

**APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**Anthropology 415/515**  
**T-TR 10:00-11:50**

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Office Hours: T-TR 1:30-2:30,  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Anthropology is becoming an essential tool in many applied contexts. Applied anthropologists are working in vocations that engage issues related to the environment, human health, development, heritage, conflict and many other topics. This course uses a practical approach to introduce the various careers that are currently available to applied anthropologists. We will begin with a historical overview on the application of anthropology in various contexts, with a specific focus on ethics. Applied anthropology methods will be introduced, such as various interview techniques and participatory approaches. A series of guest lecturers, who work locally and globally as applied anthropologists, will follow. The course concludes with an introduction to skills required in the field, including fundraising, proposal writing and resume preparation. Throughout the term students will work on a personalized career plan which identifies and analyzes an issue and organization while incorporating a portfolio of relevant work—assisting in the transition from education to profession following the completion of an undergraduate or graduate degree in anthropology.

**REQUIRED READINGS**

All class materials are available on Blackboard (see below). You may either read these documents online or print a copy for personal use.

**CLASS REQUIREMENTS**

Students taking this course Pass/No Pass are required to earn at least the equivalent of a 'C-' to pass the class. Anthropology majors and minors must take the class for a grade. Undergraduate student performance will be evaluated through reading journals (25%), an issue analysis (30%), and organizational analysis (30%) and a career plan/portfolio (15%). Graduate student performance will be evaluated through reading journals (25%), course facilitation (5%), an issue analysis (30%), and organizational analysis (30%) and a career plan/portfolio (10%).

**Illness, emergencies, and plagiarism**

The H1N1 virus has spread through many colleges and universities across the country. If you feel ill (fever, sore throat, runny nose, headache, cough,

aches), please stay home until you have been without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. Let the instructor know about your illness. You will not be penalized for illness-related absences, and you will have the opportunity to make up missed assignments.

Late papers and exams will lose one letter grade for each day past due except in cases of severe illness or emergency. Requests for extensions on deadlines must be made in writing ahead of the due date. All work must be completed for students to receive a passing grade. Students with a documented disability needed accommodations in this course should inform the instructor immediately.

*Plagiarism* (intellectual theft) is a very serious offense and will not be tolerated. Any assignment containing plagiarized material will receive a failing grade. You are responsible for reading and understanding the department handout on plagiarism, available on Blackboard and the Anthropology Department website. Please let the instructor know if you have any questions about the policy.

## **Blackboard**

The course syllabus, readings, reading journal format, discussion questions, service learning opportunities, and test questions will be available on Blackboard (<http://psuonline.pdx.edu/>). To login, you need an Odin login username and password. To get an Odin account, visit <https://www.account.pdx.edu>. Please contact the instructor if you have any difficulties using this resource.

## **Reading Journals (25%)**

Students will turn in a reading journal on select dates that summarizes and analyzes the weekly readings. The format will be posted on Blackboard. Reading journals will be evaluated using a credit/no credit format.

## **Course Facilitation—Graduate (5%)**

Graduate students are expected to facilitate 2 workshop/course periods (April 20 and 22), which will be evaluated by the course instructor and their peers. These will include developing a short lecture that outlines the main points in the required readings for the assigned facilitation days, additional information drawn from reputable sources, and an activity that utilizes content from the lecture.

## **Issue Analysis (30%)**

This assignment will focus on a specific issue, how it has been engaged, and how it could be addressed. Students will write a critical analysis of a

specific issue that could be engaged using applied anthropology approaches and methods. The issue analysis will summarize theory and methods discussed in relevant publications, critique approaches, and indicate opportunities and barriers. In order to explore the selected issue student will utilize select applied anthropology methods introduced in class.

### **Organizational Analysis (30%)**

This assignment will address an organization that engages the issue identified in the issue analysis. The organizational analysis will utilize original research based on applied anthropology methods to explore an organizations culture (values, mission, goals, policies, funding, etc.) and to propose applied anthropology research that may provide the organization with strategies to address a major issue based on select literature.

### **Career Plan and Portfolio— Undergraduate (15%) Graduate (10%)**

This assignment will build upon the issue and organizational analysis, personalizing the student's specific career plan. The career plan will include a step-by-step action plan for the transition from education to profession, including a fundraising and capacity building strategy. Additionally, the career plan will be complemented by a portfolio of relevant work, such as a resume and sample letter of inquiry.

### **Extra Credit**

Extra credit can be earned by attending and summarizing pre-approved lectures in anthropology or participating in approved service projects and writing a reflection paper. A good report or reflection paper should be 2-3 pages long and include a summary sufficiently detailed to show that you attended the entire lecture or the service experience. Further, you should relate the lecture or service to specific topics covered in class, using appropriate terminology. An extra credit report may earn up to 1 point maximum. You can do up to 5 extra credit papers, potentially earning a maximum of 5 extra credit points or 5% of the course grade.

