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ANTH 573 Advanced Seminar in Social and Cultural Anthropology  
&  
DEST 593 Honors Seminar in Development Studies

GFC Hours 3-0  
Fall 2023

|                      |                                                                |                           |                 |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Instructor:</b>   | Dr. Saulesh Yessenova                                          | <b>Seminar Location:</b>  | ES 702          |
| <b>Phone:</b>        | 403- 220-3480                                                  | <b>Seminar Days/Time:</b> | M 15:00 - 17:45 |
| <b>Email:</b>        | <a href="mailto:sbyessen@ucalgary.ca">sbyessen@ucalgary.ca</a> |                           |                 |
| <b>Office:</b>       | ES 602C                                                        |                           |                 |
| <b>Office Hours:</b> | By appointment                                                 |                           |                 |

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**Prerequisite(s):** FOR ANTH 573, ANTH 411 AND ADMISSION TO THE HONOURS PROGRAM; FOR DEST 593, DEST 393 AND ADMISSION TO THE HONOURS PROGRAM

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This combined course is intended to enhance learners' knowledge and allow them to gain skills necessary for conducting independent research in anthropology and development studies. During this course, we will examine a variety of topics, such as the nature of *development* and *ethnography* and the role of anthropological research in the world. The goal of this course is to prepare learners for graduate school and professional work, which require significant skills in critical thinking, reading, and writing. We will work through ethnographic accounts, seeking to enhance these skills and learn about ethnography and development as intellectual enterprises.

**COURSE FORMAT:** This is a seminar that requires collaboration and input from everyone. Learners are expected to do readings, come to class prepared to contribute to class discussions, and complete all assignments. In style, this course is similar to a graduate seminar or a professional workshop; however, expectations will be adjusted to make it most beneficial for senior undergraduate students and graduate students from other disciplines.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. Upon completion of this course, students will:

- Be able to apply their knowledge of anthropology and development studies to their own studies.
- Develop expertise in selected areas of anthropological and DEST research.
- Improve writing and debate skills.
- Develop the ability to provide constructive feedback to peers.

### **READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:**

All readings are required:

- Schuster, Caroline E. *Forecasts: A Story of Weather and Finance at the Edge of Disaster*. University of Toronto Press, 2023.
- Beckett, Greg. *There is no more Haiti: between life and death in Port-au-Prince*. University of California Press, 2019.
- Trouillot, Michel-Rolph. *Silencing the past: Power and the production of history*. Beacon Press, 2015.
- Farmer, Paul. "An anthropology of structural violence." *Current Anthropology* 45.3 (2004): 305-325.
- Clifford, James. "On ethnographic authority." *Representations* 2 (1983): 118-146.

### **REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:**

a computer with a word processor plus access to the Internet.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY FEES: N/A**

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT**

- Peer Review | Due Monday, November 20 | 10%
- First written/creative assignment | due Monday, October 16 | 20%
- Participation in class discussions | 5%
- Student presentations | November 27 and December 4 | 15%
- Term Paper | Due Monday, December 17 | 50%

All assignments must be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L before class. Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day, including holidays and weekends.

Assignments will include take home writing and research exercises. Further details on course assignments are outlined below and additional information will be provided 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 equivalences listed below.

Students may provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. The decision to provide supporting documentation

that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note. Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

**Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**Reappraisal of Final Grade:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

**Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:**

|    |            |    |            |    |            |    |            |
|----|------------|----|------------|----|------------|----|------------|
| A+ | 95 – 100%  | B+ | 80 – 84.9% | C+ | 67 – 70.9% | D+ | 55 – 58.9% |
| A  | 90 – 94.9% | B  | 75 – 79.9% | C  | 63 – 66.9% | D  | 50 – 54.9% |
| A- | 85 – 89.9% | B- | 71 – 74.9% | C- | 59 – 62.9% | F  | < 50%      |

***\*\*Please note that no extra credit or ‘make up’ work is available in this class\*\****  
***You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class***

**Land Acknowledgement**

The University of Calgary, located in the heart of Southern Alberta, both acknowledges and pays tribute to the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Good Stoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3.

**Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity**

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** My name is Saulesh Yessenova, and I am a settler, living as an uninvited guest on the traditional territory of the people of Treaty 7. This land, belonging to the Niitsitapi (including the Siksika, Piikani and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Iyethka Nakoda (which includes the Wesley, Bearspaw and Chiniki First Nations), also hosts the University of Calgary. Calgary is situated on the confluence of the Bow and Elbow rivers, the Niitsitapi name for this place is Mohkinstsis, the Iyethka call it Wicispa Oyade, and the Tsuut’ina call this area Gutsistsi. Calgary is also home to the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. It is important to acknowledge that Canadian universities and scholars have benefited greatly from the dispossession of Indigenous people. Land acknowledgement is about my accountability as an individual, an immigrant, and a professional to ongoing processes of colonialism.

**STATEMENT OF INCLUSION:** The topics in this class can sometimes be difficult topics – we talk about race, gender, class, our place in society, and the painful histories and ideas that anthropology and other disciplines in the Euro-American academia have held. These topics are

discussed based on a common believe that we as a society or the world can never move forward in a good way without critical review and understanding of the past. This course, just like many other courses in our faculty, is part of liberal arts that has historically encouraged critical and creative thinking as well as tolerance and mutual respect among students and professors.

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM: Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their university careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their university courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and may use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

### TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

| Date             | Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| M Sep 11         | Introduction to the course: development, disasters, and ethnography. Reading/s: Clifford, <i>On Ethnographic Authority</i>    |
| M Sep 18         | Farming and speculative futures. Reading/s: <i>Forecasts</i> , pp. vii – 118                                                  |
| M Sep 25         | Finance capital, climate change and more than human landscape. Reading/s: <i>Forecasts</i> , pp. 119 – 195                    |
| M Oct 2          | Structural violence. Reading/s: <i>There is No More Haiti</i> , pp. vii –18; Farmer, <i>Structural Violence</i>               |
| <b>M Oct 9</b>   | <b>Thanksgiving Day, No Classes</b>                                                                                           |
| <b>M Oct 16</b>  | <b>The first take-home assignment is due.</b> History matters. Reading/s: Michel-Rolph Trouillot, <i>Silencing the Past</i> . |
| M Oct 23         | The forest and the city. Reading/s: <i>There is No More Haiti</i> , pp. 19 --64                                               |
| M Oct 30         | Looking for Life. Reading/s: <i>There is No More Haiti</i> , pp. 65 -- 106                                                    |
| M Nov 6          | Making Disorder. Reading/s: <i>There is No More Haiti</i> , pp. 107 -- 150                                                    |
| <b>Nov 12-18</b> | <b>Term Break, No Classes</b>                                                                                                 |
| <b>M Nov 20</b>  | Between Life and Death. Reading/s: <i>There is No More Haiti</i> , pp. 151 – 240. <b>Peer review reports to be submitted</b>  |
| M Nov 27         | Student presentations                                                                                                         |
| M Dec 4          | Student presentations                                                                                                         |

### UNIVERSITY POLICIES

#### ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The

full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html). Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk