

ETHNOGRAPHY OF GLOBAL – LOCAL DYNAMICS

Mo We Fr 13:00 – 13:50

PH 126

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Saulesh Yessenova, office: ES 602C

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In the *Introduction to Anthropology* course (ANTH 203) students have become familiar with the academic debates concerning human cultural diversity, a phenomenon central to anthropological inquiry. Survey of a broad range of social and cultural forms in different parts of the world and related anthropological concepts addressing their unity and differences has enhanced students' awareness and appreciation of cultural and social diversity. The present course is designed to help students move to the next level of critical comprehension of anthropological perspective. Specifically, this course addresses an analytical challenge in accounting for human cultural diversity by focusing on historical changes in the international division of labor and their social, economic, and political effects on societies and their cultures. Special attention will be paid to the rise of capitalism and the shaping of the modern world. We will examine the origins of capitalism that took shape under certain historical circumstances and within specific localities and the global processes it instigated. We will furthermore apply this knowledge to the study of contemporary developments and culture change in specific localities. The goal of this course is to enhance students' understanding of global political economy and its historical context and the complex relationship between the global and the local. This course includes lectures, films, class discussions, individual field trips, and take-home and in-class assignments. Please note that lectures will not simply repeat the material in the assigned readings; they will contain additional material that may be included in formal assessment. Students are therefore encouraged to attend all classes, take notes, and complete assigned readings prior to the class.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- ↓ Eric R. Wolf *Europe and the People Without History* U of California Press, 2010. The 1997 edition of this book, used copies of which might also be available at the bookstore, is the same.
- ↓ Karen Ho *Liquidated: An Ethnography of Wall Street*, Duke University Press, 2009.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:

↓ In-class test on Oct. 8 th **	20%
↓ Glenbow Museum paper due Oct. 22 nd *	40%
↓ In-class test on Oct. 29 th **	10%
↓ Final take-home assignment****	30%

Course assignments will assess students' knowledge and critical understanding of the material covered in readings, lectures, and films shown in class. For Glenbow Museum and final papers, late submission penalty: 2 points/a day, incl. weekends and holidays. For after class submission please use a yellow box placed outside Anthropology main office (ES 620). Papers deposited after 4:00pm maybe stamped the next day.

* *Glenbow Museum paper* is based on readings and individual field research students will be required to conduct at the Glenbow Museum, Calgary.

** *In-class tests* are designed to assess student's knowledge and critical understanding of the material covered in assigned readings, lectures, and films shown in class.

****The final take home assignment* will be due immediately after the lecture period on the date to be specified.

Further details on course assignments will be provided in class and at the time assignments are given. All course work will be graded on a 100-point system. At the end of the course the total number of marks will be converted to the official university letter grade system according to the following equivalences:

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

Schedule of lecture topics, films & required readings is provided below.

COMMUNICATION:

INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 14:30 – 15:30 ES 602C (between Sept. 15 and Nov. 3, Nov. 24 and Dec. 1) or by appointment.

EMAILING TO INSTRUCTOR: Students are welcome to forward their questions and comments to the instructor via email indicated at the top of this document.

COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE VIA EMAIL:

- ↓ Please use your university account when possible. Otherwise, use an account with an appropriate name (example of an unacceptable email: sexymama@gmail.com).
- ↓ Use a clear subject line that includes the course name and the topic of the email such as: "ANTH 393. Question about my schedule."
- ↓ Please be respectful (i.e., not too casual) when addressing either myself or your TA in an email. Use an appropriate greeting (acceptable: "Dear Dr. Yessenova;" unacceptable: "Hey there").
- ↓ Keep in mind that answers to the questions concerning the matters clearly stated on the course outline will not be provided.
- ↓ Keep question(s) short and to the point. Show that you have made an effort to find the answer first in the text and lecture material (or even an outside source). State what you know in relation to what you are having a difficult time understanding.
- ↓ Include your full name and student ID in the signature of your email.
- ↓ Allow 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.

Please note: we may choose not to respond to emails that do not follow the format outlined above.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION:

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency situation please note that the primary assembly point shall be at the Education Block Food Court and the Scurfield Hall Atrium shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office @ 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 the course.

