ANTHROPOLOGY 313: ANTHROPOLOGY AND PUBLIC POLICY

Instructor: Robert M. Emanuel
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to Anthropology 313. This course is designed to give you an overview of some of the major areas where anthropological theory and practice are impacting public policy. It will focus on a worldwide stage, although we will try to draw from North American examples as much as possible in order to give you a sense of the ways that your own experiences relate. We will also record and discuss examples of current events that shape and are shaped by anthropology as well as its related social and behavioral science disciplines. Anthropology is not a newcomer to public policy, and as such, we will cover some of the history of the discipline in order that you may get a sense of its contributions over the last portion of the 19th century and up to the present. We will focus on anthropological contributions to urban policy and planning, economic and international development, environment, advocacy for native peoples, public health, gender, human rights, and ethics. Within some of these areas, we will also occasionally deal with archaeology and its relationship to public policy. The goals of the course are:

1.) Describe anthropology’s contributions to public policy worldwide.
2.) Discuss and critique anthropological approaches to public policy problems.
3.) Be able to look at current public policy issues with an anthropological perspective.
4.) Learn about how policy-oriented anthropologists gather, analyze, and present their findings.

Since this is an upper division course, you will be expected to understand some of the basic concepts we will discuss. That means you need to have taken at least 6 units of introductory anthropology. This also means you will need to read and write a fair amount (you will read between 50-75 pages a week and write at least 18 pages for the semester). Expect to spend about 10 hours a week on this class, including class time.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Reading Packet on-line: http://www.u.arizona.edu/ic/polis/spring01/Course-Homesite.cgi?ANTH_313-01
The course password for accessing the electronic reserves is: Boas

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Because this course is only taught once a week, we will need to get a lot out of our meetings. That means we will need to do at least three things each time. (1) We will discuss the readings you were assigned. (2) I will give a short lecture on issues germane to the readings; usually relating to the shorter articles you are assigned. (3) We will sometimes present and discuss your journal topics. This means you will need to read and digest your reading assignments, work on your writing requirements, and participate in a lively discussion.
• **Participation** is key to this course, so I will grade you for your interactions. That means you must demonstrate your preparedness by having read everything you need to, be on time, and in class.* Consider this an invitation to discuss issues raised by the readings, your thoughts, questions, or even doubts. You will be asked to bring these into discussion during the class period. You may also raise issues and questions with the instructor during office hours or over e-mail. *Participation is worth 15% of your grade.

• **Weekly Papers** will be assigned. These will be 1-2 page essays in which you will answer a question or questions that I assign to you. Questions will be given out at the end of class, and posted on the class website on Polis after that. You will be responsible for 10 of these, but if you choose to turn in more, I will discard your two lowest scores. This means you can turn in a maximum of 12 throughout the semester. Each one is due to me at the end of the following class period. Please use these for our in-class discussions. *The papers are worth 50% of your course grade.

• **Contemporary Issues Journal** is a short collection of topical issues that you can glean from popular media sources or extracurricular readings.** You will keep a short (1/3 page) typed description of each topic, accompanied by a copy of the original source (if appropriate), in a journal format. This needn’t be elaborate, just explain what it is, how it relates to a topic we have discussed or read about in the class, and what provoked you to pick it. These are graded on a simple pass-fail basis—turn an acceptable entry in and you get 5 points. There are 12 of these due for the course. They can be turned in throughout the course. Please don’t save them all for the end! *The journal is worth 15% of your grade.

• **Final Exam** will be based on your weekly papers, notes, discussions, and reading materials assigned throughout the semester. The exam will be a take-home, and hopefully, more fun than the name implies! It is worth 20% of your final grade.

* Medical or other serious excuses are accepted, but I need proof and for you to take responsibility to catch up on everything you missed.

** Hint: much of what you might need for the journal can be found on the Internet. For example, go to: [http://www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html](http://www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html)

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Weekly Papers (20 points each)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Journals (5 points each)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation**</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>400</strong></td>
<td>E</td>
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Grading scale:

A 320 – 400 points
B 239 – 319 points
C 158 – 238 points
D 77 – 157 points
E < 77 points

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Standards of academic integrity will be strictly enforced. This creates two issues for us. First, if you use someone else’s work, ideas, or words in your writings, you will need to properly cite them. Second, cheating on the weekly writings or exams will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade assigned for the exam or writing. This means you must do your own work. However, I do not expect to see either in this class and look forward to a semester largely free of these troubles. To facilitate this, please feel free to talk to me about any issues related to academic integrity.
**SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

**Week 1: Jan 10**

**Introduction: Policy and Anthropology**

Assignment


**Week 2: Jan 17**

**Policy and Anthropology continued**

Assignment


**Week 3: Jan 24**

**History of Anthropology and Policy**

Assignment


**Week 4: Jan 31**

**From Colonialism to Development in Anthropology**

Assignment


Week 5: Feb 7
Assignment
Strange Bedfellows: Development Policy and Anthropology


Week 6: Feb 14
Assignment
Anthropology and Development: Critiques


Week 7: Feb 21
Assignment
Unfinished Business: Anthropology and Native Peoples in North America


Week 8: Feb 28
Assignment
Anthropology and Native Policy Issues


Video: “Wampum wonderland” 60 Minutes. 1994

Optional:

Week 9: March 7
Archaeology and Native Americans: NAGPRA and Museums
Assignment


Enjoy your Spring Break!

Week 10: March 21
Leaving the Village for the City: Urban Anthropology & Policy
Assignment


Video: Home economics: a documentary of suburbia. 1994

Week 10: March 28
Urban Anthropology and Policy: Homelessness
Assignment


Video: Inside life outside. 1988

Week 11: April 4
Anthropology and Public Health
Assignment

Hahn and K. W. Harris. New York: Oxford University Press.


Week 12: April 11
Assignment

Anthropology and Environmental Policy


Week 13: April 18
Assignment

Anthropology and Gender in Policy


Week 14: April 25
Assignment

Anthropology and Anti-Poverty Policy


Week 15: May 2
Assignment

Conclusions: Anthropology, Policy, and Ethics


!!Take-home Final Exams Due by 5:30 p.m. 5/9/01!!
Have a good summer.

This syllabus is subject to change. All changes will be discussed in class and students are responsible for those changes.