbs4fx2olx55fs13j5w
- Ellingson, Ter. 2001. *The Myth of the Noble Savage*. Berkeley: University of California Press (Ch. 7, “The Ethnographic Savage from Rousseau to Morgan,” pp. 99-125)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665886/Ell-Ing-Son?secret_password=28mba3h0m7zqe93u1m3t
- Trouillot, Michel-Rolph. 2003. *Global Transformations: Anthropology and the Modern World*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. (Ch. 1, “Anthropology and the Savage Slot: The Poetics and Politics of Otherness,” 7-28)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665883/Trouillot?secret_password=21qzypks0guq7qwatpk
- Fabian, Johannes. 1991. *Time and the Work of Anthropology: Critical Essays, 1971-1991*. Reading: Harwood Academic Publishers. (Ch. 10, “Culture, Time, and the Object of Anthropology,” 191-206)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665880/Fabian?secret_password=1omgm1kqi700rqvyvug7

Essay #1 will cover materials up to and including Jan. 28. It will be due in class on Feb. 11. An assignment sheet will be posted and circulated on Jan. 28.

5. Weds., Feb. 4:

ANTHROPOLOGY AND COLONIALISM—1

- chapter 1: Introduction: Of Scholars, Gamblers and Thieves (p. 1-9) [In *Anthropology and the Will to Meaning*]
- Kuper, Adam. 1973. *Anthropologists and Anthropology: The British School 1922-1972*. London: Allen Lane (Ch. 4, “Anthropology and Colonialism,” 123-149)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665927/KuperAnthropologists?secret_password=kxec5ozxvvr2q7d81dw
- Asad, Talal. 1973. “Introduction.” In Talal Asad, ed., *Anthropology and the Colonial Encounter*, pp. 9-19. London: Ithaca Press.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665926/As-Ad-Introduction?secret_password=eziq01pgbgabn0nm32s
- Asad, Talal. 1991. “From the History of Colonial Anthropology to the Anthropology of Western Hegemony.” In George Stocking, ed., *Colonial*

Situations: Essays on the Contextualization of Ethnographic Knowledge, pp. 314-324. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665928/As-Ad-After-Word?secret_password=n0y0j043rnhnajkue3k

6. Weds., Feb. 11:

ANTHROPOLOGY AND COLONIALISM—2

- Lewis, Diane. 1973. "Anthropology and Colonialism." *Current Anthropology* 14 (5): 581-602.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665973/LEWIS-Anthropology-and-Colonialism?secret_password=1r1foceo6kru675cjp9h
- Bourdieu, Pierre. 2003. "Colonialism and Ethnography". *Anthropology Today* 19 (2) April: 13-18.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666188/BourdieuColonEthno?secret_password=1juoc8dzvkg4xfb65qw
- Feuchtwang, Stephan. 1973. "The Colonial Formation of British Social Anthropology." In Talal Asad, ed., *Anthropology and the Colonial Encounter*, pp. 71-100. London: Ithaca Press.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666159/Feuchtwang?secret_password=23xxo66shwv6o0colqte
- Borneman, John. 1995. "American Anthropology as Foreign Policy." *American Anthropologist* 97 (4): 663-672.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9665971/BORNEMAN-American-Anthro-Foreign-Policy?secret_password=pt6ussop83as52y8v5q
- James, Wendy. 1973. "The Anthropologist as Reluctant Imperialist." In Talal Asad, ed., *Anthropology and the Colonial Encounter*, pp. 41-69. London: Ithaca Press.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666161/James?secret_password=1gq7jaif7no590uv8nfe

7. Weds., Feb. 18:

DECOLONIZING ANTHROPOLOGY

- chapter 2: Has There Ever Been a Crisis in Ethnological Representation (p. 10-27) [In *Anthropology and the Will to Meaning*]
- Geertz, Clifford. 1988. *Works and Lives: The Anthropologist as Author*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (Ch. 6, "Being Here: Whose Life is it Anyway?" 129-149)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666230/Geertz?secret_password=1am2s3znbaxziad

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- Harrison, Faye V. 1991. "Ethnography as Politics." In Faye Harrison, ed., *Decolonizing Anthropology: Moving Further Toward an Anthropology for Liberation*, pp. 88-109. Washington, DC: Association of Black Anthropologists, American Anthropological Association.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666231/Harrison?secret_password=15pphyxhlt26itnqbr9
- JBHE. 1997. "No Surprise Here! Almost No Black Faculty Members in the Field of Anthropology." *The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education* (16) Summer: 37-39.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666229/JBHE?secret_password=pnvfea3lhjams727je

Essay #2 will cover materials up to and including Feb. 18. It will be due in class on Mar. 4. An assignment sheet will be posted and circulated on Feb. 18.

Weds., Feb., 25: **No classes, Mid-Term Break**

8. Weds., Mar. 4:

INDIGENOUS CRITIQUES OF ANTHROPOLOGY

- chapter 4: What the Natives Don't Know (p. 60-91) [In *Anthropology and the Will to Meaning*]
- Deloria, Vine, Jr. 1969. *Custer Died for Your Sins : An Indian Manifesto*. New York: Macmillan. (Ch. 4, "Anthropologists and Other Friends," 78-100)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666295/Deloria?secret_password=2brkosgsy2w5s9mmy00j
- Biolsi, Thomas, and Larry J. Zimmerman, eds. 1997. *Indians and Anthropologists: Vine Deloria, Jr., and the Critique of Anthropology*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press. (Ch. 2, Elizabeth S. Grobsmith, "Growing up on Deloria: The Impact of His Work on a New Generation of Anthropologists," 35-49)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666294/Grobsmith?secret_password=1qu5jvx6czs8n6zi8shj

