

COURSE OUTLINE AND SYLLABUS

ANTHROPOLOGY 201 HISTORY and THEORY OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Fall Semester 2009

Boise State University

Dr. Mark G. Plew

7:40-8:55; TTh, ILC 404

INTRODUCTION and OUTCOMES: The History of Anthropology is an introductory historical overview of the events leading to the development of basic concepts, theory and methods in contemporary anthropology. The course seeks to develop an understanding of: **1)** scientific inquiry, **2)** Anthropology and the history of western science, **3)** events in European and American social science debate leading to the emergence of the science of anthropology.

COURSE FORMAT: The course consists of lectures and discussion periods during which time assigned readings will be discussed. Your preparation and participation in these discussions is expected. Your knowledge of the subject matter will be evaluated through examinations, written essays, class participation and the presentation of a biography. Examinations will cover the history of events and significant contributions. Essays will provide you an opportunity to work with the concepts discussed in class. In addition, each student will be assigned the responsibility for preparing and presenting a brief biography of a late 19th or 20th century anthropologist.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS and READINGS:

Kuhn, Thomas S.

1970 *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. International Encyclopedia of Unified Science
Volume 2, Number 2. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Garbarino, Merwyn

1987 *Socio-Cultural Theory in Anthropology: A Short History*.

Cassirer, Ernst

1944 *An Essay on Man*. New Haven: Yale University Press. (sections on reserve)

Bateson, Gregory

1985 *Steps to an Ecology of Mind*. Ballantine: New York. (sections on reserve)

McGee and Warmes

1996 *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*. Mayfield Publishers.

Lett, James

1987 *The Human Enterprise: A Critical Introduction to Anthropological Theory*. Westview Press: Boulder. (sections on reserve)

Recommended Textbooks:

Kaplan, David and Robert Manners

1987 *Culture Theory* (Reprint, but a good little book)

Bohannon, P. and M. Glazer

1973 *Highpoints in Anthropology* (good examples of 19th and early 20th century writing)

Stocking, George

1987 *Victorian Anthropology* (outstanding but detailed review of late 19th century anthropology)

EXAMINATIONS: There will be **four** objective examinations worth 25 points each. The first examine will cover history and philosophy of science, the second, racial scientism and the rise of evolutionary theory, the third, the comparative method and anthropology through the Boasian period, and the fourth the rise of neo-evolutionism. **There will be no make-up exams!** There will be no final exam. You will be given one week notification of each 25 point exam.

REQUIRED ESSAYS: Each student will be required to write two essays that will be 3-5 typewritten pages. The first essay will pertain to the rise of evolutionary theory and the second the emergence of cultural materialism. Essays require a synthetic discussion of various concepts and or theoretical orientations but are not research papers. Essay topics and due dates are included in the course outline. You will have 2 weeks to complete and hand in the essays. A cover of title page should be included and bear the student's name, course number and date in the lower right hand corner. **Late essays will not be accepted.** Each essay will be worth 100 points. **NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW INSTRUCTION YOUR PAPERS WILL BE RETURNED UNGRADED AND YOUR REVISED PAPERS CONSIDERED LATE!** There is one bonus essay worth 20 points pertaining to American diffusionism that is due on November 19st prior to Thanksgiving Break---this is optional.

BIOGRAPHIES:

Each student will be assigned the task of preparing for oral presentation a brief biography of a noted anthropologist. The biographies will be assigned. The presentation should be approximately five minutes in length. These will be interspersed in our discussions as appropriate. The content of the biography should include a history of the individuals' contributions to the field of anthropology. The emphasis will be upon late 19th and 20th century anthropologists. This will be a graded assignment worth 20 points. The points you receive will be added to the total number of points you acquire in the course. I will make the assignments within the first couple weeks of class. You should have the capsules prepared by early October.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Attendance is **required**. If you cannot attend this class promptly and regularly...you should drop the course! **Two (2) unexcused late arrivals** will result in **your grade being lowered by a letter grade**. Your attendance and participation **will be taken into account when I assess your final grade!**

Grading: Grades will be based upon the number of points accumulated from a total of 300. The scale is as follows:

300 - 270 = A

269 - 239 = B

238 - 208 = C

207 - 177 = D

*Points given for the presentation will be added to this total.

