



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

## Cultural Anthropology

# ANTH 213

## Ritual in the Modern World

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2016

### Key dates

**Trimester dates:** 11 July to 13 November 2016

**Teaching dates:** 11 July to 16 October 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 22 August to 4 September 2016

**Last assessment item due:** 14 October 2016

**Study period:** 17–20 October 2016

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

## Class times and locations

Lectures:	Monday 1.10-2pm	COLT 122
	Tuesday 1.10-2pm	HMLT 104

**Tutorials:** Tutorials will begin in week two of the trimester. Please sign up for a tutorial using MyAllocator at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables/tutorial-sign-up>. You will be expected to attend and participate in the tutorials based upon the course and the readings set for each tutorial.

## Names and contact details

Dr Eli Elinoff  
MY1008, Level 10, Murphy Building  
Phone: (04) 463 5264  
Email: [Eli.Elinoff@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Eli.Elinoff@vuw.ac.nz)  
**Office Hours:** By appointment

## Communication of additional information

Any additional course information will be posted 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 forward messages received from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

## Prescription

This course will offer a general introduction to the anthropology of ritual. It will consider the variety of ways that ritual has been studied and analysed anthropologically with a particular focus on the role and significance of ritual in modern societies. Examples will be drawn from New Zealand and a wide range of contemporary cultures.

## Course content

*A week by week prescription of the course is available on Blackboard.*

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Recognise how rituals are structured and analysed by anthropologists; and how rituals are involved in making/constructing meaning as well as structures of power and resistance.
2. Contextualise, describe and analyse rituals in your own, related and different cultures.
3. Undertake basic non-participant observation, take field notes, create an operational sequence diagram, and write up a field report.

## Teaching format

This course involves two one hour lectures a week and nine one hour tutorial sessions. This course combines lectures with interactive tutorials in a format designed to guide students through the major topic areas and encourage discussion. The emphasis is on collaborative learning through dialogue and active participation.

Tutorial participation is a significant component of this course. Tutorials will not be a summary of readings or reviews of the lectures, but discussions and activities intended to help you learn to use the concepts presented to analyse both ethnographic materials and your own experience; develop skills in analysing and synthesising data and concepts from various sources; and improve your critical reading and your ability to put your ideas into words.

***To gain full value from the course you should attend all lectures and tutorials.***

## Mandatory course requirements

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

- attend a **minimum** of 7 of the 9 tutorials so that they will have the opportunity to develop oral communication skills through collaborative learning, critical reading and analysis skills, and for meeting CLOs 1-3.

If you miss more than two tutorials without an adequate reason (health/family circumstances etc.) you will not have met course requirements and therefore fail the course.

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

## Workload

You should spend a minimum of 13 hours per week working on ANTH 213 (based on an overall workload of 200 hours for the course). This includes attending class, reading and taking notes, working on assignments and preparing for the final test.

## Assessment

ANTH 213 will be assessed as follows:

Assessment item	Due Date	CLOs	%
1   Non-participant observation report— Operational Sequence Diagram + 1000 Word Ritual Description	Fri 12 August, 4pm	1, 2, 3	30%
2   Ritual Analysis Essay (2000-2500 words)	Fri 16 September, 4pm	1, 2, 3	40%
3   Take-Home Test (given out in lecture on Tuesday 10 October).	Fri 14 October, 4pm	1, 2	30%

### **Report (Diagram + 1000 words; 30% of final grade)**

This report is a practice in non-participant observation, based on a subject of your choice. You will be required to observe a ritual and describe it both through the creation of an “operational sequence” diagram and in a 1000 word essay. This assignment is seen as a preparation for the essay.

### **Essay (2000-2500 words; 40% of final grade)**

This essay is based on public ritual and performance and combines participant observation with theory and literature. Using anthropological ideas from the course material, you will analyse the ritual that you observed for the report.

### **Take-Home Test (30% of final grade)**

This test will be handed out on Tuesday 10 October in lecture (and thereafter will be available on Blackboard). Students must complete and submit by Friday 14 October 4pm.

***Detailed instructions on each assignment will be given separately.***

## **Submission and return of work**

Submit a paper copy to the Assignment Box at the SACS Administration Office, Level 9, Murphy Building (to the side of the lifts), by 4pm on the due date. Your essay **MUST NOT** be placed in individual staff pigeonholes, or under staff office doors, or handed to lecturers or tutors. All written work submitted for assessment must have a School Assignment Cover sheet. Copies can be located at the School's Administration Office, and on the Assignment Box on level 9 of Murphy building.

The Assignment Box is cleared at 4pm every day. All work is date-stamped, recorded and then handed to the appropriate markers.

Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **11.00am and 3.00 pm only from Monday to Friday.**

## **Extensions and penalties**

### **Extensions**

Extensions are possible if you are having serious difficulties in completing your work. You must contact the course coordinator before the due date if you think you will need an extension. Please note that you might be asked for written justification, e.g., a medical certificate, death notice, or letter from a counsellor.

### **Penalties**

Penalties will apply for lateness in presenting assignments. 5% will be deducted from the piece of work per day counting that piece of work as 100%. This penalty will only be waived by the presentation of a medical certificate or other evidence of incapacity.

Assessment work will not be accepted for marking or for receiving comments more than seven days after the due date or seven days after an approved extension date.

## 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 Coordinators

## 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. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

## Student feedback

This course was last evaluated in 2013. In response to student feedback, emphasis has been placed on creating interactive tutorials that are in line with lecture content in order to develop communication skills and collaborative learning.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://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](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## School Contact Information

Head of School: Prof. Brigitte Bonisch-Brednich  
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International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine, MY1023  
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Students with Disabilities Liaison: Dr Sarah Wright, MY1102  
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