



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Cultural Anthropology

ANTH 409

*Perspectives and Problems:
The Anthropology of Food*

Course Outline

CRN 288 : 30 Points : Trimester 1+2, 2010

Teaching dates: 1 March - 15 October 2010

COURSE COORDINATOR: DR JAMES URRY

Room 1004, Murphy Building

Tel: (04) 463 6130

Email: james.urry@vuw.ac.nz

LECTURE: THURSDAY 2-4PM, VZ 105

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Perspectives and Problems: The Anthropology of Food

COURSE COORDINATOR: Dr James Urry
Level 10, Murphy Building, MY 1004
Tel: 04 463 6130
james.urry@vuw.ac.nz

OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm

SEMINARS: Thursday 2-4pm VZ105

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Head of School: Dr Allison Kirkman, MY1013
Tel: 463 5676 E-m: Allison.Kirkman@vuw.ac.nz

International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine MY1023
Tel: 463 6132 E-m: Hal.Levine@vuw.ac.nz

Maori and Pacific Student Liaison: Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101
Tel: 463 5432 E-m: Trevor.Bradley@vuw.ac.nz

Students with Disabilities Liaison: Dr Russil Durrant, MY1120
Tel: 463 9980 E-m: russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz

School Manager: Carol Hogan, MY918
Tel: 463 6546 E-m: Carol.Hogan@vuw.ac.nz

School Administrators: Monica Lichti, Alison Melling, Heather Day
MY921, Tel: 463 5317; 463 5258; 463 5677
E-m: sacs@vuw.ac.nz

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be provided in class or through the box provided for communicating with Honours students in the Anthropology Programme in the School Administration office on level 9 of the Murphy building.

COURSE CONTENT AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course will deal with the social and cultural significance of food. The perspectives and problems examined will include the material bases of food, food production and presentation, the role of food in social life and food as a system of cultural representation. These will be examined with reference to different anthropological approaches to interpretation and explanation.

The aim will be to combine ethnographic detail with anthropological argument. As such each student will be expected to choose at the start of the course a food tradition associated with a specific ethnographic region and develop knowledge that tradition in relation to each section of the course.

At the end of the course students should have a reasonable grasp of a range of anthropological approaches to food, knowledge of cultural variations associated with foodstuffs, usage and meanings and developed skills in argument and ethnographic methodology.

READINGS

Readings will be set during the course and you will be expected to gradually gain skill in finding suitable material for extending yourselves and carrying out research for assignments. Unless otherwise indicated, obtaining copies of set material is your responsibility (ie. if the material is available through the University Library databases and you choose to print-out a copy, the cost of doing so is yours. Where copies of set material are not available through such sources, they (hopefully) will be supplied to you.

There is a superb site on “World Food Habits: English-Language Resources for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition” at http://lilt.ilstu.edu/rtdirks/main_frame.html which should provide you with a really good starting place for any research.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The workload expectation, including scheduled contact time, is 12 hours per week during teaching weeks.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

This course is internally assessed (there is no final examination) over three assessment items:

Three essays of increasing length and complexity. Time has been allowed in the date of assessments in order that you may build towards the final essay.

- An essay of 1500 - 2000 words on the material bases of food. (Due by 4pm, Monday 19th April)
- An essay of 2000 - 3000 words on the social uses of food. (Due by 4pm, Monday 12th July)
- An essay of 2500 - 3500 words on the cultural meaning of food. (Due by 4pm, Friday 1st October)

You will be expected to present a draft of your third essay to the seminar (presentation dates to be advised).

Because this is an Honours course, you will not be given a numerical mark for your essays but instead you will receive a general letter grade (ie. B/B+ or A/A-).

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To meet mandatory course requirements, students must:

- submit all three assessment items by the due dates and times given
- return all previously marked assessment items for consideration by the external examiner by 15th October 2010.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

All written work submitted for assessment must have a School Assignment Cover sheet. A sample is to be found at the back of this Course Outline. Further copies can be located on the reception counter at the Administration Office, and on the Assignment Box, on level 9 of Murphy building. You may wish to have a front sheet of your own, but a School Cover sheet must be used. This is critical for accurate identification and recording of your work.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

COURSE WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

If you decide for ANY reason at ANY stage to withdraw from ANTH 409 (or any other course) please see the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences office on the 4th floor of the Murphy Building for an Add/Drop Course form. Failure to do so may have consequences for enrolment, student grants, allowances, loans, etc., i.e. you will get credited with a fail, not a withdrawal on your record if you do not act promptly.

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

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School of Social and Cultural Studies

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

CRIMINOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY & SOCIAL POLICY

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Assignment Cover Sheet

(please write legibly)

Full Name: _____

Student ID: _____ Course (eg SACS 301): _____

Tutorial Day: _____ Tutorial Time: _____

Tutor's Name (if applicable): _____

Assignment No.: _____ Due Date: _____

CERTIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I certify that this paper submitted for assessment is the result of my own work, except where otherwise acknowledged.

Signed: _____ Date: _____