Office Hours: T - Th, 10:30 - 12:00 and by appointment. Office--Room 52, Hemingway Western Studies Center. Office Phone - 426-3444; Home Phone - 384-0479; email: mplew@boisestate.edu

Please Note: YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SCHEDULE AT LEAST ONE APPOINTMENT WITH ME BY MID-TERM.

SYLLABUS

WEEK I August 24

Introduction/outline of the History of Western Science.

Required:

M. Garbarino, Sociocultural Theory, Chapter 1
Erickson and Murphy, History of Anthropological Theory, pp. 1-39
T. Kuhn, The Structure of Scientific Revolutions (begin skimming)
J. Jett, The Human Enterprise, Chapters 1-3.

Recommended:

Chapters pertaining to the development of western science in any European History or Western Civilization text. M. Ferris, Coming of Age in the Milky Way.

WEEK II September 1

Anthropology as Social Process/Epistemological Foundations: The Nature of Theory and Explanation.

Required:

T. Kuhn, The Structure of Scientific Revolutions (finish skimming)
G. Bateson, Steps to an Ecology of Mind, pp. 33-50; 73-87. (skim the rest)
E. Cassirer, An Essay on Man, Part I, "What is Man?" pp.1-56 (skim); Part II, "Man and Culture": pp. 207-221 (Science)
J. Lett, The Human Enterprise, Chapters 4, 8.
R. Boyd, "Confirmation, Semantics and the Interpretation of Scientific Theories," In Philosophy of Science pp. 3-23.

Recommended:

Kaplan, The Conduct of Inquiry;
K. Popper, The Logic of Scientific Discovery
D. Kaplan and R. Manners, Culture Theory
P. Berger and T. Luckman, The Social Construction of Reality;
T. Hoppers, "On Explanation," Journal of Philosophy (1946)

Exam 1: History and Philosophy of Science: the Epistemological Foundations of anthropology.

WEEK III: September 8

The Enlightenment"/18th and 19th Century Social Science/ Early Anthropology.

E. Cassirer, Review Part I

G. Stocking, Ch. 2

M. Garbarino, Ch. 2

Review "Early Anthropology" in History of Anthropological Theory by Erickson and Murphy

Recommended:

J. Locke, An Essay Concerning Human Understanding

J. Rousseau, Discourse on the Origin and Foundation of Inequality Among Men and The Social Contract

Spinoza, Ethics

Montesquieu, The Spirit of Laws

Voltaire, Candide

Works of A. Comte; John Mill, G. Hegel; H. T. Buckle; Stocking, Victorian Anthropology, Ch. 1.

WEEK IV-V: September 15/September 22

Racial Determinationism and The Rise of Evolutionary Theory: Spencerism, Evolution, and Evolutionists.

Required:

Garbarino, Ch. 3.

McGee and Warms Ch.1, 3, 2, 4

Recommended:

Appropriate sections in J. Honigman, The Development of Anthropological Theory and E. Voget, A History of Ethnology, Part II.

Also suggest works of Karl Marx as well as review historical overviews in Introductory P. A. and western "civ" texts; Stocking, Victorian Anthropology, Ch. 2, 7.

Essay 1: Write an essay in which you outline the development of evolutionary models in the 19th century. To what extent are these related to the rise of racial determinism.

WEEK VI: September 29

Franz Boas and Historical Particularism.

Required:

P. Bohannon and M. Glazer, High Points in Anthropology, Part II, Chs. 4, 5.
J. Lett, The Human Enterprise, Chapter 5.
McGee and Warms, Ch. 10.

Recommended:

F. Voget, A History of Ethnology, Ch. 9.
Boas, Frank (1948), Race, Culture and Language (essays: 1888); The Central Eskimo, Smithsonian (1911); The Mind of Primitive Man.
G. Stocking, Race, Culture and Evolution. Chs. 9, 10, 11.

