

ANTH 321 Ethnographic Survey of Latin America

Fall 2011

Time & Location: 1:00 – 1:50p.m. M – W – F EEEL 210	Instructor: Rita Henderson Department of Anthropology	T.A.: Carlos Cerquera Gonzales Department of Anthropology
Office hours: Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:00p.m. Fridays 12:00 – 12:45p.m. (or upon request)	Email: rihender@ucalgary.ca Office: SS 909 Telephone: (403) 220-7372	Email: chcerque@ucalgary.ca

Course Description

This course will focus on three themes that underscore contemporary life throughout Latin America: 1) lingering manifestations of colonial history, 2) rapid social and cultural change in recent decades, and 3) the exercise of power in everyday life. The ethnographic approach to social analysis privileges the experiences and perspectives of local people and their communities. This enables rich qualitative consideration of complex questions about how macro social phenomena affect Latin Americans, their livelihoods, beliefs, practices, memories, values, and ambitions. Some important processes addressed in this course will be: European conquest, colonialism, the Cold War, urbanization, repressive military regimes, rural land reforms, social movements (i.e. human rights, indigenous, ecological), democratization, neoliberal re-structuring, and international development initiatives. Social phenomena through which these processes will be assessed include: religion and spirituality; popular music and folklore; food production and consumption; housing and livelihoods; health and illness; gender, class, and ethnic relations.

Course Objectives

Treating diverse communities (i.e. indigenous, peasant, corporate, urban, slave descendant), we will consider the means by which common histories throughout Latin America have given rise to wide diversity in cultural practices observed today. Special attention will be given to the objectives, as well as benefits and risks of anthropological research. By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Critically identify broad historical trends that pattern social and political struggles in the region.
- 2) Recognize the influence that history, politics, and economics have on culture and social life.
- 3) Employ relevant anthropological theory to relate or “translate” seemingly distant or unusual practices, beliefs, and behaviour among Latin Americans to audiences unfamiliar with the region.

Readings

Students are expected to consult assigned readings in preparation for each class, all of which may be addressed in one or more of the course evaluations. Three texts and a course reader are available at the University of Calgary Bookstore. Other readings (also required) are articles and portions of electronic books accessible free of charge for UofC students via library links provided on Blackboard, found under their assigned dates in the “Course Information” menu.

In the Bookstore:

1. ANTH 321.01 *Book of Readings Fall 2011*. Professor Rita Henderson. (\$34). *Fall 2010 readers can be re-used. While thicker, all readings assigned for Fall 2011 are also within the 2010 version.
2. SAWYER, Suzana (2004) *Crude Chronicles: Indigenous Politics, Multinational Oil, and Neoliberalism in Ecuador* (\$28 new; \$21 used)
3. HECHT, Tobias (1998) *At Home in the Street: Street Children in Northeastern Brazil*. (\$35 new; \$26 used). *This will be read as of the first week of November, so bargains may be found online.
4. TAYLOR, Julie (1998) *Paper Tangos* (\$22 new; \$17 used). *For last two weeks of November.

Blackboard Groups:

Depending on the final registration count, four to five online groups will be set up on Blackboard at the beginning of term for the whole semester. Each group will consist of 20-30 students, each of whom will be assigned two dates for sharing their notes and critical reflections on: 1) a lecture, and 2) an assigned reading. No student will be assigned to contribute their class notes and reading notes on the same date. These groups are helpful resources for working through difficult material through online discussion, for exam preparation, and for consulting when one gets behind in readings or misses a class. A portion of final term grades (see below) will evaluate contributions to these Blackboard groups.

Assignments & Evaluation

The course will progress according to the detailed outline provided at the beginning of term and posted on Blackboard. Students are expected to arrive to class with required texts already read. Classes will consist of a lecture/discussion led by the professor and teaching assistant on issues arising from daily topics, but not strictly mirroring material in required readings. Students are encouraged to pose relevant questions and participate with appropriate and respectful commentary.

