

SYLLABUS

113:136/063:163 Applied Anthropology: Environmental and Community Health
Spring Semester, 1998
1:05-2:20 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday 116
Macbride Hall

Instructor: Kendall Thu
Regular Office: #214 Institute for Rural and
Environmental Health (Oakdale Campus)
Office Phone: 335-4224
Office Hours: TBA
Email: Kendall-Thu iL@uiowa.edu

PREREQUISITES

An interest in the utilization of social science and anthropological methodologies and analytic approaches to address applied problems of rural/farmer health, environment, agriculture, and socioeconomic development. Upper division status in the liberal arts or health sciences.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

Graduate and/or upper division undergraduate students in the social or health sciences whose academic and professional development can benefit by acquiring practical methodological and analytic skills derived from the study of applied projects involving community health, rural environmental health, and agricultural and rural socioeconomic change.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course utilizes an anthropological framework to understand and address practical health, environmental, and social problems. The course is designed to provide students a conceptual and practical understanding of the utility of anthropological approaches to recognizing, understanding, and addressing practical problems of human adaptation. Actual case examples will be emphasized and used to anchor course discussion.

EVALUATION

Your grade will be based upon three written examinations, an applied research project proposal, and possibly class discussion/participation (depends on class size). Exam and paper values are as follows:

25% Exam #1
25% Exam #2
25% Final Exam
25% Applied Research Project Proposal

READINGS

All readings will be provided in class.

COURSE OUTLINE

Part I: Introduction

Readings

Fiske, Shirley and Erve Chambers

1996 "The Inventions of Practice." Human Organization 55(1):1-12.

Jenakovich, Marsha and R. Owen Murdoch

1997 "A Space of Our Own: The Case for Masters-Level Professional Anthropology." Practicing Anthropology 19(2):17-21.

Trainor, Theresa

1997 "Formulating a Practitioner Identity." Practicing Anthropology 19(2):7-9.

January 20: Introduction and course mechanics.

January 22: The discipline of anthropology.

January 27-29: The "field" of Applied Anthropology.

Part II: Formulating Applied Problems

Readings

Health

Dufresne, C. and J.T. Richtsmeier

1995 "Interaction of Craniofacial Dysmorphology, Growth, and Prediction of Surgical Outcome." Journal of Craniofacial Surgery 6:270-281.

Durrenberger, E. Paul

1997 "That'll Teach You: Cognition and Practice in a Chicago Union Local." Human Organization 56(4):388-392.

Jonsson, Hjorleifur

1996 "A healthy house? Perspectives on well-being from a Cambodian hinterland." In World Health Forum: An International Journal of Health Development

Kelly, Kevin M.

1990 "Expanding **the** perception of cleft morphology: anthropometric studies of body growth, form and size." In: **J** Bardach and HL Morris (eds.), Multidisciplinary Management of Cleft Lip and Palate. Philadelphia: WB Saunders, pp. 489-493.
[Skim the review and focus on the discussion]

Miewald, Christiana E.

1997 "Is Awareness Enough? The Contradictions of Self-Care in a Chronic Disease Clinic." Human Organization 56(3):353-378.

Pelto, Pertti J. and Gretel H. Pelto

1997 "Studying Knowledge, Culture, and Behavior in Applied Medical Anthropology." Medical Anthropology Quarterly 11(2):147-163.

Rodriguez, L.A., C.V. Schwab, J.W. Peterson, and L.J. Miller

1997 "The Impact of an Iowa Public Information Campaign." Journal of Agricultural Safety and Health 3(2):109-123.

Sullivan, Kathleen M.

1995 "Shaping Environmental Education Practices." Practicing Anthropology 17(4):5-10.

Thu, Kendall M., P. Lasley, et al.

1997 "Stress as a Risk Factor for Agricultural Injuries: Comparative Data from the Iowa Farm and Family Health and Hazard Survey (1994) and the Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll (1989)." Journal of Agromedicine 4(2):181-192.

Ward, R.E. and A.M. Sadove

1989 "Biomedical anthropology and the team approach to craniofacial surgery." Medical Anthropology Quarterly 3:395-404.

Agriculture

Avery, Dennis T.

