ANTH1100 Understanding Anthropology Autumn 2019

Lecture: Monday 13:30 – 15:15, NAH1
Tutorials: 1) Monday 15:30-16:15 NAH1
           2) TBA

Lecturer: Wai-man TANG NAH302, wymantang@cuhk.edu.hk
          (Office hours: Monday 16:30 – 17:15 or by appointment)
TA: Yuxuan FENG NAH406, 1155135525@link.cuhk.edu.hk

Course Description
This team-taught class will teach you what it means to practice anthropology. After an initial class on how to think anthropologically, the course will turn to examine different topics in anthropology, as practiced by department’s different teachers. Each week, a different teacher will discuss her or his own research and teaching, in the context of one of the anthropological fields, which enable you to better understand different ways in which anthropology is learned, practiced, and pursued.

What you will learn:
Students taking this course will:
- learn about how anthropology is practiced in different areas and fields;
- acquire the basics of how to write paper and how to pursue their studies as anthropology students in the university;
- come to know department’s different teachers and different ways in which they envision anthropology; and
- gain basic knowledge of how to formulate their own research projects.

Course Requirements:

Class Participation: 20%
Response Papers: 60% (3 x 20%)
Short Essay: 20%

1) Class Participation (20%):
   You are expected to attend all the lectures and tutorials, read the assigned readings and participate in the discussion. In case you need to take a leave of absence from tutorial, you can consider writing a response paper based on the assigned readings with 400-500 words as your class participation.

2) Response Papers (60%)
   Write three 3-4 page papers on the topic “How and why anthropologists study ____”. Response papers should address the question with reference to the assigned readings. Instead of merely summarizing the readings, you should raise critical points of views. This course will be divided into three sections: I) Weeks 2 – 5, II) Weeks 6 – 9, and III) Weeks 10 – 13. Students should choose one of the topics given in one section and submit their paper before the start of next section.

3) Short Essay (20%):
   Write an essay on the topic “What is Anthropology?”. How is anthropology different from other disciplines? Is anthropology relevant today? Based on what we have learned in this course and other references, write a 3-4 page paper to answer these questions. If you use other people’s ideas or words in the paper, you should cite the sources and list the sources under “References” in the end. Otherwise, you are committing plagiarism. Information about the CUHK academic honesty policy is available at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/. Submit your paper on or before 16 December.

After finishing your written assignments, please submit soft copies to both VeriGuide and to the course website. Hard copies are not required.

The paper should be written in the following format: Double line spacing, Times New Roman, and font 12.

Please submit your assignment on time. Marks will be deducted (i.e. one point per day) for late submission.
Course Schedule:
1) Introduction: What is Anthropology? (2 Sep.) – Wai-man Tang

Section I
2) How and Why Anthropologists Study Youth (9 Sep.) – Minhua Ling

3) How and Why Anthropologists Study Sex (16 Sep.) – Sealing Cheng

4) How and Why Anthropologists Study Environment (23 Sep.) – Sidney Cheung

5) How to Write an Academic Paper (30 Sep.) – Laura Man (ELT)

Section II
6) Holiday (7 Oct.)

7) How and Why Anthropologists Study Beauty Pageants (14 Oct.) – Ju-chen Chen
   陳如珍. 2019. 田野中的圓滿：你那個研究還沒做完嗎？。載趙恩潔，蔡晏霖主編《反過田野：人類學異托邦故事集》，頁 237-69。新北市：左岸文化。

8) How and Why Anthropologists Study Family (21 Oct.) – Lynne Nakano

9) How and Why Anthropologists Study the Illicit (28 Oct.) – Gordon Mathews
Section III

11) How and Why Anthropologists Study the Past (11 Nov.) – Wengcheong Lam


Tang, Wai-Man. (under review). “‘You are (Hong Kong) Chinese! You Should Understand our Culture!’: Reflections of a Chinese Male Ethnographer from Researching Nepali Drug Users of both Genders in Hong Kong.”

Grade descriptors are as follows for the assessment of this course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Overall course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, OR failure to meet specified assessment requirements.</td>
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