



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Cultural Anthropology

ANTH 406

**Special Topic: Culture Through an
Ethnographic Lens**

Course Outline

CRN 283: 30 POINTS: TRIM 1&2/2013

Trimester dates: 4 March - 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 4 March- 18 October 2013

Easter break: 28 March -3 April 2013

Mid-trimester break Trimester One: 22 April – 28 April 2013

Mid-Year break: 4 – 14 July 2013

Mid-trimester break Trimester Two: 26 August – 8 September 2013

Study/Examination Period: 21 October to 16 November 2013

COURSE COORDINATOR: DR ANNETTE BEASLEY

Room 1018, Murphy Building

Tel: (04) 463 6130

Email: Annette.beasley@vuw.ac.nz

SEMINAR: TUESDAY 2PM – 5PM: MY 401

ANTH 406: Culture Through an Ethnographic Lens

Tri 1+2, 2013

Course Coordinator Dr Annette Beasley
Murphy Building, Level 10, MY1018
Tel: 463 6130
Email: annette.beasley@vuw.ac.nz
waitoa@xtra.co.nz

Office Hours By appointment

Seminar Tuesday 2pm – 5pm MY 401

Course Prescription

The antecedents of contemporary ethnographic approaches that look at science, medicine and technology, their relevance in understanding current and future developments, and the social and cultural sites within which they operate are explored in this course.

Learning Objectives

Course aim:

To critically explore the challenges confronting contemporary cultural anthropology if it is to offer constructive insight on current scientific, technological and medical advances and their impact on cultural values and beliefs, and individual and social experience.

Course objectives:

Students who pass this course should be:

- able to identify the epistemological/theoretical trends and debates that characterised Twentieth Century science
- able to critique and appraise a range of social science approaches to the study of science, medicine and technology
- familiar with the focus and theoretical orientation of Twentieth Century anthropologically-informed ethnographies of science, medicine and technology
- able to critically appraise current socio-cultural and ethical dilemmas associated with contemporary advances in science, medicine and technology

- able to critique and appraise the challenges facing the anthropology of science, medicine and technology if it is to effectively address questions of public futures around contested sites of scientific, medical and technological investigation

Communication of Additional information

Additional information, including the course content and seminar programme and assignment details will be posted on *BlackBoard*.

Seminars

This course is structured around set readings that will be explored during weekly student-led seminars. In addition to your own reading and reflection, the weekly seminars are the fundamental form of learning.

A timetable for responsibility for leading the weekly seminars for both semesters will be drawn up during the first week of classes. All students are expected to attend all the seminars unless illness or a serious emergency intervenes.

Course Materials

There are no set text or student notes for this course. Weekly readings and electronic links will be posted on *BlackBoard* under 'Course Resources'.

Expected Workload

In accordance with guidelines from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the average workload per week is 10 hours for a 30-point course.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students. The Class representative's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class.

Assessment Requirements

Assignment details are posted on the course *BlackBoard* site under: Course Resources/Course Overview and Timetable.

This course is internally assessed and will be based on:

Annotated bibliography

Weighting 40%

Part A due: 4pm Friday 7 June

Part B due: 4pm Friday 23 August

Word count: minimum 5000 Words

Seminar and Topic Presentations

Weighting 10%

Due: as timetabled in class

Final Essay

Weighting 50%

Due: 4pm Friday 18 October

Word count: 5000-7000 words

Mandatory Course Requirements

To meet mandatory course requirements students must:

- attend and actively participate in *all scheduled seminar discussions* unless unable to attend through illness or an unforeseen emergency
- lead seminar discussions and present a topic seminar *as timetabled*
- submit an annotated bibliography *by the due date*
- submit the final essay *by the due date*

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>

Course Withdrawal

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds>

Where to Find More Detailed Information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.

Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

Information for Māori Students: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/slss/infofor/maoristudents or www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/tpa/index

Information for Pasifika students: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/slss/infofor/pasifikastudents or www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/tpa/index

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:	Suzanne Weaver, Alison Melling, Helen Beaglehole MY921, Tel: 463 5317; 463 5258; 463 5677 E-m: sacs@vuw.ac.nz

Office use only

Date Received:

(Date Stamp)

School of Social and Cultural Studies

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

CRIMINOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY & SOCIAL POLICY

Assignment Cover Sheet

(please write legibly)

Full Name: _____
(Last name) (First name)

Student ID: _____ Course (eg ANTH101): _____

Tutorial Day: _____ Tutorial Time: _____

Tutor (if applicable): _____

Assignment 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: _____