



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

*SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES
TE KURA MAHINGA TANGATA*

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

**ANTH 312
REPRESENTING OTHERS: THE CHALLENGES OF ETHNOGRAPHY
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: Monday and Thursday 9.00-9.50 am, MYLT101

Tutorial: Monday 2:10-3:00pm, KK203

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Hal Levine (email: Hal.Levine@vuw.ac.nz)

Course Coordinator: Dr Caroline Bennett (email: Caroline.Bennett@vuw.ac.nz)

Communication of additional information

Additional information will be communicated in lectures and on Blackboard. 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

Anthropologists believe that ethnography is a valid method of research although they recognise that fieldwork is a creative and contingent process. This course looks at the implications of contested methods and data and the significance this has for Anthropology.

Course content

This course critically engages with the ways other people are represented in contemporary cultural media and the way anthropology engages with this. It explores key themes in contemporary anthropology by discussing the politics of representation; different forms of data and presentation; how different cultural mediums affect presentations and understandings of others; and the ethnographic work of some of the discipline's most influential – and sometimes controversial – writers, from early classical works to recent ethnographies. We will explore themes including: the role of the anthropologist in the world; the crisis of ethnographic representation; ethnographic responsibility and the politics of representation; and modes of ethnographic scholarship.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

The objective of ANTH 312 is to have students think critically and differently about modes of representation and how anthropology engages with them. On successful completion of this course you should be able to:

- * Identify and critically analyse key ethical and political issues involved in the representation of other people.
- * Critically compare and analyse different modes of ethnographic scholarship and ethnographic text (written and visual) and critique their relative strengths and weaknesses.
- * Illustrate an understanding of the different concerns of representation between visual and written texts, and their impacts on the politics of representation

Teaching format

ANTH 312 is taught in two 1-hour sessions each week. There is also a 1-hour tutorial during weeks 2-11 with a one week break during the trimester to be advised on Blackboard. Students are expected to attend and participate in both lectures and tutorials.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of at least 50%, students must:

- submit essay one and essay two (into Turnitin on Blackboard) to demonstrate competence in CLOs 1, 2 and 3;
- sit the in-class test to demonstrate competence in CLOs 1, 2 and 3;
- attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials to develop oral presentation and teamwork skills.

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

This is a 20 point course and therefore requires an overall input of 200 hours over the trimester. It is recommended that on average you should devote 13 hours per week, including lectures and tutorials. There are generally two or three readings per week, although you are encouraged to read more widely each week and for your assignments, and be prepared to participate in both class and tutorial discussions.

Assessment

ANTH 312 is 100% internally assessed with two essays and one in-class test. Essay topics will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. All assignments are compulsory. Marking criteria will be posted on Blackboard.

Assignment	Due Date	Length	CLO	Weighting (% of final grade)
Essay One	4pm, Fri 1 April	1500-2000 words*	1,2,3	35%
Essay Two	4pm, Fri 6 May	1500-2000 words*	1,2,3	35%
In-class Test	9-9.50am, Thur 26 May	50 minutes	1,2,3	30%

**** Your essays should not be more than 10% over or under the recommended length. There are no special marks awarded for length, though marks will be deducted for moving outside these limits.***

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT

The **essays** will assess the learning objectives listed above and draw on course readings and your own independent research. The purpose of this form of assessment is:

- to enhance skills in critical reading, critical analysis, and written communication.
- to encourage you to read widely and to use books and articles in developing research skills.
- to encourage you to engage with key issues encountered by anthropologists in representing others.

The **in-class test** is designed to assess how well you have understood and engaged with the lectures and tutorials.

Submission and return of work

Both essays should be submitted electronically to Blackboard and Turnitin on or before 4pm on the due date. See below for details on Turnitin; consult Blackboard for ANTH 312 login and password details. Your 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 by the seminar leader and module convenor 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

In-class Test: Students who miss the in-class test will need to provide a medical certificate or other documentation in order to sit a make-up.

Essays: 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. To meet mandatory course requirements work must still be submitted.

There is a 10% leeway for word count for the essays. Essays beyond that margin (shorter or longer) will be penalised.

Academic integrity: 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 for this course. Reading lists will be announced in class and available on E-Reserve at the Library as well as on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

- Borofsky, Rob (2005). *Yanomami: The Fierce Controversy and What We Can Learn from It*. Oakland: University of California Press. (Available from the library as an e-book)
- Ginsburg, F.; Abu-Lughod, L. and B. Larkin (eds.) (2002). *Media worlds: anthropology on new terrain*. University of California Press. (Available as an ebook from the library)
- Gross, L.; Katz JS. and J. Ruby (eds.) (2003). *Image Ethics in the Digital Age*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Orans, Martin (1996). *Not Even Wrong: Margaret Mead, Derek Freeman, and the Samoans*. Novato: Chandler and Sharp Publications.
- Waterston, Alisse, and Vesperi, Maria D. (eds.) (2009). *Anthropology off the Shelf: Anthropologists on Writing*. Chichester, West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell. (Available as an ebook from the library)

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

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

Head of School: Prof Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, MY1019
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International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine, MY1023
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Māori and Pacific Student Liaison: Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101
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Students with Disabilities Liaison: Dr Sarah Wright, MY1115
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School Manager: La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918
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School Administrators: Suzanne Weaver, Heather Day, Gill Blomgren, MY921,
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