

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

ANTH 411
METHODS AND ANALYSIS FOR ANTHROPOLOGY
WINTER 2021
ASYNCHRONOUS
WEB BASED SECTION

Instructor	Charles Mather	TA	
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Office Hours	TR 10:00AM – 11:30AM	Office Hours	

Prerequisite(s): One of Anthropology 391 or 490.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to ethnography. Ethnography is the chief method of social-cultural anthropologists. The course consists of lectures and readings that will cover: some of the underlying principles and theories of ethnography: various methods that anthropologists use to conduct their field research: some of the issues and challenges involved in doing fieldwork and employing particular methods: and the ethical questions that adhere to “doing ethnography”. Alongside lectures and readings, students will get to see two films that explore ethnography while focusing on two of the major figures from the history of the discipline (Evans-Pritchard and Mead), and two other films that shed light on some of the issues that ethnographers face while conducting their research. Readings, lectures, and film will be complimented by exercises that will engage students with different facets of ethnographic research. The assignments will provide experience in anthropological observation, free lists, calculating cultural salience, thematic analysis of written transcripts, and autoethnography.

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe social situations, including their primary elements (actors, activities, and places), and connect them to other social situations as clusters, networks, or by way of similar activity
2. Perform free lists
3. Calculate personal and collective scores of cultural salience
4. Conduct thematic analysis on textual data
5. Discuss and carryout autoethnographic fieldwork

REQUIRED TEXT

Martyn Hammersley and Paul Atkinson *Ethnography: Principles in Practice*. (Fourth Edition) Routledge: London, 2019.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATIONS

The final grade will be based upon marks attained in two mid-term examinations and a final examination. The exams will be made up of multiple choice questions, mix and match questions, short answer questions, and essay questions. There are also four written assignments in this course. The first assignment is observational in nature. The second assignment involves group work. The third assignment will involve work on letters that students will gather from the Calgary Herald. Assignment four is worth 20% (double the weighting of the other written assignments) and it will consist of autoethnographic study over the span of at least two days during the term. Weightings of the exams and assignments are as follows:

1 st mid-term exam	February 11	20%
2 nd mid-term exam	March 16	20%
Final day of class exam	April 13	10%
Assignment One	January 19	10%
Assignment Two	February 23	10%
Assignment Three	March 23	10%
Assignment Four	April 15	20%

Correspondences between letter grades and percentages are as follows:

A+ 94.9-100	B+ 79.9-84.8	C+ 66.9-70.8	D+ 54.9-58.8
A 89.9-94.8	B 74.9-79.8	C 62.9-66.8	D 49.9-54.8
A- 84.9-89.8	B- 70.9-74.8	C- 58.9-62.8	F 49.8 and below

We will penalize late assignments by 2% a day – and that is going to be 2% of the final letter grade. Don't hand things in late.

The exams

The 1st mid-term will cover the material from the first 4 chapters of the text and their associated lectures and videos, and from lectures associated with assignment 1. The 2nd mid-term will cover the material from Chapters 5 - 9, from lectures 5 to 9, from the videos associated with these lectures and chapters, and from lectures, readings, and materials associated with assignment 2. The final will cover material from Chapters 10 and 11 in the text and lectures 9 to 12, from videos associated with the lectures and chapters, and from lectures and readings associated with assignment 3 and 4. Note that the registrar will schedule the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions, mix and match questions, and true or false questions.

The exams will be open book. Open book means that you will be able to peruse your notes as you write the exam. Don't think that you don't have to prepare. You will not have enough time to look through the notes to find answers for questions on topics for which you do not have a solid grasp. It would be equally unwise to think you will be able to forego studying, watching the lectures, and reading the text and rely on Wikipedia or other online information sources to write the exams. I will be writing the exam questions. The exam questions might focus on general principles, but they will be directly tied to what we do in our class. I write them with our

particular situation in mind.

Exams are a solitary endeavour. Individuals write the exams alone, and use their own study materials or notes. The University of Calgary expects that during the exam you will not collaborate with your fellow students. Likewise, it is a form of academic misconduct to share with your fellow students the content of the exams during the time period for which the exams are accessible and that students are writing.

