ECONOMIC ANTHROPOLOGY

This course is a graduate-level introduction to the field of economic anthropology. The course will be run as a seminar. Each class will begin with a brief lecture, followed by a discussion of assigned readings. Questions to be discussed will be handed out one week before a class on a particular topic.

Instructor

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Department

Anthropology
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  department chair – Russell Ciochon

Readings

One book is available at the IMU bookstore:

Edelman, Mark and Angelique Haugerud, eds.

All other readings can be found in 243 Macbride (the graduate student lounge). There are two copies of each reading. These can be checked out for two hours and photocopied elsewhere. Please be sure to use the sign-out/sign-in sheet when you borrow and return readings.

Course Requirements

(1) Four 5-7 page essays. These essays are intended to test understanding of course material and do not usually require research. Papers will be due September 25, October 23, November 27, and December 15. Note the first three papers are due on Mondays. The last paper is due on a Friday.

(2) Class participation – About 20 percent of the final grade is based on class participation.
COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction and Historical Overview

August 24 – introduction to course
  no readings

Historical Background

August 31 – Substantivists/Formalists; Cultural Evolution

Wilk, Richard

Polanyi, Karl

Burling, Robbins

Cook, Scott

Johnson, Allen and Timothy Earle

September 7 – Modernization Theory; Dependency/World Systems Theory; Globalization

Rostow, W. W.
  1960 The Stages of Economic Growth, pp. 1-35.

Wolf, Eric
  1982  Europe and the People Without History, pp. 3-23.

Gunder Frank, Andre
  1969 Latin America: Underdevelopment or Revoution, pp. 3-17.

Nash, June
Non-Industrial Societies

September 14 – Forager Studies

Lee, Richard  
Wilmsen, Edwin  

Lee, Richard  

September 21 – Agriculture: Past and Present

Diamond, Jared  

Boserup, Ester  
1965 The Conditions of Agricultural Growth, pp. 11-55.

Netting, Robert  
1993 Smallholders, Householders, pp. 3-27.

Colonialism and the Modern State

September 28 Colonialism – Moral Economies; Population Growth

Scott, James  
1976 The Moral Economy of the Peasant, pp. 1-34.

Mintz, Sidney  
1985 Sweetness and Power, pp. xv-xxx.

Robbins, Richard  

Geertz, Clifford  

October 5 The Modern State and Capitalism – Simplification, Grand Schemes, and Legibility
Scott, James
1998 Seeing Like a State, pp.1-83.

Harvey, David
1988 The Urban Experience, pp. 165-199.

Uneven “Development”

October 12 – Development plans

Cernea, Michael
1985 Putting People First: Sociological Variables in Rural Development, pp. 3-21.

Cooper, Frederick and Randall Packard

Hoben, Allan

Annis, Sheldon

October 19 – Critiques of “development”

Ferguson, James

Ferguson, James

Escobar, Arturo
1995 Encountering Development, pp. 3-54.

October 26 – Informal Economies
Mintz, Sidney

De Soto, Hernando

Cross, John
1998 Informal Politics: Street Vendors and the State in Mexico City, pp. 84-119.

Ledevena, Alena

Globalization

November 2 Pros and Cons

Friedman, Thomas
1999 The Lexus and the Olive Tree, pp. 3-43.


1997 Watson, James

November 9 Consumption

Wilk, Richard

Orlove, Benjamin and Arnold Bauer

Bestor, Theodore
2004 Tsukiji: The Fish Market at the Center of the World, pp. 1-49.

Vargas-Cetina, Gabriela
November 16 – no class, AAA meetings

November 23 - no class, Thanksgiving

November 30 – Movements of people and products

Stone, Priscilla, Angelique Haugerud, and Peter Little

Hansen, Karen Tranberg

Kearney, Michael
1996 Reconceptualizing the Peasantry, pp. 1-22.

Zloniski, Christian

December 7 Art and Craft in the World Marketplace

Steiner, Christopher

Zorn, Elayne

Chibnik, Michael