

ANTHROPOLOGY 2281G/650
ANTHROPOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT
Winter 2017-2018
Course Outline



This course will look at Third World responses to development from an anthropological perspective. Topics include anthropological assessment of international development projects, NGOs, foreign aid, some of the effects of living with poverty, and the connection between migration and development. We will also read an ethnography of Rural Haiti.

Prerequisite: At least a 0.5 essay course in any faculty.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- Critically assess the debates and issues that involve the relationship between the world's rich and powerful and the poor who have much less power;
- Be familiar with the role of anthropology in development;
- Evaluate the effectiveness of development projects.

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Texts to Purchase:

Katy Gardner and David Lewis. 2015. *Anthropology and Development: Challenges for the Twenty-First Century*.

Jennie Smith. 2001. *When the Hands Are Many: Community Organization and Social Change in Rural Haiti*

Additional readings such as Journal articles and chapters from edited books will be available on the website.

Marks Will Be Calculated as Follows:

Forums 1-6		20%
Forums 7-12		20%
Response Essay		30%
Final Exam	TBA	30%

COURSE STRUCTURE:

This course has two components: an essay that incorporates questions and issues from the readings, and an interactive online discussion component. Once you have purchased the required texts, you will have access to the readings. The online component will provide links to other students in the course, to additional information about the readings and assignments, and to current ideas as they develop out of our interaction.

FORUM POSTINGS:

The advantage of taking part in an online course is that it provides opportunities for all of us to interact on a regular basis through online discussions. All students must participate in the Forums. You are required to make at least two substantial contributions to the conversations each week. These contributions should be fully developed comments and questions, not simply one or two sentences; however, they should not be more than one or two paragraphs in length. They must deal with issues raised in the course readings, including substantial comments on the reading material, a question that you feel might offer useful ideas for exploring the readings, some reflection on your experience with the issues in the course and so on. Feel free to post often and to respond to each other's comments and queries.

The purpose of these online discussions is to make the learning process interactive and collaborative, a process in which each of us will contribute to the learning of others at the same time that we learn from others. Keep your postings short and focused because students typically won't read beyond one or two paragraphs. It's better to post three short messages, for instance, instead of one long one. Your discussion grade will be based on both the quantity and quality of your online participation. You will receive two evaluations of your work: the first shortly after the end of Week 6; and the second after the end of Week 12. Your total Discussion Board postings mark is worth 40% of your course grade. There is a more detailed explanation of the Forums requirements on the course website.

ESSAY:

For the essay, pretend you have been hired by Global Affairs Canada. As an anthropologist working in an international development agency, you are tasked with choosing a country or region that you find interesting and analyzing the needs of a community within that location. The first part of your essay will include some descriptive details of the place you have chosen. The second part will consist of your recommendations for solving a particular problem experienced by the residents. More detailed instructions and suggestions for writing the paper can be found on the website. Your response essay should be about 6 pages in length and is worth 30% of your course grade. Papers are to be submitted to me as email attachments no later than midnight of the due date. A penalty of 2% per week day may be deducted for late papers.

FINAL EXAM:

Your final exam will consist of some definitions and some short essay questions. I will post exam guidelines two weeks prior to the exam to allow you time to think about how to study. The final exam is worth 30% of your course mark.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please feel free to email me (slarkin@uwo.ca) with questions or comments. If you have not received a response within 24 hours of sending an email (Monday to Thursday), you should assume it was not received and send it a second time.