



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH 208

CULTURE AND EXPERIENCE

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 29 June 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 5 June 2016

Easter break: 24–30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Last assessment item due: 3 June 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures:	Tuesday	11:00-11:50am	HMLT002
	Thursday	11:00-11:50am	HMLT002

Tutorials: To be advised via Blackboard.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Caroline Bennett
MY1018, level 10, Murphy Building
Email: Caroline.Bennett@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: (04) 463 6130

Office hours: TBC

Communication of additional information

Additional course related information will be announced in lectures, posted on Blackboard, www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz, or on the noticeboard on Level 9, Murphy building. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

Prescription

This course will examine the cultural encounters and human experiences that emerge out of contemporary human rights regimes, humanitarian interventions, development projects, and global politics. Taking case studies from a range of different cultural settings, it will focus on how culture and politics shapes these global practices, and how different groups understand, respond to and challenge these interventions.

Course content

Week One:	Course introduction: overview, assessment, expectations
Week Two:	Human rights, humanitarianism, development, justice and truth – key concepts and questions. Universalism vs relativism.
Week Three:	International interventions: grievable life – when interventions happen
Week Four:	International interventions: pathologising nations / (re)creating states
Week Five:	International interventions: dealing with the missing / identifying the dead
Week Six:	Human rights – refugees and migrants
Week Seven:	Human rights – extrajudicial detention
Week Eight:	Human rights – labour and resistance
Week Nine:	Aid and development – local vs global politics
Week Ten:	Aid and development – commodifying suffering
Week Eleven:	Aid and development – industrialising aid
Week Twelve:	Course conclusion: overview and summary

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

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

- Illustrate understanding of anthropological approaches to humanitarianism, human rights interventions, development projects and geopolitics by generating examples of different cultural experiences and practices related to such interventions.
- Identify and critically analyse key ethical and political issues involved in international human rights, development and humanitarian interventions.
- Identify and critically analyse (in writing and orally) issues of culture and politics as they affect international interventions and global policies.

Teaching format

This course is taught as a mixture of lectures and tutorials (two lectures per week and one tutorial), and will include a mixture of lectures, film screenings and case study presentations. Students are expected to attend all sessions, to contribute to the tutorial sessions, and to complete all assignments.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of at least 50% (in order to demonstrate competence in CLOs 1,2 and 3), students must:

- Attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials to develop oral presentation and team working skills and improve skills for CLOs 1,2 and 3.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible

Workload

As a 20 point course, the workload for this course is 200 hours over the trimester. Students are recommended to devote 10 hours work per week to this module (excluding lectures and tutorials). The module is divided into 12 weeks. There will be two one-hour lectures and a one-hour tutorial on the same topic each week, with no tutorials during Week 1 or 12. Students should read ALL the essential readings each week for tutorial discussion and read more widely for assessments.

Assessment

This course is 100% internally assessed. Further information about the assessments, including marking criteria, will be handed out in class and posted on Blackboard. All assessments are compulsory and must be completed by the due date unless an extension is granted (see below).

Assignment	%	CLO(s)	Due date
AQQCI	30%	1	4pm, Friday 1 April
Essay (2000 words)	40%	1,2,3	4pm, Monday 2 May
Reading Diary / Blog post	30%	1,2,3	4pm, Friday 3 June

1) AQQCI Reading Commentary – due 4pm FRIDAY 1 APRIL to Turnitin via Blackboard.

Choosing one of the readings from the course list, you should complete an AQQCI reading commentary. This should be no longer than one A4 page (12 point font, single line spacing) and should include:

- **Argument:** a summary of the argument, in no more than three to four sentences;
- **Quote:** a key quote from the text;
- **Question:** a question you have about the text, which shows critical engagement with it;

- **Connection:** a textual connection, i.e. in no more than three to four sentences students are asked to show how the text connects with another article/book you have read;
- **Implications:** in no more than three to four sentences a summary of some of the implications of the argument outlined in the text you read.

2) Essay – due 4pm MONDAY 2 MAY 2016 to Turnitin via Blackboard.