OFFICE HOURS

Over the course of the term, I will hold office hours over the zoom platform on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00AM to 11:30AM. You can also contact me via email if you have any questions or concerns about the course. I will attempt to reply in a timely fashion, but please don't expect immediate responses to your inquiries.

Lecture Schedule

The schedule includes the months as a rough estimate for the timeline you should be following for your studies and exam preparation.

January

Course Introduction. Introduction to Assignment One - Documenting Social Situations

Lecture One – Research and Knowledge – Introduction to Ethnography – Read Chapter One.

Film – “Sir Edward Evans-Pritchard: Strange Beliefs”

http://fod.infobase.com/p_ViewVideo.aspx?xtid=2546&luid=147452&tScript=0# 52:23 mins.

Thursday January 19 - **Assignment one is due on this day!**

Lecture Two - Research Design – Read Chapter Two.

Lecture Three - Access to Field Situations – Read Chapter Three.

Lecture Four – Managing Field Relations – Read Chapter Four

February

Film “Margaret Mead and Samoa”

Assignment Two – Introduction to Free lists, and cultural salience

Thursday February 11 - **First mid-term** – Chapters 1 through 4

READING BREAK – February 14 to 20

Lecture Five – Interviewing – Read Chapter Five

Tuesday February 23 - **Assignment Two is due on this day!**

Assignment Three – Themes in letters to the editor from the Calgary Herald.

March

Lecture Six – Document Analysis – Read Chapter Six.

Lecture Seven – Ethnography in the Digital World - Read Chapter Seven

Lecture Eight - Recording and Organising Data – Read Chapter Eight

Lecture Nine - Analysing Data – Read Chapter Nine

Tuesday March 16 – **Second mid-term** – Chapters Five through Nine

Lecture Twelve – Autoethnography

Introduction to Assignment Four

Tuesday March 23 - **Assignment Three is due on this day!**

Lecture Ten – Writing Ethnography – Read Chapter Ten

More discussion of Assignment Four

April

Lecture Eleven – Ethics – Read Chapter Eleven

Film - A man called 'Bee': Studying the Yanamamo

<http://search.alexanderstreet.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/anthropology/view/work/764390?play=1> 43:39 mins

Tuesday April 13 – **In-class final exam** – Chapters Ten and Eleven (lectures nine to twelve)

Thursday April 15 – **Assignment four is due this day!**

Academic misconduct

The University expects Students to conduct Academic Activities with integrity and intellectual honesty and to recognize the importance of pursuing and transmitting knowledge ethically. “Academic Misconduct” includes such things as Cheating, Falsification; Plagiarism, Unauthorized Assistance and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Academic Misconduct is a serious form of intellectual dishonesty with significant consequences. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For more information see the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>)

Instructor intellectual property

Lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor includes copyright protected works under the Copyright Act and all forms of electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, laboratories, tutorials, presentations, performances, electronic (computer) information, the duplication of course material, and to the translation of recordings or transcriptions of any of these materials to another form by electronic or mechanical means by students is not permitted, except.

- As a formal accommodation as assessed by the Student Accessibility Services and only for individual private study and only at the discretion of the instructor.
- With the permission of the instructor, students without a formal accommodation may audio record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered. Any audio recording by students is permitted only for the purposes of private study by the individual student. Students may not distribute, email or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person.
- For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed.
- Any use other than that described above (e.g. distributing, emailing or otherwise communicating these materials to any other person, constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.
- Students are encouraged to make notes of classroom discussions, lectures, demonstrations etc.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology keeps exams and any term work not picked up for a minimum of one year after which it is destroyed. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies. Students requesting an Accommodation on the basis of Disability are required to register with Student Accommodation Services (SAS) by submitting a Request for Accommodation in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>). SAS will issue a Letter of Accommodation which must be presented to either designated contact person within the Department or the appropriate Instructors within 10 days of the beginning of term. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

Copyright

All **students** are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Support and Resources:

Non-course-specific related information can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Note: information here includes

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Safewalk