

AN316 01: **Economic Anthropology**

Fall Term, 2000: Monday, Wednesday 2:30 – 3:45 pm, JH 201

Instructor: Eriberto P. Lozada Jr.

Office: Anthropology Program, JH 349A

Office Hours: M, W, F 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, and by appointment

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Economic anthropology looks at money, markets, the exchange of goods, and other phenomena processes as social and cultural phenomena. This course examines a variety of economic theoretical frameworks and how the production, distribution, and consumption of economic goods and services relate to networks of social relations, structures, of exchange, relations of power, and other socio-political structures. Topics include cultural ecology, markets, economic development, and globalization. A diverse set of ethnographic studies will feature such varied examples as McDonalds in China, the international African art market, and the World Bank.

The anthropological perspective is largely a “bottom-up,” comparative examination of particular social processes, and is presented in the form of ethnographic monographs and articles that describe everyday life in detail. The main question that we will be addressing throughout the seminar is to what extent are economic phenomena such as money, development, or business practices universal (things that can be understood outside of specific social and cultural environments) or particularistic (things that can only be understood from the perspective of specific social and cultural circumstances).

Course Readings

Required Texts:

Wilk, Richard R. 1996. *Economies and Cultures: Foundations of Economic Anthropology*. Boulder: Westview Press. Paperback, ISBN: 0813320585.

Geertz, Clifford 1963. *Agricultural Involution: The Process of Ecological Change in Indonesia*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Paperback, ISBN: 0520004590.

Steiner, Christopher B. 1994. *African Art in Transit*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Paperback, ISBN: 0521457521.

Escobar, Arturo 1995. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Paperback, ISBN: 0691001022.

Watson, James L. ed. 1997. *Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. Paperback, 0804732058.

In addition to the above books, various articles will be required. One set of these articles will be available for students at the library and another will be available from the instructor.

Course Requirements

This course is not an introduction to anthropology, and students are expected to have either a background in social theory or a willingness to learn it from the ethnographic material. Participation in class discussion will also be essential in this seminar, as indicated in the grading breakdown.

Each student will write five (5) response papers, one page and double-spaced. **Response papers are worth 15%** of the final grade. They are individually ungraded and require only timely submission for full credit. See the handout for more information.

There will be a **12-15 page term-paper worth 40%** of the final grade due in my office at JH 349A at **5:00 pm, 3 December 2000**. Topics will be selected by each student, but must be discussed with the instructor prior to 25 September 2000. An ethnography outside those assigned in the course, original field research material, or other data must form the core of this research paper. A **draft of the research paper (no less than 7 pages and bibliography) worth 10%** of the final grade must be turned in at class on **6 November 2000**.

Students will also make two in-class scheduled presentations of the course material. **Student presentations are worth 15%** of the final grade.

Participation in classroom discussions will be worth 20% of the final grade. Active participation requires that each student come to class prepared, having read the assigned material before class.

“Plagiarism is the fraudulent misrepresentation of any part of another person’s work as one’s own. Submitting any writing, including take-home exams, that does not properly acknowledge the quoting or paraphrasing of another person’s words, or that fails to give proper credit for another person’s ideas, opinion, or theory is plagiarism. Any unacknowledged use of sources to which one is indebted including but not limited to are music, video, audio, theatre projects, compositions, and computer software constitutes plagiarism.” – Butler University Student Handbook 1999-2000, pg. 92.

It is the policy and practice of Butler University to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification from Student Disability Services is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow two weeks notice. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be received on a timely basis. If you have questions about Student Disability Services, you may wish to contact Michele Atterson, JH 136, ext. 9308.

Class Schedule (subject to modification)

23 Aug	Seminar Introduction
28 Aug	Theoretical Overview Reading: Wilk: Chapter 1, p. 1-26 Polanyi article, Scott article
30 Aug	Reading: Wilk: Chapter 2, p. 27-41
4 Sep	Labor Day -- no class
6 Sep	Reading: Wilk: Chapter 3 Plattner article Assignment: Response Paper Due
11 Sep	Reading: Wilk: Chapter 4 Sahlins article
13 Sep	Reading: Wilk Chapter 5, Chapter 6 Guyer article
18 Sep	Cultural Ecology Reading: Geertz: Chapter 1, Chapter 2, p. 1-37
20 Sep	Reading: Geertz: Chapter 3, Chapter 4, p. 38-82
25 Sep	Reading: Geertz: Chapter 5, p. 83-123 Assignment: Paper Topic Due
27 Sep	Reading: Geertz: Chapter 6, 124-154 Assignment: Response Paper Due
2 Oct	Commodities and Value Reading: Appadurai article
4 Oct	Reading: Steiner: Introduction, Chapter 1, p. 1-39
9 Oct	Reading: Steiner: Chapter 2, Chapter 3, p. 40-79
11 Oct	Reading: Steiner: Chapter 4, Chapter 5, p. 80-129
16 Oct	Reading: Steiner: Chapter 6, Conclusion, p. 130-164 Assignment: Response Paper Due
18 Oct	Development and Globalization Reading: Escobar, Chapter 1, Chapter 2, p. 3-54
23 Oct	Reading: Escobar, Chapter 3, p. 55-101
25 Oct	Reading: Escobar, Chapter 4, p. 102-153
30 Oct	Reading: Escobar, Chapter 5, Chapter 6, p. 154-226 Assignment: Response Paper Due
1 Nov	Consumption Reading: Miller article, Weismantel article Watson, Introduction, p. 1-38

6 Nov	Reading: Watson, Chapter 1, Chapter 2, p. 39-109 Assignment: Paper Draft Due
8 Nov	Reading: Watson, Chapter 3, Chapter 4, p. 110-160
13 Nov	Reading: Watson, Chapter 5, Afterword, p. 161-202
15 Nov	No Class -- AAA meetings
27 Nov	Assignment: Student Presentations
29 Nov	Assignment: Student Presentations Response Paper Due
4 Dec	Assignment: Research Papers Due
6 Dec	General Discussion/ Seminar Wrap-up