WEEK VII: October 6

Kroeber and Lowie and Clark Wissler--European "Kulturkreise" and American Diffusionism

Required:

Garbarino, Ch. 5
McGee and Warms, Chs. 11, 12
Kroeber, A.L.
1917 "The Superorganic," American Anthropologist.
1920 "Totem and Taboo: An Ethnologic Psychoanalysis," American Anthropologist 22:48-55.
1939 Cultural and Natural Areas of Native North American
1944 Configuration of Culture Growth, Berkeley: N.C. Press.

"The Culture Area and Age Area Concepts of Clark Wissler,"
Lowie, R.
1920 Primitive Society.
Wissler, Clark (1917)
1917 The American Indian

Essay 1 is due by October 3!

WEEK VIII October 13

Culture and Personality

Required: McGee and Warms, Ch. 16 and 17

Recommended: R. Benedict, Patterns of Culture, 1934

M. Mead, Coming of Age in Samoa, 1928
C. Kluckhohn, "Southwestern Studies in Culture and Personality" American Anthropologist,
1954
R. Linton, The Cultural Background of Personality, Appleton-Century Craft, 1945
Radin, P., The World of Primitive Man, 1939
Wallace, A.F.C., Culture and Personality, 1962
Review the works of Sigmund Freud--especially Totem and Taboo, 1913

***Bonus Essay: Compare and Contrast the European Concept of “Kulturkrise” with American Diffusionism. This essay is worth 20 points and is due by November 21st.**

WEEK IX: October 20

Ideology, Language and Values/Transition in Interpretation and in Theory

Required:

No Required Reading

Recommended:

P. Bohannon and M. Glazer, High Points in Anthropology, Part 4, Chs. 9,10

Bidney, David (1953) Theoretical Anthropology.
Black, M. "Linguistic Relativity: The Views of Benjamin Lee Whorf" (on reserve)
Sapir, Edward. Selected Writings of Edward Sapir. D.G. Mandelbaum (ed.).
Voegelin, C. "Sociolinguistics, Ethnolinguistics, and Anthropological Linguistics," American Anthropologist 62: 943-965.
Recommended: Lyons, J. Introduction to Theoretical Linguistics, Cambridge, 1968.
Greenberg, J.H., Anthropological Linguistics: An Introduction; Language, Thought and Reality: Selected Writings of Benjamin Lee Whorf (J. B. Carroll (Ed.)

Bloomfield, L. Language, 1933
Hymes, Dell, Reinventing Anthropology, 1972
Suggest reviewing or acquainting yourselves with the works of N. Chomsky, C.F. Hockett, Harry Hoijer, M. Haas, Roman Jakobson, S. Lamb, E. Lenneberg
Melville Herskovitz, Cultural Relativism, 1972
Alexander Lesser, History, Evolution and the Concept of Culture, Selected Papers S. Mintz (ed.).

WEEK X: October 27

French Structuralism

Required:

Lett, The Human Enterprise, Chapter 11.
McGee and Warms, Chs. 6-9.

Recommended:

Levi-Strauss, The Raw and the Cooked (peruse...maybe??).
Bohannon, P. and M. Glazer, High Points in Anthropology, Pt. IV, Chs. 25, 26.
Leach, Edward, Levi Strauss, 1970.
Schultz, Bob (1973), Structured Anthropology of Levi-Strauss in Handbook of Socio-Cultural Anthropology J. Homigman (ed.).
Recommended: Select readings from general bibliography on structuralism, especially Leach, Levi-Strauss and Wallace.

WEEK XI: November 3

British Social Anthropology, Malinowski, Radcliffe-Brown and others-- Structural-Functionalist Approaches

Required:

McGee and Warms 13, 14, 24, 25, 26.
See again, Garbarino

Recommended:

Malinowski, B., Argonauts of the Western Pacific, 1922, Dutton: New York.
The Sexual Lives of Savages in Northwestern Melanesia. London: Rutledge: 1929.
Magic, Science and Religion, N.Y.: Anchor, 1948
Radcliffe-Brown, A.R., Structure and Function in Primitive Society, London: Oxford, 1952.
Evans-Pritchard, E.E., The Nuer, Oxford: Oxford, 1940.
Strongly recommend Essays in Colonial Situation by George Stocking et.al. History of Anthropology Vol. 7, contextualization of ethnographic knowledge.
Recommend review or familiarization with the works of R. Firth, C.D. Forde, M. Fortes, Habitat, Economy and Society (1949) J. Beattie and Lucy Mair.

