

ANTHROPOLOGY 2281G-650
Anthropology of Development
COURSE OUTLINE
Winter 2021

Instructor: Dr. Kelly Linton (she/her)

Email: kelly.linton@uwo.ca

Credit value: 0.5 credit

Mode of delivery: For 2020/2021 this course will be conducted online. It is *asynchronous*, meaning that students will be provided with a variety of lesson materials and activities that can be done throughout the week, although there may be tasks that must be completed by specific times.

Calendar Course Description: Third World responses to development from an anthropological perspective, with emphasis on the impact of market institutions on indigenous societies. Topics include the impact of aid, wage labor and urbanization on peasant communities; local versus national priorities in development; and risk aversion and technological innovation among small farmers.

Antirequisites: None.

Prerequisites: Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 0.5 or 1.0 Essay course.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol 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.

Course Syllabus:

With an emphasis on critical development theories and approaches, this course explores the complexities of human-environment relationships and challenges in achieving sustainable development. Various perspectives will be explored and the course will address topics such as the role of colonialism as a basis for global inequalities, climate change and development, biodiversity and conservation, Indigenous knowledges and sustainability, resource extraction, and issues affecting agriculture and rural livelihoods.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes:

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

- Critically reflect on the historical relationship between colonialism, development, and globalization.

- Apply critical thinking and analytical skills to examining the challenges of achieving sustainable development.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the systems of oppression and privilege that exist at both local and global levels.
- Demonstrate the capacity to reflect on how anthropologists can contribute to sustainable development.
- Identify key theoretical debates, methodological issues, and ethics associated with anthropologies of development.
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of how cultural context shapes perceptions of global issues.

Course Materials:

1. Gardner, Katy and David Lewis. 2015. *Anthropology and Development: Challenges for the Twenty-First Century*. Pluto Press.
2. Li, Tanya Murray. 2014. *Land's End: Capitalist Relations on an Indigenous Frontier*. Duke University Press.

Course texts can be purchased through the University Bookstore and are also available through Amazon.

Registered students will be able to access additional course readings through the course site in OWL before the first day of class.

Evaluation:

Grades will be based on 12 quizzes on readings, 6 discussion activities, a critical thinking exercise, a film reflection and a research paper, as follows:

Quizzes - 10%

Discussion Activities - 30%

Critical Thinking Exercise - 10%

Film Reflection - 20%

Research essay - 30%

Quizzes

There will be twelve quizzes throughout the course (one each week). Quizzes will be released on Sundays of each week. Quizzes will be completed online, and each one must be completed by Friday of each week, but note that you will not be able to access other components of the lesson until you have completed the quiz. Quizzes will focus on the main ideas in the week's readings. They are meant to motivate you to complete all of the assigned readings. There will be no make-up quizzes but the two lowest grades will be dropped. Each quiz will be worth 1.0% for a total of 10% of your final grade.

Note: Each quiz will only be open for a one-week period. If you miss a quiz deadline, you will not be able to complete that quiz.

Discussion Activities

6 Activities worth 5% each totaling 30%. There are six Discussion Activities embedded in this course that serve as opportunities to engage with course content, see the thoughts and opinions of your peers, contribute your own questions or ideas, present evidence from independent research, or to reflect on course concepts. Discussion activities will occur in Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11. Additional details for each discussion activity will be posted on the course OWL site.

Note: Discussion Activities are not accepted following the deadline given that each one is relevant to its own week and contributions are typically synthesized and posted for everyone to read. If you miss a deadline, you will not be able to complete that activity.

Critical Thinking Exercise

Worth 10%. Students will write a short (1-2 page double-spaced) critical discussion of a global development issue. Students are encouraged to focus on an issue that interests them and to introduce their own opinions on what they believe to be contributing factors, as well as their ideas regarding alternative perspectives of the issue. The Critical Thinking Exercise is due during Week 3 on Friday January 22nd and all submissions must be reviewed by Turnitin plagiarism software. More information will be made available to students on the course OWL site.

