



ANTH700

Applied Anthropology: Why Does Culture Matter?

S1 Evening 2014

Anthropology

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	8
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	8
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	9

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Jakob Timmer

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Contact via jaap.timmer@mq.edu.au

W6A, Room 603

Thursdays 2-4pm

Payel Ray

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Co-badged with ANTH800

Unit description

This unit examines the uses of culture in professional settings at various levels, from the management of urban communities and interpersonal conflicts to the international strategies of corporations and governments. The objective of this unit is to train students for situations in a variety of contexts in which decisions have to be made based on contested cultural claims.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Students who have successfully done this unit will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in the field of applied anthropology. They will have acquired a coherent and advanced knowledge of the principles and concepts in the field of applied anthropology. They will demonstrate an advanced knowledge of research principles and

methods in anthropology, in particular in its applied aspects.

Students will be able to utilize and reflect on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

Students will be able to synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources.

Students will be able to identify and provide solutions to complex problems with intellectual independence.

Students will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. Students will be able to articulate clearly a coherent argument in written and oral form to a variety of audiences. Students will develop a high level of oral, written, and technological communication skills, with specialisation for the specific needs of a discipline.

Students will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. Students will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving. Students will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will demonstrate the ability to apply accumulated knowledge and skills to make decisions in the context of professional practice and/or scholarship. Students will have acquired the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

Students will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues.

Students will be able to work in cooperation and collaboration with others and reflect on individual and group performance to identify opportunities for enhancement and improvement. In such situations they will be able to demonstrate high standards of ethical conduct in research activities and relationships.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Presentation	20%	n/a
Short paper	20%	n/a
Research paper	40%	4 June 2013
Participation	20%	n/a

Presentation

Due: **n/a**

Weighting: **20%**

Each student must lead the discussion on one question of her/his choice and actively and thoughtfully participate in the rest of the discussion (see below). This involves reading the required and optional texts for that class (as well as, where appropriate, recommended texts) with particular care, summarising them and raising points for general discussion.

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Short paper

Due: n/a

Weighting: **20%**

Discussion paper between 2,000 and 4,000 words, dealing with one of the discussion questions

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Research paper

Due: **4 June 2013**

Weighting: **40%**

Each student must write two a research paper between 2,500words long, dealing with one of the weekly issues. This paper must address the questions raised using the conceptual apparatus of anthropology.

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Participation

Due: **n/a**

Weighting: **20%**

Attendance at class is compulsory. Students who miss more than two classes will have to provide a convincing explanation, and will risk a lower mark or failing the unit if they do not.

Participation in class involves more than just showing up. Students are expected to be active participants in class and demonstrate that they have read and engaged with the readings at some level.

Participation also means contributing to a general atmosphere of scholarly enquiry, showing respect for the opinions of others. Thus talking too much and not allowing other students adequate time to contribute could count against you.

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Delivery and Resources

Lecture/meeting: Tuesdays, 18-20, in Building W6A, Room 708

There will be a required list of reading and recommended resources that will be made available in iLearn

Unit Schedule

Week	Date	Discussion topic
1	28 February	When culture is everywhere
2	6 March	Culture in international relations and conflict

3	13 March	Cultural explanations and violent conflicts
4	20 March	Culture in development and aid
5	27 March	Impact of the 'cultural turn' in development
6	3 April	The challenge of cultural diversity for nation-states
<i>Semester break</i>		
7	24 April	Immigration and integration
8	1 May	Realms of contact: urban planning and education
9	8 May	Realms of contact: cultural rights vs individual freedoms in law
10	15 May	The age of 'cultural competence'
11	22 May	'Cultural competence' in organizations
12	29 May	'Cultural competence' in product development and advertising
13	5 June	Discussion and evaluation

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management

[t/policy.html](#)

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.