1997 "Big Hog Farms Help the Environment." Des Moines Register Opinion, p.4AA, December 7.

Donham, Kelley J. and Kendall M. Thu

1996 "Introduction." *Understanding the Impacts of Large Scale Swine Production*. K.M.

Thu, editor. The University of Iowa: Iowa City, Iowa.

Dove, Michal R. and Daniel M. Kammen

1997 "The Epistemology of Sustainable Resource Use: Managing Forest Products, Swiddens, and High Yielding Variety Crops." Human Organization 56(1):91-101.

Durrenberger, E. Paul

1990 "Systems of Production and Social Discourse: The Skipper Effect Revisited." American Anthropologist 92(1):130-141.

Fund for Rural America

1997 "Guidelines for Proposal Preparation and Submission for Fiscal Year 1997."

Washington, D.C.:

USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

Thu, Kendall M. & E. Paul Durrenberger

1994 "North Carolina's Hog Industry: The Rest of the Story." Culture and Agriculture 49:20-23.

February 3-10: How are projects chosen and conceptualized?

- What accounts for successful fishing in Iceland?
- How do you assess problems/benefits of large-scale swine operations in Iowa?
- Why are there injuries and health problems among U.S. farmers?
- Why aren't labor union members more active?
- The contribution of physical anthropology.
- The role of preliminary fieldwork.

February 12: Guest lecture: "An Anthropological Perspective on the Classification and Treatment of Craniofacial Disorders" Dr. Kevin Kelly (University of Iowa).

February 17: Formulating current problems in the news as applied problems.

FEBRUARY 19, EXAMINATION #1

Part III: Collecting and Analyzing Data

Readings

Agar, Michal and James MacDonald

1995 "Focus Groups and Ethnography." Human Organization 54(1):78-86.

Beebe, James

1995 "Basic Concepts and Techniques of Rapid Appraisal." Human Organization 54(1):42-51.

Bolin, Inge

1996 "Reviving Traditional Medicine in the Peruvian Andes." Practicing Anthropology 18(2):6-9.

Durrenberger, E. Paul and Kendall M. Thu

1996 "The Expansion of Large Scale Hog Farming in Iowa: The Applicability of Goldschmidt's

Findings Fifty Years Later." Human Organization 55(4):409-415.

Ervin, Alexander M.

1996 "Collaborative and Participatory Research in Urban Social Planning and Restructuring: Anthropological Experiences from a Medium-Sized Canadian City." Human Organization 55(3):324-333.

Gillette, Patricia

1997 ... Necessary Evils': Iowa Farm Women and their Perceptions Regarding Pesticides."

Undergraduate honors thesis, Department of Anthropology, The University of Iowa.
(chapters 1, 3,4 & 6).

Grey, Mark A.

1998 "Meatpacking in Storm Lake, Iowa: A Community in Transition." In Pigs, Profits and Rural

Communities. K.M. Thu and E.P. Durrenberger, editors. New York: SUNY Press.

McGowan, Virginia

1996 "Evaluating and Planning Cancer Screening Programs." Practicing Anthropology 18(4):12-15.

Park, Peter

1997 "Participatory Research, Democracy, and Community." Practicing Anthropology 19(3):8-13.

Perez, Carlos A.

1997 "Participatory Research: Implications for Applied Anthropology." Practicing Anthropology 19(3):2-7.

Ricci, Judith A., N.W. Jerome, N. Megally, et al.

1995 "Assessing the Validity of Informant Recall: Results of a Time Use Pilot Study in Peri-Urban

Egypt." Human Organization 54(3):304-308.

Thu, Kendall M.

1996 "What's a Year's Work Worth?: The Influence of the State on Cultural Constructs of Farming in

Norway." Human Organization 55(3):300-308.

Thu, Kendall M., R. Ziegenhom, K. Donham, et al.

1997 "A Control Study of the Physical and Mental Health of Residents Living Near a Large-Scale

Swine Operation." Journal of Agricultural Safety and Health 3(1):13-26.

Watts, Link K. and Sara E. Gutierrez

1997 "A Native American-Based Cultural Model of Substance Dependency and

Recovery." Human Organization 56(1):9-18.

Whitehead, Tony L.

1997 "Urban Low-Income African American Men, HIV/AIDS, and Gender Identity."

