



UNIwersYTET
IM. ADAMA MICKIEWICZA
W POZNANIU

Theory and Methods (General topics: module 2)

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Study programme Etnologia (Cultural Differences and Transnational Processes) Speciality - Organizational unit Faculty of Anthropology and Cultural Studies Study level Second-cycle programme Study form Full-time Education profile General academic		Didactic cycle 2024/25 Subject code 20ETES.21N.10215.24 Lecture languages English Course type Obligatory Block Subjects not assigned
Subject coordinator	Małgorzata Kowalska	
Lecturer	Robert Rydzewski	
Period Semester 1	Activities and hours • Conversatory classes: 30, Exam	Number of ECTS points 5

Goals

Code	Goal
C1	This is an introductory course in anthropological theories and methods for CREOLE students. Its main aim is to introduce the students to the key theoretical problems addressed by anthropology; classic works and different anthropological traditions; and methods used during fieldwork.

Subject learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Learning outcomes	Examination methods
Knowledge - Student:			
W1	Have knowledge of the main theoretical perspectives and debates in anthropology	ETE_K2_W01, ETE_K2_W02, ETE_K2_W03, ETE_K2_W04	Essay, Multimedia presentation
W2	Have knowledge of the ethnographic theory and method, as well as of participatory observations and other methods used within the discipline	ETE_K2_W02, ETE_K2_W03, ETE_K2_W04, ETE_K2_W06, ETE_K2_W07	Essay, Multimedia presentation
Skills - Student:			
U1	Develop ability to engage with academic literature and scholarly debates in the field	ETE_K2_U02, ETE_K2_U05, ETE_K2_U06	Essay, Multimedia presentation
U2	Work on designing her own fieldwork and MA project	ETE_K2_U05, ETE_K2_U06, ETE_K2_U08, ETE_K2_U09	Essay

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject learning outcomes	Activities
1.	Key theoretical approaches in anthropology in historical perspective	W1, U1, U2	Conversatory classes
2.	Key methods in the discipline in historical perspective, including ethnography and participant observation	W2, U1, U2	Conversatory classes
3.	Designing fieldwork	W1, W2, U1, U2	Conversatory classes

Additional information

Activities	Teaching and learning methods and activities
Conversatory classes	Conversation lecture, Discussion, Work with text, Work in groups

Activities	Credit conditions
Conversatory classes	Active participation in the class discussions, knowledge of the readings, class presentation and essay

Literature

Obligatory

1. Week 2: Brief history Barnard, A. (2004 [2000]) 'Visions of Anthropology' in A. Barnard History and Theory in Anthropology, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1-14 Eriksen, T. H. (2015 [1995]) 'Introduction: Comparison and Context' and 'A Brief History of Anthropology' in T. H. Eriksen Small Places, Large Issues. An Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology, London: Pluto Press, 1-8 & 9-23 Miner, H. (1956) 'Body Ritual Among the Nacirema' in American Anthropologist 58 (3), 503-507
2. Week 3: Malinowski & participant observation Malinowski, B. 1961 [1922] 'Introduction. The Subject, Method and Scope of this Inquiry, 11-23' & 'Chapter I. The Country and Inhabitants of the Kula District', 24-35 in Argonauts of the Western Pacific. New York: EP Dutton
3. Week 4: Geertz & interpretative anthropology Geertz, C. (1972) 'Deep play. Notes on the Balinese Cockfight' in Daedalus Vol. 101, No. 1, Myth, Symbol, and Culture, 1-37 Geertz, C. (1973) 'Thick Description: Toward an Interpretative Theory of Culture' in The Interpretation of Cultures: Selected Essays. New York: Basic Books
4. Week 5-7: Marxism, postcolonialism, feminist critique Roseberry W. (1982) 'Balinese Cockfights and the Seduction of Anthropology' in: Social Research, Vol. 49, No. 4, 1013-28 Asad, T. (ed.) (1998 [1973]) 'Introduction' and 'Two European Images in Non-European Rule' in: Anthropology and the Colonial Encounter, Amherst: NY Humanity Books (first published by London: Ithaca Press and Atlantic Highlands, N.J.: Humanities Press) 9-19; 103-18 Said, E. (1978) 'Knowing the Oriental' in: Orientalism
5. Week 8-11: Writing (against) culture Lila Abu-Lughod (1991) 'Writing Against Culture' in: R. G. Fox (ed.), Recapturing Anthropology: Working in the Present, 466-479 Anderson, B. (2006 [1983]) Imagined Communities. London and New York: Verso Clifford, J. (2001) 'Indigenous Articulations' in The Contemporary Pacific, Volume 13, Number 2, 468-490 Hanson, A. (1989) 'The Making of the Maori: Culture Invention and Its Logic' in American Anthropologist, New Series, Vol. 91, No. 4, 890-902
6. Week 12-14: Fieldwork today Fortun, K (2012) 'Ethnography in Late Industrialism' in Cultural Anthropology, vol. 27, nr 3, 446-464 TallBear, K. (2014) 'Standing with and speaking as faith: A feminist-indigenous approach to inquiry [Research note] Journal of Research Practice 10 (2), Article N17, 1-7 Scheper-Hughes, N. (1995) 'The Primacy of the Ethical: Propositions for a Militant Anthropology' Current Anthropology 36, no. 3: 409-440.
7. Week 15: Anthropocene Steffen W., Grinevald J., Crutzen P., McNeill J. (2011) 'The Anthropocene: conceptual and historical perspectives' in Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, A: 396, 842-867 Tsing, A (2013) 'More-than-human sociality: a call for critical description' in K. Hastrup (ed.), Anthropology and nature. New York and London: Routledge, 27-42