## Course Outline

### Part 1: Applying Anthropological Research

March 30: Course Overview

See website of the National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (NAPA)

<https://www.practicinganthropology.org>

See website of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SFAA)

<http://www.sfaa.net/>

April 1: Ethics

American Anthropological Association Code of Ethics

<http://www.aaanet.org/committees/ethics/ethcode.htm>

Ervin, Alexander M.

2005 Chapter 3: Ethics in Applied Research and Practice. Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 30-43. Boston: Pearson.

April 6: History of Applied Anthropology

Ervin, Alexander M.

2005 Chapter 1: Orientations to an Anthropology of Policy and Practice. Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 1-13. Boston: Pearson.

Ervin, Alexander M.

2005 Chapter 2: A Brief History of Applied Anthropology. Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 14-29. Boston: Pearson.

April 8: Overview of Applied Anthropology Projects in Action

Kedia, Satish

2008 Recent Changes and Trends in the Practice of Applied Anthropology. NAPA Bulletin 29: 14-28.

Reed, Michael C.

1997 Nine Contemporary Anthropological Work Roles. NAPA Bulletin 17: 11-28.

**Journal 1 Due**

## Part 2: Applied Anthropology Methods

April 13: Theory and Practice

*Undergraduates read Nader, Hill and Lassiter pp. 1-47; graduates Nader, Hill and Lassiter read pp. 1-76.*

Hill, Carole.

2000 Strategic Issues for Rebuilding a Theory and Practice Synthesis. NAPA Bulletin 18: 1-16.

Lassiter, Luke Eric

2005 Part 1: History and Theory. The Chicago Guide to Collaborative Ethnography. Pp. 1-76. London: The University of Chicago Press.

Nader, Laura

2000 Preface to NAPA Bulletin 18. NAPA Bulletin 18: v-vii.

April 15: Participatory Research

Baba, Marietta L.

2000 Theories of Practice in Anthropology: A Critical Appraisal. NAPA Bulletin 18: 17-45.

Ervin, Alexander M.

2005 Chapter 15: Participatory Research. Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 219-233. Boston: Pearson.

## Issue Analysis Proposal Due

April 20: Interview Techniques

Ervin, Alexander M.

2005 Chapter 11: Ethnography: Participant Observation and Key-Informant Interviewing. Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 160-174. Boston: Pearson.

Ervin, Alexander M.

2005 Chapter 12: Focus Groups and Other Group-Interviewing Techniques. Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 175-188. Boston: Pearson.

Ervin, Alexander M.  
 2005 Chapter 13: Quantification through Social Indicators and Questionnaires. *Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 189-206. Boston: Pearson.

Ervin, Alexander M.  
 2005 Chapter 14: Rapid Assessment Procedures. *Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pp. 207-218. Boston: Pearson.

April 22: Issue and Organizational Analysis Workshop

*Undergraduates read pp. 79-116; graduates read pp. 79-154.*

Lassiter, Luke Eric  
 2005 Part 2: Practice. *The Chicago Guide to Collaborative Ethnography*. Pp. 79-154. London: The University of Chicago Press.

## **Journal 2 Due**

### **Part 3: Careers in Applied Anthropology**

#### *Environmental*

April 27: Doug Deur, Associate Research Scientist, Portland State University

Gilden, Jennier.  
 2008 Small Fish in a Big Pond: An Applied Anthropologist in Natural Resource Management. *NAPA Bulletin* 29: 41-55.

Moran, Emilio F.  
 2000 Theory and Practice in Environmental Anthropology. *NAPA Bulletin* 18: 132-147.

April 29: Jorge Recharte, Director, Andean Program, The Mountain Institute (from Lima, Peru)

Stonich, Susan C.  
 2005 Enhancing Community-Based Tourism Development and Conservation in the Western Caribbean. *NAPA Bulletin* 23: 77-97.

## **Organizational Analysis Proposal Due**

*Development*

May 4: Don Messerschmidt, Development Anthropologist/Writer

Fall, Wendy Wilson

2001 Reflection on Ethics Working in International Development.  
NAPA Bulletin 19: 82-85.

Maynard-Tucker, Gisele

2008 Becoming an International Consultant. NAPA Bulletin 29: ` 181-194.

**Issue Analysis Due***Heritage/Cultural Resource Management*

May 6: Doug Wilson, Adjunct Associate Professor of Anthropology,  
Portland State University/Archaeologist, Fort Vancouver

Fiske, Shirley J.

2008 Working for the Federal Government: Anthropology Careers.  
NAPA Bulletin 29: 110-131.

Newmann, Sanford

2001 Chapter 1—Professional Archeology: An Overview.

May 11: Paul Solimano, Willamette Cultural Resources Associates, Ltd.  
Roy Watters, Willamette Cultural Resources Associates,  
Ltd./Department of Anthropology, Portland State University

Newmann, Sanford

2001 Chapter 2—Laws, Regulations, and Guidelines.

*Medical*

May 13: Susan Rosenkranz, Medical Anthropologist, Oregon Health and  
Sciences University  
Jennifer Poat, Medical Anthropologist, Oregon Health and  
Sciences University

Baer, Hans and Merrill Singer

2009 A Disturbed Planet: Heat Stress, Pollutants and  
Environmental Diseases. Global Warming and the Political Ecology  
of Health. Pp. 87-108. Walnut Creek: Left Coast Press, Inc.