Medical Anthropology Quarterly 11(4):411-447.

February 24-26: Fieldwork.

- Participant observation.
- Personal interviews.

March 3: Guest lecture: "Taming Turnover in a Multicultural Workplace," Dr. Mark Grey (University of Northern Iowa).

March 5-10: Fieldwork and surveys.

- Rapid and reliable assessments.
- Surveys: where do questions come from?
- What people say they do and what they actually do.

March 10: Guest lecture: "Iowa Farm Women and their Perceptions Regarding Pesticides," Patricia Gillette (University of Iowa graduate student)

March 12, 24-3 1: Analyzing and understanding results. (Spring Break: March 14-22)

- Assessing qualitative data: advantages and limitations.
- Quantitative data: advantages and limitations.
- Holistic understanding.
- Cross-cultural comparison and insight.

APRIL 2: EXAMINATION #2

Part IV: Applying the Results

Readings

Donham, Kelley J., Kendall M. Thu, Mark Grey, et al.

1997 "A Model Research and Educational Project to Understand and Promote Community-Accepted Pork Production." Proposal to the USDA Fund for Rural America. April 25.

Eisenberg, Merrill

1994 "Translating Research into Policy: What More Does it Take?" Practicing Anthropology 16(4):3538.

Grey, Mark

1997 "The Use and Non-use of Social Science: Lessons from Iowa." Research in Social Problems and Public Policy 6:45-77.

Hamilton, Neil

1996 "Summary and Discussion." In *Understanding the Impacts of Large Scale Swine Production*.

K.M. Thu, editor. *The University of Iowa: Iowa City, Iowa*.

Harl, Neil

- 1995 "The Role of the University in the Greater Community." Presented at Seminar, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.
- Luerssen, Susan
1994 "Landlessness, Health, and the Failures of Reform in the Peruvian Highlands." Human Organization 53(4):380-387.
- Perkins, Jerry
1996 "Researchers report concerns about large-scale hog farming." *Des Moines Register*, July 3.
- Roos, Jonathan
1997 "Study: Neighbors of Large Hog Operations Suffer Respiratory Ills." *Des Moines Register*, February 4.
- Thu, Kendall M.
1997 "Piggeries and Politics: What Scientists Aren't Telling You." Presentation to Sierra Club's National Conference on Corporate Farming in the Heartland. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. October 31.
- Thu, Kendall M.
1996 "Piggeries and Politics: Rural Development and Iowa's Multibillion Dollar Swine Industry." Culture and Agriculture 53:19-23.
- Thu, Kendall M.
1996 "Iowa's Swine Industry: Connecting Science to Policy." Iowa Groundwater Quarterly 7(4):1-5.
- Thu, Kendall M. and Kelley J. Denham
1996 "Heed what research says about large-scale hog farms." *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, December 12.
- Thu, Kendall M. and Kelley J. Donham
1997 "Connecting Science to Policy: An Overview of Swine Industry Issues." Testimony before the Iowa House Agriculture Committee. February 3. Des Moines, Iowa.
- Von Essen, Susanna, Kendall M. Thu, and Kelley J. Donham
1997 "Insurance Incentives for Safe Farms." Journal of Agromedicine 4(1/2):125-128.
- Williams, Dee Mack
1996 "Grassland Enclosures: Catalyst of Land Degradation in Inner Mongolia." Human Organization 55(3):307-313.
- April 7: Moving research results out of the library: is anyone listening, do they care, and why?
- April 9: Certified Safe Farm initiative: using anthropology to create an effective community-based intervention program.
- April 14: Guest lecture: "Making Scientists Relevant: Policy Implications of Research," David Osterberg (Adjunct Associate,

Department of Geography, University of Iowa; former state legislator; and current candidate for the U.S. Senate)

- April 16: Getting farmers together: the application of ethnography to swine producer networks in Iowa.
- April 21: Connecting scientists and people: the Fund for Rural America project.
- April 23: Politics, policies, public education, and institutional resistance.
- April 28-30: Putting it together: presentations and discussions of student applied research proposals.

MAY 5: APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSALS DUE

May 5-7: The anthropological contribution.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Tuesday, May 12, 1998 at 12:00 noon