Evaluation will be based on both individual and group coursework including: 1) in-class mid-term exam, 2) short essay assignment (prepared individually), 3) take-home mid-term exam (prepared in groups of three), 4) study guide assignment (prepared in groups of four), 5) final in-class test, and 6) Blackboard contributions. It is required to complete all evaluations in order to calculate the final grade. The breakdown of grades is as follows:

Coursework:

First Mid-term exam (closed book in-class Oct. 3 in class 1:00-1:50pm):	20%
Short Essay assignment (due Oct.28, prepared individually):	25%
Second Mid-term exam (take-home Nov. 7-Nov. 21, in assigned groups of three):	25%
Study Guide assignment (due Dec. 7, in assigned groups of four)	10%
Final test (closed book in-class Dec. 9 1:00-1:50pm):	10%
Blackboard contributions (reading notes 24 hours prior to class; lecture notes within 24 hours of class)	10%

Accommodations:

In keeping with a philosophy of universal access to education, students may register with the Disability Resource Centre located in MacEwan Hall or by phone (403) 220-8237 to arrange for academic accommodations. Those not registered are not eligible for such accommodations.

Grading scheme:

A+	100 - 94.9%
A	94.8 - 89.9%
A-	89.8 - 84.9%
B+	84.8 – 79.9%
B	79.8 - 74.9%
B-	74.8 – 70.9%
C+	70.8– 66.9%
C	66.8 – 62.9%
C-	62.8 – 58.9%
D+	58.8 – 54.9%
D	54.8 – 49.9%
F	49.8% and below

Absences:

Absence from the in-class evaluations on Oct. 3 and Dec. 9, as well as the non-submission of assignments on due dates must be justified with a relevant medical note (otherwise the student will fail both evaluation and course). If coursework is not submitted on time or an exam is missed, and in either of these cases an official and approved request for a changed deadline or exam time has not been made, the final course grade will be “fail due to absence.” Official requests must be made in person or in writing to the professor no later than one class prior to the scheduled deadline / exam and accompanied by a valid medical note.

Late Submissions:

All late submissions may be penalized 5% per day, except in the case of medical or family emergencies, for which written documentation must be provided. Given ample access to university facilities, computer or printing problems are not acceptable. Please remember to back up files of assignments and print hard copies at various stages. All late submissions should be presented either in person to the professor or to Monika Davidson in the Department of Anthropology office, 8th floor, Social Sciences. DO NOT SLIP ANY ASSIGNMENTS UNDER AN OFFICE DOOR (Professor's or Department's), as they will be dated whenever encountered and are at risk of loss. A yellow drop box on the table outside the Anthropology Department office door is for use after office hours, all assignments found within are date stamped at 4:30PM daily. It is recommended to retain an electronic copy of all submissions until the course is completed and final grade assigned.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also they will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam. For more information see also: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Plagiarism:

In evaluations, when a piece of information or a quote is used from another person (author, filmmaker, guest speaker), due credit is required. Students must mention the source in brackets after the paraphrased sentence or direct quote. For example, (Author YEAR: PAGE):
"Fortified enclaves are privatized, enclosed, and monitored spaces for residence, consumption, leisure, and work" (Caldeira 1996: 303).

Full reference details must then be cited in the Works Cited (bibliographic) section at the end of a document. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism. Consult the university calendar for details about penalties and consequences of plagiarism. Provide a complete listing of those sources cited in the text and no others. References must be given in a standard academic format; examples will be posted on Blackboard.

Note-taking and Instructor Availability:

It is not the instructor's policy to provide lecture notes and/or Powerpoint presentations on Blackboard. This may be done occasionally as a means of assistance, but should not be treated as an alternative to note-taking, as it will occur only at the instructor's timing and discretion. Students are expected to take their own notes and consult with peers over missed lectures. They are also encouraged to consult with the professor during office hours (meetings can also be arranged outside of listed office hours). Please regularly consult the course Blackboard page for news on classes, questions relating to readings, discussion points, and other useful information.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Examination NO

Electronic Devices in the Classroom

All cellphones are expected to be turned off during class-time. Laptops are discouraged, but they may be used for note-taking by those sitting along the walls and at the back of the classroom. Should laptops become used for purposes not related to course material or in the designated areas of the classroom, this privilege may be removed for all class members. It is the instructor's preference that students take notes by hand, so that computers do not interfere with the social environment generated through class discussion.

