

Anthropology Advising Newsletter

October 2013 for Spring 2014

- Special courses
- General advice
- Fieldschool/internship opportunities



Special Course Offerings for Spring 2014

ANTH 491/690 Ethnographies of Africa and the African Diaspora

Dr. Timothy Landry, T/Th 11-12:15

For decades Western media, popular culture, and even scholarship has focused on Africa as a continent that is riddled in war, overcome by poverty, defined by catastrophe, and stuck in the “traditional past” unable to achieve “modernity.” *But what if the Africa you knew was a continent of vibrancy; a modern place with highways and skyscrapers? What if the Africa you knew was a continent of endless riches and unbelievable diversity? What if the story of Africa that you have been told your entire lives – the story of war, violence, and poverty – was only part of Africa’s truth?*

In this course we will examine the racial, political, and economic dangers of what Nigerian novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie has called the “danger of the single story.” We will explore Africa’s rich history – not as a single place with a single history – but as a place with many stories and many truths. While we will examine critically Africa’s longstanding association with poverty, war, and violence we will also add to your story of Africa by exploring topics such as religion, gender, sexuality, and personhood. Using ethnographic research, memoirs, current events, and literature we will integrate the usefulness and challenges of ethnography as a genre while also consciously working to move beyond the single story of Africa.

ANTH 391 Edible Anthropology

Jayme L. Job, M/W/F 3:00-3:50

What’s for dinner? Surely, the answer to this question will be quite different for the Midwestern college student and the Nepali Sherpa, but why? Food is central to most people’s daily lives, whether we recognize it or not. Food has the power to sustain and nourish our physical bodies and create both connections and boundaries between human groups. Throughout history, food has played an enormous role in the economies, religions, and interactions of cultural groups.

What, where, and how to eat influences our ideas about place and our cultural identities, highlighting a very important aspect of human diversity. Using food as our medium, this course will examine the interplay between human culture and the production, preparation, and consumption of the foods we eat. Each week of the course focuses on an important anthropological theme explored through the lens of food while we share experiences, ideas and yes, even food, from our own edible adventures.



More special courses on page 2!

Wondering where we are now? The anthropology faculty offices and laboratories are now located in 428 Minard Hall.



For all other
courses offered in
spring, see Campus
Connection

ANTH 491/690 Traveling Cultures: Tourism, Heritage, Communities

Dr. Joy Sather-Wagstaff, T/TH 12:30-1:45

What does mean to be a tourist? What does it mean to be a touree? How does tourism and all of its associated sociocultural practices - photography, shopping, eating, souvenir collection, thrill-seeking, etc. - shape the lives, identities and economies of people around the world, both those who travel and those whose communities are toured?

This course provides a critical overview of the anthropology of tourism and interdisciplinary tourism studies. We focus on the historical emergence of travel for leisure up through the contemporary sociocultural/economic impacts of tourism worldwide, both positive and negative. Deep inquiry into cultural heritage and local-to-global community impacts will be facilitated by exploring case studies on ecotourism, dark tourism, pilgrimage, world fairs, "voluntourism," Olympic tourism, and museums as recreational and educational tourist sites.

One-time online course offerings for Spring 2014:

ANTH 391 Archaeology and Popular Culture

Dr. Joshua Samuels, online-only

This course examines the intersection between archaeology and popular culture. What do mass market stereotypes about archaeology and archaeologists tell us about the discipline, and about our society? How do these popular perceptions of archaeology influence our understanding of the past? What symbolic role do archaeological sites, artifacts, and landscapes play in recreation, consumer culture, and national identity? And how should archaeology, as a profession and academic discipline, respond to the needs and market desires of the public? This course will address these exciting (and often controversial) questions through close readings of scholarly works, and analyses of films, video games, print media, and television programs.



ANTH 453 Magic & Religion

Dr. Joshua Samuels, online-only

This course will introduce students to a cross-cultural, comparative perspective on religious practice and belief. It will examine a number of religious traditions and explore anthropological debates about the concepts of religion, ritual, identity, faith, and secularism. Moreover, it will explore the relationship of religion to politics, society, economics, colonialism, and the disciplinary practice of anthropology. Understanding these relationships will be especially important in determining why religions, or domains of the sacred, exist in so many cultures and societies throughout the world.

Advising Week for begins October 28. It is highly recommended that you arrange to meet with your advisor if any of the following apply:

- You are a new major
- You have never met with your advisor
- You want course advice not related to GenEd courses
- You are struggling academically
- You want information on the process of applying for field schools or internships
- You need career advice



Need General Education Requirements Help?

Contact the AHSS College Advisor, Linda Fricker at Linda.Fricker@ndsu.edu for an appointment. She is our resident expert at helping with GenEd requirements and has access to all student records. Her office is located in Minard 204B inside the Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences office suite.