Note: Unless a student receives academic consideration through the Counselling office of their home Faculty, paper assignments will be penalized at the rate of 5%/day late for up to a total of 5 days (including weekends) following the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted after 5 days. Students who are unable to submit this paper on-time due to circumstances that warrant use of a "self-reported absence" will be expected to submit their paper within 24hours of the end of their absence period.

Film Reflection

Worth 20%. Students will hand in a short (1000-1200 word) reflection paper based on a documentary film featuring a topic of relevance to the course. A list of potential films with links will be provided or students can discuss a film of their choosing. Students will be asked to reflect critically on the film, including an analysis of the motivations and messages being conveyed, what may be ignored or missing, who benefits from the message, etc. Concepts from the course should be referenced and analysis should reflect critical engagement with the topic. The Film Reflection Paper is due during Week 7 on Friday February 26th and all submissions must be reviewed by Turnitin plagiarism software. More information will be made available to students on the course OWL site.

Note: Unless a student receives academic consideration through the Counselling office of their home Faculty, paper assignments will be penalized at the rate of 5%/day late for up to a total of 5 days (including weekends) following the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted after 5 days. Students who are unable to submit this paper on-time due to circumstances that warrant use of a "self-reported absence" will be expected to submit their paper within 24hours of the end of their absence period.

Research Essay

Worth 30%. Students will hand in a research essay (1500-2000 words) that explores a particular development issue within one specific society. Your papers should demonstrate critical engagement with the course material and the core content of the paper should include both problem analysis and critical reflection on proposed solutions. The research paper should be well organized, clearly written, and persuasively argued. Students must include a minimum of 5 scholarly sources beyond the course materials. The Research Essay is due during Week 13 on Monday April 5th and all submissions must be reviewed by Turnitin plagiarism software. More information will be made available to students on the course OWL site.

Note: Unless a student receives academic consideration through the Counselling office of their home Faculty, paper assignments will be penalized at the rate of 5%/day late for up to a total of 5 days (including weekends) following the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted after 5 days. Students who are unable to submit this paper on-time due to circumstances that warrant use of a "self-reported absence" will be expected to submit their paper within 24hours of the end of their absence period.

Academic Integrity - 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.

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.

Course Specific Conditions Required to Pass this Course

In order to pass an essay course, the student must exhibit some minimal level of competence in essay writing and the appropriate level of knowledge of the content of the course.

In order to pass this essay course, students must submit both writing assignments (film reflection and research essay) and receive a passing grade on both of them. Note that you must write a minimum of 2500 words in essay assignments at the 2000-level to meet the requirement for an essay-designated course.

Course Specific Statements and Policies:

Statement on Engaging in the Online Learning Environment

This course relies on the OWL site to connect you with the syllabus, assignment outlines, content, and other course material. Here, you will engage with me, the TAs, and your peers as we progress through the course. Please keep track of weekly tasks and contribute respectfully to online activities.

Statement on Email

You may contact me or the TAs by email, but it may take up to 24 hours for a response. If we cannot provide an immediate response, or if the matter is something we cannot address quickly, we will direct you to meet with us through Zoom. Please ensure that your emails are worded professionally and include the course number (2281G) in the subject line.

Statement on Student Success

If you need support with your academic writing skills, please visit the [Writing Support Centre](#). The Centre aims to (1) enhance your writing and communication skills and build your confidence, (2) equip you with tools, resources and knowledge to effectively communicate through writing, (3) increase your critical analysis abilities to effectively communicate scholarly ideas, (4) convey university level writing expectations, and (5) provide you with the skills you need to navigate academic transitions.

The staff at [Learning Skills Services](#) support your development as an excellent student by answering your questions and providing advice on how to succeed in your studies at Western. They can help you to develop new skills or strengthen existing academic skills. You can make an individual appointment with a learning skills counsellor, attend learning skills presentations, drop by the Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) Centre, or receive helpful information via e-mail. Information on important learning skills topics is also available online.

Visit the [Wellness Education Centre](#) if you need support in navigating any kind of mental health issue (e.g., anxiety, stress, etc.) WEC provides free assistance in connecting you with wellness services and resources on and off campus.

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.

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,

- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

[Student Medical Certificate \(SMC\)](#)

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

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 are outlined in [Western's academic policies](#).

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