

Anthropology 385.01
Economic Anthropology
Fall 2012

Location: SS113

Instructor: Dr Chris Holdsworth

E-Mail: choldwor@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: ES 710B MWF 2-3 pm
or by appointment

Times: MWF 1:00-1:50 pm

TA: Alejandro Patino

Email: apatino@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: ES 744
by appointment



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Economic anthropology examines the systems and processes of production, exchange, distribution, and consumption of material goods and services in relation to the socio-cultural contexts in which they are embedded. Beginning with an examination of the historical and theoretical approaches to understanding economic life, the course then takes a cross-cultural examination of economic features such as labour, markets, commodities, and money in the context of power relations, kinship, gender, religion, identity, and social transformation. Attention then turns to how individuals and communities around the globe are responding to contemporary economic processes, economic development, and globalization.

FORMAT

The course will follow an interactive lecture-discussion style format together with the occasional film or video. Classes will not repeat or cover all the readings but will elaborate on selected topics to provide a deeper understanding of the material. It is essential, therefore, that students have read the assigned readings before class and come prepared to actively participate in discussing them and to ask questions.

OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the strengths and limits of the main concepts and theories of Economic Anthropology;
2. Provide theoretical bases for critical thinking about the anthropological implications of economic practices and policies.
3. Provide richly detailed cross-cultural examples of economic practices and their socio-cultural ramifications.
4. Apply theory and data to analysis and to convey the results efficiently in spoken and written forms.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND SOFTWARE:

Texts

1. Wilk, Richard and Lisa Cliggett. 2007. *Economies and Cultures: Foundations of Economic Anthropology* (2nd edn.)
2. Mintz, Sidney 1985. *Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History*.

Top Hat Monocle (THM)

- Students are required to set up a Top Hat Monocle account. THM will be used to assess participation and comprehension which are grade components (see below) for the course.
- Accounts can be set up at <http://www.tophatmonocle.ca/register/student/paid>
- Information on how to set up an account and enrol in the course is available on Blackboard
- Note: accounts cost \$20 per term or \$38 for five years and can be used for any number of courses
- The THM URL for the course is: <http://ca.tophatmonocle.com/e/291930>

Additional Readings

Additional readings will be made available through Blackboard.

COURSE POLICIES

Blackboard: All course materials and information, as well as unofficial grades, will be posted on the U of C Blackboard. All assignments must be submitted electronically using Blackboard

Email Policy

In any email correspondence please begin with the course code (anth385) in the subject line along with the subject of your message. Most of the time, you can expect a reply to an email within 24 hours. Please do NOT expect an immediate reply. You should also know that I will only rarely reply to emails on the weekends. Also I will not reply to emails that are not signed at least with your first name.

Cell phone and Laptop/Tablet Policy

Cell phones must be turned off during the class except when in use for Top Hat Monocle (see below). Laptops and tablets should be used only for taking notes. Since the screens can be distracting to students sitting behind, if you wish to use your laptop or tablet please sit toward the back of the class.

ASSESSMENT

The grade in the course will be determined on the basis of the following:

1. Midterm Exam

Date: Wednesday October 17

Percent of grade: 20%

The Midterm exam will consist of 20 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer questions with choice

2. Participation

- 10% of final grade
- During most classes (but not all) questions will be posted some time during the class using THM and based on that day's readings.
- Questions are answered using your cell phone, laptop, or tablet. Note: there will only be a 2-3 minute window in which to answer the questions.
- ½ a point is allotted for answering the question, and ½ a point for answering it correctly
- At the end of the course the points achieved out of the total possible will be used to calculate a mark out of 10.
- Students can track their progress in THM.
- THM will also be used for other participation and comprehension purposes during the class with no marks attached.

3. Term Paper

Due Dates:

- Proposal Monday Oct 16
- Draft Friday Nov 16
- Review Friday Nov. 23
- Final paper Friday Dec 7

Percent of Grade: 40%

The term paper is a major component of the evaluation of student performance in this class, worth in total 40% of the final mark so it is essential to follow the guidelines. We will also be using a peer reviewed process for this paper. See the term paper guidelines for more information

4. Final Exam

Date: Dec 10-19 Exact date, time and location TBA

Percent of Grade: 30%

The final exam will be short answer and essay style questions

Additional information about the assignment and exams will be provided the first class.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology Departments policy on intellectual honesty available at:

<https://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>

GRADING SYSTEM:

Each item of course work will be weighted as above and a final mark out of 100 calculated. This will then be converted to a letter grade as follows:

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

DEFERRED EXAMS:

Deferral of a mid-term exam must be cleared with the instructor. Deferral will be granted only in cases of personal injury, illness, or immediate family emergency. An official note or other documentation explaining the reason for the absence is required. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar approval.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who July require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday Oct 1	Proposal due
Wednesday Oct 17	Midterm exam
Friday Nov 16	Draft due
Friday Nov. 23	Review due
Friday Dec 7	Final paper due
Dec 10 -19	Final exam

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency please note that the primary assembly point shall be the Professional Faculties Food Court and the secondary assembly point shall be the Education Block Food Court.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Please note that this schedule is tentative. Some topics may require more attention than others, and we will take more time with them. An up-to-date schedule of relevant readings will be provided the first day of class.

Date	Topic	Readings
Mon Sept 10	Introduction	Surowiecki
Wed Sept 12	Theoretical Perspectives, History of Economic Anthropology	
Fri Sept 14		
Mon Sept 17	Econ. Anth. & Human Nature? Neoclassic Microeconomics	
Wed Sept 19	Social & Political Economy, Marxist & functionalist approaches Formalist Substantivist debate	Meillassoux, Malinowski, Polanyi Dalton
Fri Sept 21		
Mon Sept 24		
Wed Sept 26	Gift Economies & Exchange	Mauss, Parry, Godelier Sahlins Bohannan, Piot
Fri Sept 28		
Mon Oct 1		
Wed Oct 3		
Fri Oct 5	Markets	Fanselow, Alexander & Alexander
Mon Oct 8	NO CLASS THANKSGIVING	
Wed Oct 10		
Fri Oct 12		
Mon Oct 15		
Wed Oct 17	MIDTERM EXAM	
Fri Oct 19	Commodities, Power, and Meaning	Mintz
Mon Oct 22		
Wed Oct 24	Consumption and Identity	Kopytoff, Werbner
Fri Oct 26		
Mon Oct 29		
Wed Oct 31	Gender and economy	Safia, McCracken, Scheper-Hughes,

		Wilk, Watson
Fri Nov 2		
Mon Nov 5		
Wed Nov 7	Globalization	Hamilton et al
Fri Nov 9		
Mon Nov 12	NO CLASS REMEMBRANCE DAY	
Wed Nov 14		
Fri Nov 16		
Mon Nov 19		
Wed Nov 21		
Fri Nov 23		
Mon Nov 26		
Wed Nov 28		
Fri Nov 30	Economic Anthropology & development	
Mon Dec 3		
Wed Dec 5		
Fri Dec 7		Last Class TERM PAPER DUE
Dec 10 –19	Final Exam exact date and time TBA	