Instructor Availability and Communications

It is the instructor's policy to reply to all emails in a prompt fashion. This means that during weekdays students can expect a reply within 24 hours, and on weekends within 48 hours. Students are encouraged to consider office hours as useful resources in preparing for exams and independent assignments. In cases of scheduling difficulty with the listed office hours, alternative meetings to consult outside of class time can be arranged via email or telephone.

Class time

The course will progress according to the class outline provided at the beginning of term and posted on Blackboard. Students are expected to attend with required texts already read. Classes will consist of a lecture/discussion led by the professor and teaching assistant on issues arising from the daily topic, but not strictly mirroring material in

required readings. On occasion, films and guest speakers will complement lectures. During lectures, students are encouraged to pose relevant questions and participate with appropriate commentary. Powerpoints are designed to facilitate instruction and on their own do not contain sufficient information for evaluations. It is highly recommended that upon missing a lecture, students obtain *good, detailed* notes from a colleague; the Blackboard groups are ideal resources in this respect.

Outline:

COURSE OUTLINE		
Week & Theme	Class Date	Required Readings & Class Details
1 First Encounters & Colonial Legacies	Mon: 12 Sep	Course Introduction
	Wed: 14 Sep	Nash (article link posted on Blackboard)
	Fri: 16 Sep	Pedelyt (Chapters 1-3, pages 1-36; link on Blackboard)
2 Histories of Terror	Mon: 19 Sep	Taussig (pages 21-29; in course reader)
	Wed: 21 Sep	Taussig (pages 93-126)' VIDEO "Contact"
	Fri: 23 Sep	Cormier (in course reader)
3 Crisis of Representation	Mon: 26 Sep	Menchu (in course reader)
	Wed: 28 Sep	Foxen (article link posted on Blackboard)
	Fri: 30 Sep	Pre-exam Review
4 Indigenous Resurgence	Mon: 3 Oct	EXAM
	Wed: 5 Oct	Sawyer opening (pages 1-23)
	Fri: 7 Oct	Sawyer ch. 1
5 Narrative Struggles	Mon: 10 Oct	<i>NO CLASS — Thanksgiving</i>
	Wed: 12 Oct	Sawyer ch. 2
	Fri: 14 Oct	Sawyer ch. 3; VIDEO "Crude"
6 Globalization & Resource Extraction	Mon: 17 Oct	Ramos article (article posted on Blackboard)
	Wed: 19 Oct	Sawyer ch. 4
	Fri: 21 Oct	Sawyer ch. 5
7 Race, Culture, Power	Mon: 24 Oct	Sawyer ch. 6; Guest lecture
	Wed: 26 Oct	Sawyer conclusion
	Fri: 28 Oct	SHORT ESSAY DUE
8 Childhood & Street Life	Mon: 31 Oct	Hecht Introduction
	Wed: 2 Nov	Hecht ch. 1-2
	Fri: 4 Nov	Hecht. ch. 3-4
9 Urbanization	Mon: 7 Nov	Hecht ch. 5-6
	Wed: 9 Nov	Class time dedicated to working on take-home exams.
	Fri: 11 Nov	<i>REMEMBRANCE DAY WEEKEND NO CLASS</i>
10 Development	Mon: 14 Nov	Hecht ch. 7 & conclusion;
	Wed: 16 Nov	VIDEO "Favela Rising"
	Fri: 18 Nov	VIDEO "Favela Rising"
11 Gender & Violence	Mon: 21 Nov	Scheper-Hughes (posted on Blackboard); TAKE-HOME DUE
	Wed: 23 Nov	Downe (article link posted on Blackboard)
	Fri: 25 Nov	Jelin (in course reader)
12 State Repression	Mon: 28 Nov	Taylor
	Wed: 30 Nov	Taylor
	Fri: 2 Dec	Taylor
13 Course Wrap-up	Mon: 5 Dec	Paley (article link posted on Blackboard)
	Wed: 7 Dec	Course Wrap-up; STUDY GUIDE ASSIGNMENT DUE
	Fri: 9 Dec	FINAL IN-CLASS TEST

Regularly consult the course Blackboard page for news on classes, questions relating to readings, discussion points, and other useful information.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof, please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link; <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation Policy

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course. For further information, please see: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

"SAFEWALK" Program

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Student Representation

There are now four Arts reps because of the amalgamation, with the email addresses being: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact these if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

For your student ombudsman, please see: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 4th Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.