

More-than-human perspective in ecological anthropology

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Study programme Etnologia (Cultural Differences and Transnational Processes)		Didactic cycle 2024/25
Speciality -		Subject code 20ETES.2FN.15530.24
Organizational unit Faculty of Anthropology and Cultural Studies		Lecture languages English
Study level Second-cycle programme		Course type Elective
Study form Full-time		Block Subjects not assigned
Education profile General academic		
Subject coordinator	Małgorzata Kowalska	
Lecturer	Małgorzata Kowalska	
Periods Semester 1, Semester 2, Semester 3, Semester 4	Activities and hours • Conversatory classes: 30, Graded credit	Number of ECTS points 5

Goals

Code	Goal
C1	The course is an introduction to the more-than-human perspective in ecological anthropology and environmental humanities. It discusses key figures, publications and research within the approach.

Entry requirements

Students should have good command of English and be interested in environmental studies.

Subject learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Learning outcomes	Examination methods
Knowledge - Student:			
W1	is familiar with the main assumptions, objectives and implications of applying the research perspective presented	ETE_K2_W03, ETE_K2_W04, ETE_K2_W05, ETE_K2_W09	Project
W2	is familiar with examples of research conducted within the framework of a more-than-human perspective	ETE_K2_W03, ETE_K2_W04, ETE_K2_W05, ETE_K2_W09	Project
Skills - Student:			
U1	is able to present examples of research conducted within a more-than-human perspective	ETE_K2_U03, ETE_K2_U04, ETE_K2_U06	Project
U2	is able to prepare a dissertation (written and/or graphic) in a creative way referring to the texts and research discussed in class	ETE_K2_U02, ETE_K2_U06, ETE_K2_U08	Project
Social competences - Student:			
K1	identifies contemporary social problems that s/he can analyse from a more-than-human perspective	ETE_K2_K10	Project

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject learning outcomes	Activities
1.	Theory and aims: opening the imagination in times of environmental and social crisis	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1	Conversatory classes
2.	More-than-human methods and ethics	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1	Conversatory classes
3.	Anthropological and interdisciplinary fieldwork	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1	Conversatory classes

Additional information

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

Activities	Credit conditions
Conversatory classes	<p>Students should 1) participate in class discussion of the readings and 2) produce a final project in the form of a more-than-human map.</p> <p>For a grade 5, students should actively participate in class discussion and prepare and discuss an above-average final project (the more-than-human map).</p> <p>To get a 4+, students should actively participate in class discussion and prepare and discuss a very good final assignment (the aforementioned map). Minor errors are acceptable.</p> <p>For a grade 4, students should participate in class discussion and prepare a good final assignment (the map). Some minor errors and mistakes are acceptable.</p> <p>To achieve a grade 3+ or 3, students should try to participate in class discussion and produce a satisfactory final assignment (the map), even with some errors or omissions.</p> <p>A student will fail the course if he/she does not make an effort to read the readings and therefore to participate substantially in class discussion and/or if he/she does not prepare the final project (the map).</p>

Literature

Obligatory

1. Tsing, A. L. 2010. 'Arts of Inclusion, or How to Love a Mushroom'. *Mānoa*, vol. 22, nr 2. Wild Hearts: Literature, Ecology, and Inclusion: 191-203.
2. Mitman G., Haraway D., Tsing A. 2019. Reflections on the Plantationocene: A Conversation with Donna Haraway and Anna Tsing, https://edgeeffects.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/PlantationoceneReflections_Haraway_Tsing.pdf.
3. Tsing, A. L. 2013. 'More-than-Human Sociality: A Call for Critical Description'. In K. Hastrup (ed.), *Anthropology and Nature*, pp. 27-42. London, New York: Routledge.
4. Ingold T. 2013. *Anthropology Beyond Humanity*, Suomen Antropologi: Journal of the Finnish Anthropological Society, vol. 38, nr 3, 5-23
5. Rose, D. B. 2017. 'Shimmer. When All You Love is Being Trashed'. In A. L. Tsing, H. A. Swanson, E. Gan and N. Bubandt (eds), *Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet. Ghosts and Monsters of the Anthropocene*, pp. G51-63. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
6. White, L. Jr. 1967. 'The Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis'. *Science*, Volume 155, Number 3767: 1203-1207. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hic3.12254>.
7. Plumwood, V. 1993. *Feminism and the Mastery of Culture*. London, New York: Routledge.
8. Ghosh, A. 2016. *The Great Derangement. Climate Change and the Unthinkable*. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press.
9. Bawaka Country, Wright S., Suchet-Pearson S., Lloyd K., Burarrwanga L., Ganambarr R., Ganambarr-Stubbs M., Ganambarr B., Maymuru D. 2015. Working with and Learning from Country: Decentering Human Authority, *Cultural Geographies*, vol. 22, nr 2, 269-283.
10. Salmón, E. 2000. 'Kincentric Ecology: Indigenous Perceptions of the Human-Nature Relationship'. *Ecological Applications*, 10.5: 1327-1332.
11. van Dooren, T. and M. Chrulew. 2022. 'World of Kin. An Introduction' to T. van Dooren and M. Chrulew (eds), *Kin. Thinking with Deborah Bird Rose*, pp. 1-14. Durham, London: Durham University Press.
12. Bateson, G. 2000 [1972]. *Steps to an Ecology of Mind*. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press.
13. Strang, V. 2021. 'Envisioning a sustainable future for water'. *AQUA – Water Infrastructure, Ecosystems and Society* 70.4, 404-419

Optional

1. Tsing, A., Swanson, H., Gan, E., and N. Bubandt (eds). 2017. *Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet. Ghosts and Monsters of the Anthropocene*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
2. Tsing, A. L. 2022. 'The Sociality of Birds. Reflections on Ontological Edge Effects'. In T. van Dooren and M. Chrulew (eds), *Kin. Thinking with Deborah Bird Rose*, pp. 15-31. Durham, London: Durham University Press.
3. Rose, D. B. 2011. *Wild dog dreaming. Love and extinction*. Charlottesville and London: University of Virginia Press
4. Rose, D. B. 2007. 'Recursive Epistemologies and an Ethics of Attention'. In J-G. Goulet and B. G. Miller (eds), *Extraordinary Anthropology: Transformations in the Field*, pp. 88-102. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press
5. Stengers, I. 2018. *Another Science is Possible. A Plea for Slow Science*. Cambridge, UK and Medford, USA: Polity Press.

Calculation of ECTS points

Activities	Activity hours*
Conversatory classes	30
Reading the indicated literature	60
Preparation of a project	40
Student workload	Hours 130
Number of ECTS points	ECTS 5

* academic hour = 45 minutes

Efekty uczenia się dla kierunku

Kod	Treść
ETE_K2_K10	The graduate is ready to thoroughly observe and identify the most important moral, political, social, and economic problems of the contemporary world
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_U03	The graduate can independently and in a team, including leading its work, acquire knowledge and enhance research skills, as well as undertake independent actions aimed at lifelong development of their abilities and interests in a critical, creative, entrepreneurial, and ethical manner
ETE_K2_U04	The graduate can integrate knowledge from various disciplines in the field of humanities and social sciences and apply it in situations related to the profession of an ethnologist/cultural anthropologist
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_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_W05	The graduate knows and understands in-depth connections between ethnology/cultural anthropology and various disciplines of humanities and social sciences as well as related sciences, enabling interdisciplinary integration of research perspectives
ETE_K2_W09	The graduate knows and understands in-depth complexity of nature, the complexity of conditions, and the historical variability of language, culture, and society