9. Weds., Mar. 11:

INDIGENIZING ANTHROPOLOGY

- Fahim, Hussein, ed. 1982. *Indigenous Anthropology in Non-Western Countries: Proceedings of a Burg Wartenstein Symposium*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press. (Ch. 1, Hussein Fahim & Katherine Helmer,

“Themes and Counterthemes: The Burg Wartenstein Symposium,” xi-xxxiii)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666365/Fa-Him?secret_password=1cajkg26ghtjtzwc0t5a

- Alatas, Syed Farid. 2005. “Indigenization: Features and Problems.” In Jan van Bremen, et al, eds., *Asian Anthropology*, pp. 227-243. London: Routledge.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666363/Alatas?secret_password=1mcpdpnoailkampd0ffl
- Morauta, Louise.1979. “Indigenous Anthropology in Papua New Guinea.” *Current Anthropology* 20 (3): 561-576.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666390/MORAUTA?secret_password=14giz3ssd8kq78v0k8vy
- Marcus, George E. 1999. “How Anthropological Curiosity Consumes Its Own Places of Origin.” *Cultural Anthropology* 14 (3): 416-422.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666361/Marcus-Rep-At?secret_password=2p9wa5ges0ujlqjbfyj

10. Weds., Mar. 18:

INDIGENIZED AND INDIGENOUS ANTHROPOLOGY

- Ntarangwi, Mwenda; David Mills, and Mustafa Babiker, eds. 2006. *African Anthropologies: History, Critique, and Practice*. London: Zed Books. (Ch. 1, Mwenda Ntarangwi, David Mills, & Mustafa Babiker, “Introduction: Histories of Training, Ethnographies of Practice,” 1-48)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666531/AfricanAnthropologies?secret_password=v6tldmwakfrfb4k5v4o
- Evans, Grant. 2005. “Indigenous and Indigenized Anthropology in Asia.” In Jan van Bremen, et al, eds., *Asian Anthropology*, pp. 43-55. London: Routledge.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666534/Evans?secret_password=2d3fkhdxdj69hdvbecwki
- Sarana, Gopala, and Dharni P. Sinha. 1976. “Status of Social-Cultural Anthropology in India.” *Annual Review of Anthropology* 5: 209-225.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666529/Sarana?secret_password=2iwngpri18jhn8h06om5

<p>Essay #3 will cover materials up to and including Mar. 18. It will be due in class on Apr. 1. An assignment sheet will be posted and circulated on Mar. 18.</p>

11. Weds., Mar. 25:

ADVOCACY, RESPONSIBILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY

- Hastrup, Kirsten, and Peter Elsass. 1990. "Anthropological Advocacy: A Contradiction in Terms?" *Current Anthropology* 31 (3): 301-311.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666567/Hastrup?secret_password=117tkvldbak2niqxsjhm
- Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 1995. "The Primacy of the Ethical: Propositions for a Militant Anthropology." *Current Anthropology* 36 (3): 409-440.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666570/SCHEPERHUGHES?secret_password=bcey8l910lrg0to5wgp
- Mihesuah, Devon A., ed. 1998. *Natives and Academics: Researching and Writing about American Indians*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press. (Donald L. Fixico, "Ethics and Responsibilities in Writing American Indian History," 84-99)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666562/Fixico?secret_password=2772lrk7auqb3l0t97xg
- Brettell, Caroline B., ed. 1993. *When They Read What We Write: The Politics of Ethnography*. Westport CT: Bergin & Garvey. (Ch. 2, Stephen Glazier, "Responding to the Anthropologist: When the Spiritual Baptists of Trinidad Read What I Write About Them," 37-48)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666563/Glazier?secret_password=glmi4wo931rrgb96fw0

12. Weds., Apr. 1:

"WORLD ANTHROPOLOGIES"

- Ribeiro, Gustavo Lins. (2006). "World Anthropologies: Cosmopolitics for a New Global Scenario in Anthropology." *Critique of Anthropology*, 26 (4): 363-386.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666681/Ribeiro?secret_password=1rewi8joasfim9ux415z
- Fabian, Johannes. (n.d.). "'World Anthropologies': Questions." *World Anthropologies Network*.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666682/Fa-Bi-an-Wan?secret_password=187b7i61hhadblvjatz5
- Narotzky, Susana. (n.d.). "The Production of Knowledge and the Production of Hegemony: Anthropological Theory and Political Struggles in Spain." *World Anthropologies Network*.
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666683/NarotzkyWAN?secret_password=ivyxft094o2no8u3x99

- Nkwi, Paul Nchoji. (n.d.). “Anthropology In A Post-Colonial Africa: The Survival Debate.” *World Anthropologies Network*. http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666684/NkwiWAN?secret_password=26oix3u8pd3lokrmpcf

13. Weds., Apr. 8:

POST-COLONIALISM

- chapter 5: The Ethnological Will to Meaning (p. 92-119) [In *Anthropology and the Will to Meaning*]
- Young, Robert, 2001. *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. (Ch. 5, “Postcolonialism,” 57-69)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666735/Young-Post-Colon?secret_password=2m0w0mp7tc3nr76vab9z
- Loomba, Ania, et al. eds. 2005. *Postcolonial Studies and Beyond*. Durham NC: Duke University Press. (“Beyond What? An Introduction,” 1-38)
http://www.scribd.com/doc/9666731/Loomba?secret_password=1f8j6tabcw82qgtupov9

Essay #4 can cover materials up to and including Apr. 8, and use any other materials from the course. It will be due by email on Apr. 23. An assignment sheet will be posted and circulated on Apr. 8.