Optional

1. Wolf, E. (2010) [1982] 'Introduction' in Europe and the People Without History Berkeley: University of California Press
2. Behar, R. (1995) 'Introduction' in R. Behar and Deborah A. Gordon (eds.) Women Writing Culture. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1-29 <https://www.ladyscience.com/feminist-anthropology/no27>
3. Marcus G. and M. Fisher (1999 [1986]) 'Introduction' and 'A Crisis of Representation in the Human Sciences' in: Anthropology as Cultural Critique. An Experimental Moment in the Human Sciences, Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press
4. Gupta, Akhil, Ferguson, James (1992) "Beyond 'Culture': Space, Identity, and the Politics of Difference" Cultural Anthropology, Vol. 7, No. 1, p. 6-23
5. Tsing, A. (2000) 'The global situation' in Cultural Anthropology Vol. 15, No. 3, 327-360
6. Marcus, G. (1995) 'Ethnography in/of the world systems. The emergence of multi-sited ethnography' in Annual Review of Anthropology, Vol. 24, 95-117
7. Nader, L. (2011) 'Ethnography as Theory' in HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory 1 (1): 211-219

Calculation of ECTS points

Activities	Activity hours*
Conversatory classes	30
Reading the indicated literature	60
Preparation of a multimedia presentation	20

Preparation for the assessment	35
Student workload	Hours 145
Number of ECTS points	ECTS 5

* academic hour = 45 minutes

Efekty uczenia się dla kierunku

Kod	Treść
ETE_K2_U02	The graduate can independently carry out complex research tasks, including analyzing other authors' works, synthesizing various ideas and viewpoints, selecting methods and constructing research tools, and preparing and presenting results in the field of ethnology/cultural anthropology
ETE_K2_U05	The graduate can conduct in-depth and critical analysis and interpretation of various types of cultural products and fields, using original approaches that consider the latest trends in ethnology/cultural anthropology and new achievements in the humanities and social sciences
ETE_K2_U06	The graduate can substantiate arguments, formulate conclusions, and create synthetic summaries of selected problems using their own views and the views of other authors
ETE_K2_U08	The graduate can competently prepare complex written works in the field of ethnology/cultural anthropology
ETE_K2_U09	The graduate can competently prepare complex presentations on issues of interest in ethnology/cultural anthropology or in areas at the intersection of various scientific disciplines
ETE_K2_W01	The graduate knows and understands in-depth subject matter and methodology of ethnology/cultural anthropology and its creative applications in professional activities
ETE_K2_W02	The graduate knows and understands in depth the specialized terminology of ethnology/cultural anthropology as well as the terminology appropriate for disciplines related to ethnology/cultural anthropology
ETE_K2_W03	The graduate knows and understands in-depth theoretical and methodological knowledge in the field of ethnology/cultural anthropology
ETE_K2_W04	The graduate knows and understands the principles of anthropological interpretation of cultural phenomena in a systematic and in-depth manner
ETE_K2_W06	The graduate knows and understands in-depth contemporary achievements, centers, and research schools covering selected areas of ethnology/cultural anthropology and related sciences
ETE_K2_W07	The graduate knows and understands specialized methods of analysis, interpretation, evaluation, and problematization characteristic of selected traditions, theories, and research schools in the field of ethnology/cultural anthropology and related sciences