

ANTHROPOLOGY 2281A-001  
Anthropology of International Development

BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE  
Fall 2024

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Instructor: Dr. Kelly Linton  
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Credit value: 0.5 credit  
Antirequisites: None  
Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

With an emphasis on critical development theories and approaches, this course seeks to illuminate the historical and sociopolitical contexts of the development paradigm and the ethical and moral dilemmas surrounding intervention by international aid organizations, NGOs, states, and civil society actors. We will explore issues related to the impact of neocolonialism and globalization, how relationships between states are shaped by development policy, and how different sociocultural contexts shape our understandings of development around the globe. Specific questions addressed in this course may include: What does “development” mean to different people in the world today? How are plans for “improving” disadvantaged communities implemented in the world today, and what does anthropological research concerning these communities reveal about these processes? How might critical perspectives on international development contribute to alternative ways of providing support to marginalized communities? What has anthropological research revealed about the complexities of working with, for or around international development organizations?

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

Course Materials:

There is no textbook for this course.

In this course short article readings, blog posts, and videos will be assigned. These additional materials will be made available for download through the Course Readings tool on the course’s OWL Brightspace site and in the weekly lesson page.

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

Evaluation:

Quizzes – 20% (12 quizzes – one per week, drop lowest 2, each quiz 2.0%)  
Written Reflections – 30% (3 Reflections worth 10% each)  
Midterm Exam – 20%  
Final Exam – 30%

### Course Specific Conditions Required to Pass this Course

In order to pass this course, students must achieve an overall grade of 50%, submit at least 2 of 3 writing assignments, and write both the midterm and final exam.

ANTH 2281A makes use of diverse assessments to evaluate students' learning, including quizzes using multiple-choice. The multiple-choice format allows for assessment of students' detailed knowledge of a broad range of concepts, theories, principles, and research that other formats do not permit. There are different types of multiple-choice questions used in this course, including application-based multiple-choice questions. Although application-based questions can be challenging for students, they are necessary to meet the learning outcomes of this course and to allow students to develop an appreciation for and understanding of the course material as it relates to anthropological theories.

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