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>

SCHEDULE OF LECTURE TOPICS, FILMS & REQUIRED READINGS

	Date	Topics/film titles/exams	Readings
1	8 Sept	Introduction to the course	
	10 Sept	Locating <i>Europe and the People Without History</i> within anthropological research: anthropology and history; the problem of bounded cultures and societies.	Wolf: Preface (1997) and Preface (1982).
	12 Sept	Wolf's approach: political ecology.	Part One Introduction (1 – 23).
2	15 Sept	The Old World before 1400: Silk Road and the Mongol Empire.	Chapter 2 <i>The World in 1400</i> (24 – 58).
	17 Sept	The New World before 1400.	Chapter 2 <i>The World in 1400</i> (58 – 72).
	19 Sept	Karl Marx and his study of political economy. Fragment of the video: Masters of Money – 3 – 3 Karl Marx (BBC Documentary Series).	Chapter 3 <i>Modes of Production</i> (73 – 100).
3	22 Sept	The Rise of Europe.	Chapter 4 <i>Europe, Prelude to Expansion</i> (101 – 125).
	24 Sept	Film: <i>Columbus's World</i> Columbus and the Age of Discovery Series (57 min.), 1991.	
	26 Sept	'Discovery' of Americas. Fragment from <i>Fall of the Aztec and Maya Empires</i> , Great Cities of the World Series.	Part Two <i>In Search of Wealth</i> Chapter 5 <i>Iberians in America</i> (129 – 157).
4	29 Sept	Colonization of Canada: the fur trade. <i>Glenbow Museum's assignment to be announced in class & posted on D2L</i> . Taking field notes and conducting ethnographic observation.	Chapter 6 <i>The Fur Trade</i> (158 – 194).
	1 Oct	Sources and routes of modern slavery. Introduction to the film to be screened next class.	Chapter 7 <i>The Slave Trade</i> (195 – 231).
	3 Oct	Film: <i>Slavery and the Making of America</i> , 60 min.	
5	6 Oct	First field trip to the Glenbow Museum – no class.	
	8 Oct	In-class test based on chapters 1 – 7 and corresponding films screened in class (open book).	
	10 Oct	Class discussion - field notes; overview of previous classes.	
6	13 Oct	Thanksgiving – no class	
	15 Oct	The Old World: colonization of Asia and the Middle East.	Chapter 8 <i>Trade and Conquest in the Orient</i> (232 – 261).
	17 Oct	Transformation of European economies. Fragment from <i>Metropolis</i> , 1927.	Part Three Chapter 9 Industrial revolution (263 – 295).
7	20 Oct	Cores and peripheries within capitalism. Fragment of the video: Masters of Money – 3 – 3 Karl Marx (BBC Documentary Series).	Chapter 10 <i>Crisis and Differentiation in Capitalism</i> (296 – 309).

	22 Oct	Transformation of commercial exchange. Glenbow Museum assignment is due.	Chapter 11 <i>The Movement of Commodities</i> (310 – 353).
	24 Oct	Contemporary commodity chains. Film: <i>The Story of Stuff</i> by Anne Leonard (21 min.)	<i>The Story of Stuff: Script</i> (D2L.)
8	27 Oct	Formation of working classes and population movement.	Chapter 12 <i>The New Laborers</i> (354 – 384).
	29 Oct	In-class test based on chapters 8 – 12 and corresponding films screened in class (open book).	
	31 Oct	What Marx got wrong after all?	Wolf: <i>Afterward</i> (385 – 392).
9	3 Nov	Anthropology Goes to Wall street	Ho: <i>Introduction</i> (1 –38).
	5 Nov	Biographies of Hegemony	Ho: Chapter 1 (39 – 72).
	7 Nov	Wall Street's Orientation	Ho: Chapter 2 (73 – 121).
10	10 Nov	Readings days – no class	
	12 Nov	Oil (or) Tar Sands: blessing or curse?	
	14 Nov	Second field trip to the Glenbow Museum: Mavericks exhibit, no class	
11	17 Nov	Film: <i>Crude Impact</i> , 2006, USA (97 min, to be continued next class).	
	19 Nov	Film: <i>Crude Impact</i> .	
	21 Nov	Class cancelled	
12	24 Nov	Wall Street Historiographies	Ho: Chapter 3 (122 -168).
	26 Nov	The Neoclassical Roots	Ho: Chapter 4 (169 –212).
	28 Nov	Downsizers downsized	Ho: Chapter 5 (213 – 248).
13	1 Dec	Liquid Lives	Ho: Chapter 6 (249 – 294).
	3 Dec	Leveraging Dominance and Crises Through the Global	Ho: Chapter 7 (295 – 324).
	5 Dec	Course overview and final discussion	