Class day/time: Tuesdays 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Classroom: SSC3315 (Anthropology Digital Lab)

Instructor: Andrew Walsh

Office: SSC 3402

Office hours: To be announced on the course OWL site.

Email: awalsh33@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistants: none

Credit value: 0.5 credit

Calendar Course Description: This course addresses collaboration as practice and concept in anthropological work today. Although we will examine the history of the practice and concept of collaboration, our ultimate goal will be to consider the sources and implications of recent calls for collaboration (with 'local communities', with descendent communities, with NGOs, with colleagues in other disciplines, with government, etc.), as well as the opportunities and pitfalls that these calls present. Is "collaboration" just a synonym for kinds of anthropological work that have been going on since the early years of the discipline, or does the rising prominence of this term suggest something more?

Antirequisite(s): none

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Prerequisite(s): by application.

Course Syllabus:

This course will draw examples and case studies from different subfields including sociocultural anthropology, medical anthropology, archaeology, and linguistic anthropology. Through class discussions of assigned sources, as well as individual and group work, students will have opportunities to focus on the cases and issues that most interest them. With the help of colleagues currently involved in various collaborative endeavors, will also consider a number of case studies of anthropological collaboration in action.

Topics covered will include:

• Collaboration as a complex social process.

• The history of collaborations and collaborative approaches in Anthropology.

• New approaches to collaboration in Anthropology.

• Understandings of responsibility in the practice of Anthropology and Collaborative Anthropology.

• The complexities of collaborating with different communities.

• The complexities of collaborating on research projects involving interdisciplinary teams.

• Collaborative research design and writing.

Learning Outcomes:

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

Summarize the history of collaborative approaches to research design, research, and writing in different subfields of anthropology.

Identify and discuss reasons for the growing importance of collaborative approaches to research design, research and writing in anthropology.

List different approaches to collaboration in anthropology, and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of these different approaches with reference to case studies.

Course Materials:

The Chicago Guide to Collaborative Ethnography, by Luke Eric Lassiter (available in bookstore)

Registered students will be able to access information about additional course readings through the course's on-line OWL site before the first day of class.

Evaluation:

20% Assignment 1: Defining Collaboration (Due October 4)

To be discussed in class.

20% Assignment 2: Collaborative Reviews of Collaborative Anthropology/Ethnography (Due November 15)

To be discussed in class.

30% Case Study Assignment (Due December 6)

To be discussed in class.

30% Engaged Participation

Participation grades will be posted three times during the term: once in mid-October, once in mid-November, and once at the end of the course. Students will be evaluated on the quality (and not just the quantity) of their participation in class discussions.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

A week by week breakdown of course readings and topics will be posted on the course's OWL site.

Course Specific Statements and Policies:

Statement on Seeking Special Accommodations:

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

Policy on Laptops and Cellphones in Class:

Laptops are permitted for note-taking in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites, they will be asked to close the laptop and will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cellphones are turned off at the beginning of class.

Institutional Statements and Policies

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies can be found here: http://anthropology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/academic_policies.html or at Western's academic policies.