Course Sequence Advice

FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES

- If you have not yet taken ANTH 111, do so in the spring (several in-class sections plus online course options) or summer (online only); likewise, if you have not taken SOC 110, do so (several in-class sections and online.)
- You need to take ANTH 111 and SOC 110 **before you take** your two 200 level ANTH courses, The 200 level courses must be taken **before you take** your 3-400 level elective ANTH courses (3-400 level courses are best taken in your sophomore/junior/senior year after all lower-division core courses are completed.) Some upper-level courses now have enforced pre-requisites.. Note: 208 Folklore and Culture will no longer be offered.
- Fill the remainder of your schedule with General Education and AHSS College requirements courses.



JUNIORS

- If you have not yet completed ANTH 111, SOC 110 and your two 200-level anthro core courses, do so before taking upper-level courses
- You must take the required advanced-level writing course (choose one of these based upon your interests): ENGL 358 Writing in the Humanities/Social Sciences, ENGL 324 Writing in the Sciences, ENGL 320 Business and Professional Writing, ENGL 459 Research in Writing Grants and Proposals
- If you have completed your core lower-division ANTH courses (100-200 level), enroll in the 3-400 level ANTH courses for your major electives.
- Talk to your advisor about a fieldschool or internship for the summer before your senior year. Hands-on experience is highly recommended and we can match you with an opportunity that meets your interests.

SENIORS (OR ANYONE PLANNING TO GRADUATE IN MAY 2014 OR DECEMBER 2014)

- You must plan to take ANTH 498 Senior Capstone (offered during fall only).
- If you have not taken the upper-level writing course and are required to do so (you enrolled or re-enrolled at NDSU Fall 07 or later), do so (see Juniors section.)
- Take some of the 3-400 level elective courses offered.
- Run a Graduation Degree Audit via Campus Connection to ensure that you are on track.

Fieldschools and Internship Opportunities



Why do a fieldschool or internship? In today's competitive job marketplace more and more employers require hands-on, applied experience, even for entry-level positions. In addition, if your goal is to pursue graduate school, these experiences are valuable in terms of your competitiveness when applying to schools. Likewise, those who wish to work internationally, be it for a corporation, a not-for-profit or a service program such as the Peace Corps, experience abroad is invaluable. You should discuss choosing a fieldschool or internship with your advisor as we can set up Field Experience or Internship credits for these towards your degree.

Anthropology students have attended archaeological fieldschools in England, Ireland, Alabama, and Samoa. Others have attended cultural/ethnographic fieldschools in Peru and Malta, primate ecology programs in Nicaragua, and a mortuary analysis fieldschool in Poland. Take a look at the featured options to the right – some have links (in blue) – and we also post announcements in the hall outside of the main Department of Sociology and Anthropology office suite.

Archaeology:

Belize, Maya sites

<http://www.bvar.org/fieldwork.htm>

Ireland, Achill Island

<http://www.achill-fieldschool.com/>

Peru, Hualcayan and Pariamarca sites

<http://www.piaraperu.org/hualcayanfieldschool.php>

Internships search engine

<http://www.archaeologyfieldwork.com/AFW>

Fieldschools search via Shovelbums

<http://shovelbums.net/index.php/view-field-schools>

Ethnographic methods and internships:

Guatemala, Lake Atitlan

<http://faculty.chass.ncsu.edu/wallace/>

Peru, Center for Social Well-being

<http://www.socialwellbeing.org/FieldSchool2003-1.htm>

National Parks Service

<http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/jobsforstudents.htm>

Featured International Internship Opportunity: Kalu Yala, Panama



Kalu Yala is a sustainable community that will be built in the mountains about 45 minutes outside Panama City, Panama. Working to build a truly sustainable community, Kalu Yala is based around new urbanism architecture, organic food, wellness, recreation, education, preservation, and conservation of the natural environment. The internship program allows students and young professionals to come to Panama and gain cultural exposure, work experience, and knowledge in order to create a project that will ultimately help shape this sustainable community. Spanish language skills are not required.

Programs take place in 3 venues: creating the town's foundation in Kalu Yala; creating relationships in the neighboring town of San Miguel; and working on business logistics in Panama City. Some recent program projects include:

- Multisite water testing followed by water purification feasibility study (both for Kalu Yala and the neighboring town of San Miguel which currently does not have potable water)
- Designing, planting and taking care of 2-acre permaculture farm with the aid of expert Stephen Brooks.
- Teaching English, art classes and after school sports and science clubs in 4 schools in rural Panama.
- Working with the local health facilities to host health seminars and bring in experts to the rural town of San Miguel
- Identification and database creation of native insects and plants

2014 semester dates:

Spring: January 13th- April 4th

Summer: May 19th- August 1st

Fall: September 1st- November 14th

For more information or to apply, go to <http://www.kaluyala.com/wiky/>