WEEK XII: November 10

The New Ethnography/Linguistic Analogy- Emic and Etic Approaches/Statistical Survey

Required: Garbarino, Ch. 6.

Recommended:

Pike, K, Language in Relation to a Unified Theory of the Structure of Behavior. Summer Institute of Linguistics: Glendale.
Bennet, J.W., Northern Plainsman, Aldine, 1969.
Spradley, J.P., Owe Yourself a Drunk. Little Brown and Co., 1970.
Lett, The Human Enterprise, Chapter 7.
Driver, H.E., and A. L. Kroeber, 1932. "Qualitative Expression of Cultural Relationships." University of California, Publication in American Archaeology and Ethnology. 31: 24-56.
Driver, H.E. and W.C. Massey, Comparative Studies of North American Indians. Transactions of the American Philosophical Society VLVII, 165-456.
Sturtevant, W. S. "Studies in Ethnoscience," American Anthropologist. 66, pt. 2: 99-131.

WEEK XIII: November 17

Neo Evolutionism Julian Steward and Leslie White; Specific and General

Evolution/Cultural Ecology/Emergence of Cultural Materialism

Required:

McGee and Warms, Chs. 18, 19.

Recommended:

White, Leslie, The Evolution of Culture, 1959 (skim).

Steward, J. Theory of Cultural Change, 1955 (skim); "Economic and Social Basis of Primitive Bands" in Essays in Honor of A.L. Kroeber, U.C. Berkeley (read), 1936; "Cultural Causality and Law: A Trial Formulation of Early Civilization," American Anthropologist 51:1-27.

Sahlins, M. and Elman Service, Evolution and Culture, 1960 UMP, Elman Service, Primitive Social Organization, 1962.

Bohannon, P. and M. Glazer, High Points in Anthropology, Pt. IV, Ch. 27.

Lett, J., The Human Enterprise, Chapter 10.

Harris, Marvin, Cultural Materialism, 1979.

Suggest Reviewing the work of Tylor, Morgan, V. Gordon Childe and contemporary evolutionary ecologists--Bettinger, Winterhalder, Earle, O'Connell, Kaplan, Hill and Hurtado, among others (for more recent perspectives).

Essay 2: Summarize the Contributions of Julian Steward and Leslie White to the Emergence of Cultural Materialism

WEEK XIV-November 24 **Week Long Thanksgiving Holiday Recess**

WEEK XV: December 1

Neo-Evolutionism, Cultural Materialism and The New Archaeology

Required: None

Week XVI-XVII: December 8

History and Beyond: New Approaches/Political Economy/Behavioral Ecology and Interpretive Anthropology.

Required:

Peruse McGee and Warms, Part Four.

Recommended:

Lett, J. The Human Enterprise. Chapter 9.

Keesing, Rodger M. "Theories of Culture" in Annual Review of Anthropology, 1974.

Geertz, Clifford

1973 The Interpretation of Culture.

1983 Local Knowledge: Essays in Interpretive Anthropology.

Turner, Victor and Edward Bruner

1986 The Anthropology of Experience.

Leacock, Eleanor and Richard Lee (eds.)

1982 Politics and History in Band Societies. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Wolf, Eric R.

1982 Europe and the People Without History. UC Press, Berkeley.

Roseberry William

1988 " Political Economy" In *Annual Review of Anthropology* 17.

Chagnon and Irons (eds)

1979 Evolutionary Biology and Social Behavior. North Scituate.

see also Boyd and Richerson.

Ortner, Sherry B.

1984 "Theory in Anthropology Since the Sixties." In *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 26:126-166.

Essay 2 is Due in My Office, HWSC 52 by December 16th at 5:00 P.M.