One 2,000 word essay selected from those provided on Blackboard. You MAY NOT set your own questions unless formally agreed with the Course Co-ordinator.

3) Reading Diary or Blog/Journal Entry – due 4pm FRIDAY 3 JUNE to Turnitin or Blackboard.

For this assignment you have a choice of two options:

Reading diary:

If you choose a reading diary, you should complete a weekly diary related to the course readings and any additional material (both academic references and others, including but not limited to: online; audio-visual material; news articles encountered; exhibitions visited and so on). For each week's summary you should include:

- Full citations of material
- One paragraph describing what this reading made you think of – connections it drew; ideas you had.
- If you choose you can add an additional paragraph each week summarising the topic and your thoughts regarding it.
- This diary should not include summaries of the articles, and you should not be overly concerned with formality or academic content – I am more interested in a personal reflexive relationship to the readings and other material encountered.

Blog post:

Alternatively you can choose to prepare a blog post for this course. An ideal blog post should be between 800 and 1200 words, include hyper-links to other sources, multi-media and visual support (with appropriate permissions / citations for a blog) and aimed for a wider audience than merely anthropologists, while still critically engaging with an issue related to the course (therefore engaging with anthropological theories and theorists related to your topic). You can choose one of the weekly topics covered by the course, or a topic of your own interest from the news and contemporary media. For examples of good academic online writing, see:

- Savage Minds: <http://savageminds.org/>
- The Conversation: <https://theconversation.com/>

All blog posts should be submitted to the shared blog on Blackboard. The blog post can be uploaded at any time during the trimester, but by 4pm on Friday 3rd June at the latest.

Instructions on uploading and format guidelines will be uploaded to Blackboard.

Submission and return of work

All assignments should be submitted electronically to Turnitin on Blackboard (or to the shared journal on blackboard) before 4pm on the due date. See below for details on Turnitin; consult Blackboard for ANTH 208 login and password details. All work will be marked and returned electronically through Blackboard.

Note: You do not need to submit a paper copy of your essays.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course will be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool; work submitted through Turnitin is matched against a database of previously submitted work from every institution which subscribes to Turnitin (including international institutions); current and archived internet pages and databases of journals and periodicals. Each instance of matching is then examined individually for full and correct referencing. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party. For advice on academic integrity and plagiarism, please see: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism>

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

In the case of exceptional personal circumstances, an extension may be possible. To apply for an extension you must contact the course coordinator by email **before the due date**, specifying the reason. Please note that you might be asked for written justification, e.g., a medical certificate, death notice, or letter from a counsellor. The granting of an extension, and the length given, is at the course co-ordinator's discretion.

Penalties

Penalties will apply for lateness in presenting assignments. 5% will be deducted from the piece of work per day for up to seven days after the due date (counting that piece of work as 100%). Work received after seven days will receive a 0% mark, unless an extension has been granted.

There is a 10% leeway for word count for the essay. Essays beyond that margin will be penalised.

Academic integrity is an integral part of student life. If you are found guilty of plagiarism, you may be penalised under the Student Conduct Statute

(<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/student-policy/student-conduct-statute.pdf>)

Set texts

There is no set text or book of student notes for this course. All essential readings will be placed on Blackboard by the Course Coordinator.

Recommended reading

The following books are recommended reading, and are all available as ebooks (as well as physical copies) in the Victoria library via Te Waharoa:

- Fassin, D. 2012. *Humanitarian Reason: A Moral History of the Present*. University of California Press.
- Goodale, M. (ed.) 2009. *Human Rights: an Anthropological Reader*. Oxford and Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Laidlaw, J. 2013. *The Subject of Virtue: An Anthropology of Ethics and Freedom*. Cambridge University Press.
- Scheper-Hughes, N. and Bourgois, P. 2004. *Violence in War and Peace: An Anthology*. Wiley.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Student feedback

This course has been completely redesigned since 2015. You will have an opportunity to participate in the evaluation of this course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at:

www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>

- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

School Contact Information

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