Singer, Merrill, Tom Stopka, Susan Shaw, Claudia Santelices, David Buchanan, Wei Teng, Kaveh Khooshnood, and Robert Heimer  
 2005 Lessons from the Field: From Research to Application in the Fight Against AIDS among Injection Drug Users in Three New England Cities. *Human Organization* 64(2): 179-192.

*Consumer*

May 18: Ken Rubin, Culinary Director, Art Institute of Portland

Homada, Tomoko  
 2000 Anthropological Praxis: Theory of Business Organization. *NAPA Bulletin* 18: 79-104.

Squires, Susan E.  
 2005 Telecommunication-Product Meaning and Use: Two Examples of Needs Assessment. *NAPA Bulletin* 24: 79-88.

*Military*

May 20

Lucas, George R.  
 2009 Assessing the Moral Challenges of Military Anthropology. *Anthropologists in Arms: The Ethics of Military Anthropology*. Pp. 1-24. Lanham, Maryland: AltaMira Press.

Lucas, George R.  
 2009 Ethics and the "Human Terrain." *Anthropologists in Arms: The Ethics of Military Anthropology*. Pp. 103-130. Lanham, Maryland: AltaMira Press.

**Organizational Analysis Due  
 Journal 3 Due**

**Part 4: Applied Anthropology Job Skills**

May 25: Fundraising and Proposal Writing

May 27: Letters, Resume, and Other Things to Know

Briller, Sherylyn H. and Amy Goldmacher

2009 Understanding Your Ideal Job: The Anthropological Job Search Exercise. Designing an Anthropology Career: Professional Development Exercises. Pp. 103-109. Lanham, Maryland: AltaMira Press.

Briller, Sherylyn H. and Amy Goldmacher  
2009 Representing Yourself Professionally as an Anthropologist: The Introduction Exercise. Designing an Anthropology Career: Professional Development Exercises. Pp. 110-113. Lanham, Maryland: AltaMira Press.

Briller, Sherylyn H. and Amy Goldmacher  
2009 Representing Yourself in a Summary Document: The Resume Exercise. Designing an Anthropology Career: Professional Development Exercises. Pp. 114-122. Lanham, Maryland: AltaMira Press.

Briller, Sherylyn H. and Amy Goldmacher  
2009 Representing Your Body of Work: The Portfolio Exercise. Designing an Anthropology Career: Professional Development Exercises. Pp. 123-140. Lanham, Maryland: AltaMira Press.

June 1: Student Presentations

June 3: Student Presentations

**June 8: No Class (instructor available)**

**June 10: Career Plan and Portfolio Due  
(12:00 pm in Anthropology Baskets)**

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Day	Date	Month	Readings to be discussed, assignments due, etc.
1	T	30	March	See website of the National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (NAPA) <a href="https://www.practicinganthropology.org">https://www.practicinganthropology.org</a> See website of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SFAA) <a href="http://www.sfaa.net/">http://www.sfaa.net/</a>
	TR	1	April	Read: AAA Code of Ethics; Ervin (Chapter 3)
2	T	6		Read: Ervin (Chapter 1); Ervin (Chapter 2)
	TR	8		Read: Kedia; Reed Due: Journal 1
3	T	13		Read: <i>Hill; Lassiter; Nader</i>
	TR	15		Read: Baba and Ervin (Chapter 15) Due: Issue Analysis Proposal
4	T	20		Read: Ervin (Chapter 11); Ervin (Chapter 12); Ervin (Chapter 13); Ervin (Chapter 14)
	TR	22		<i>Read: Lassiter</i> Due: Journal 2
5	T	27		Read: Gilden; Moran
	TR	29		Read: Stonich Due: Issue Analysis Due: Organizational Analysis Proposal
6	T	4	May	Read: Fall; Maynard-Tucker
	TR	6		Read: Fiske; Newmann (Chapter 1)
7	T	11		Read: Newmann (Chapter 2)

	TR	13		Read: Baer and Singer; Singer et al
<b>8</b>	T	18		Read: Homada; Squires
	TR	20		Read: Lucas; Lucas Due: Organizational Analysis Due: Journal 3
<b>9</b>	T	25		TBD
	TR	27		Read: Briller and Goldmacher (Chapters 10-13)
<b>10</b>	T	1	June	Presentations
	TR	3		Presentations
<b>11</b>	T	8		No Class (Instructor Available)
	TR	10		Due: Career Plan and Portfolio

*Italics: undergraduates read selected literature (see class-by-class description) or choose; graduates read all.*