

ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS—SPRING 2017

*With collaborative zeal, the ethnic leaders thus set to discussing where the CRI [Cultural Research Institute] team should be taken, **what rituals should be shown, what traits should be concealed, and how best to engage with the anthropologists....***

*After an hour of deliberation, they began finalizing their list of “model communities.” As the secretary went down the roll, eliciting each community’s final decision, **someone piped up to suggest that each ethnic group should have backup locations in mind, should the anthropologists demand a sudden change of course.** Silence followed. The mere mention that the CRI team might want to see something other than the carefully chosen and equally well prepared “model communities” drew stunned, worried looks....Finally the GS [general-secretary] broke the silence.*

“Well, in that case we will fail!” he erupted....

*Meanwhile the community sprang into action, transforming the hillside hamlet into a veritable ethnological lol-lapalooza.
—C. Townsend Middleton
“Across the Interface of State Ethnography”
American Ethnologist, Vol. 38 (2)*

Course:	ANTH 146, Section 1	Email:	tac@csus.edu
Day/Time:	T/TH 1:30-2:45	Office:	Mendocino Hall 4028
Location:	Mendocino Hall 4008	Office Hours:	T/TH 2:45-4:15 pm
Instructor Webpage	Dr. Castaneda	Phone:	278-6067

Catalog Description—Introduces students to current techniques, theories, and debates in ethnographic research and analysis through the use of ethnographies and related works. Critically examines the production of ethnographic knowledge in sociocultural anthropology from historical and contemporary perspectives. **Prerequisite:** ANTH 2 (3 units).

Learning Objectives—The term ethnography refers to both a qualitative research methodology and the written product resulting from that work. As the hallmark of sociocultural anthropology, ethnographic research and writing is critical to the production of anthropological knowledge. This course is designed to 1) introduce students to the basic techniques of ethnographic research, 2) familiarize them with the varieties of ethnographic writing that fall within this genre—from both a historical and contemporary perspective, and 3) engage them in the epistemological and methodological debates that animate the contemporary field of sociocultural anthropology.

Thematic Focus—Each semester, this course achieves its learning objectives by focusing on a specific issue, society, process, or socio-historical dimension of the human condition. This semester, we will explore the confluence of people, place, race and identity in a variety of sociocultural contexts and disciplinary registers.

Course Requirements—Access to SacCT, consistent attendance, completion of all readings and assignments, meaningful class participation (*per rubric to be distributed in class*).

Course Evaluation and Grading

25% Quizzes—Average of 10 quizzes covering the reading assignments due that day and any days prior (exclusive of readings already covered by a quiz). These are typically

administered within the first 10 minutes of class and may not be taken as make-ups. Objective questions (MC/TF) will comprise most quizzes, but a brief essay or in-class work may occasionally be substituted. Eleven quizzes will be administered and the lowest score dropped.

25% Participation Score—This is the average of two components: a class attendance/discussion score (see rubric on SacCT) and a class presentation (five to seven-minute oral response based on a required reading prompt).

25% Midterm—Includes objective, identification and brief essay questions.

25% Final Exam—As above.

Scantrons—You will need 15 Scantron “815E” quiz strips.

Grading Scale—A (92-100%); A- (90-91%); B+ (88-89%); B (82-87%); B-(80-81%); C+(78-79%); C (72-77%); C- (70-71%); D+ (68-69%); D (62-67%); D-(60-61%); F (59% and below).

Make-up/Late Paper Policy—No missed assignments (including reading quizzes) can be made up (even for excused absences), although the lowest reading quiz score will be dropped. Final essays (if take-home), will be marked down 15 points for each day late.

SSWD—Students who need disability accommodation are urged to approach me early in the course of the semester and to stop by the [SSWD](#) office.

Cell Phones, Laptops/Tablets and other digital appendages we love—Please silence and put your phones away during class. Laptops/tablets are permitted for note-taking only. If you plan to surf the web regardless of this policy, please sit in the back row of the classroom so that I do not have to entertain complaints from your classmates about the distraction your activity represents to their own efforts to focus on course-related activity.

Academic Dishonesty—Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will result in a score of zero on the assignment, potentially followed by dismissal from the course. I am **very** serious about this.

SacCT — I will use [SacCT](#) to help manage the course, to deliver announcements and essay topics to you, and to make readings available to you electronically.

Required Texts

Briggs, Jean L.

1970 *Never in Anger: Portrait of an Eskimo Family*. Harvard University Press.

Ramirez, Renya K.

2007 *Native Hubs: Culture, Community, and Belonging in Silicon Valley and Beyond*.
Duke University Press.

Robben, Antonious C. G. M and Jeffrey A. Sluka

2012 *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Sturm, Circe

2002 *Blood Politics: Race, Culture, and Identity in the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma*.
University of California Press.

Required Readings—S (SacCT), R&S (from Robben & Sluka's *Ethnographic Fieldwork*)

American Anthropological Association (RS 23)

2012 Code of Ethics (2009). In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 359-364.

Bateson, Gregory and Margaret (R&S 28)

2012 [1942] Balinese Character: A Photographic Analysis. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 450-464.

Boas, Franz (R&S 2)

2012 [1920] The Methods of Ethnology. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Antonius C.G.M. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 63-68. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Biolis, Thomas (S)

2005 Imagined Geographies: Sovereignty, Indigenous Space, and American Indian Struggle. *American Ethnologist* 32(2):239-259.

Degérando, Joseph-Marie (R&S 1)

2012 [1800] The Observation of Savage Peoples. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 56-62. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Deloria, Jr., Vine (R&S 11)

2012 [1973] Custer Died for Your Sins. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 199-206. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

El Guindi, Fadwa (S)

2012 Suckling as Kinship: The Case of Qatar. *Anthropology News* 53(4): 10, 13.

Geurts, Kathryn Linn (R&S 31)

2012 [2002] On Rocks, Walks, and Talks in West Africa: Cultural Categories and an Anthropology of the Senses. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 496-510.

Greenwood, Veronica (S)

2016 In China, Searching for the Mysterious Gaps in the Family Tree. Published online, December 2016Atlas Obscura.com and Longreads (pdf loaded to SacCT).

Gupta, Akti and James Ferguson (R&S 24)

2012 [1992] Beyond 'Culture': Space, Identity and the Politics of Difference. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 374-386.

Hitt, Jack (S)

2005 "The Newest Indians," *New York Times*, August 21, 2005.

Jacobs-Huey, Lanita (S)

2002 The Natives are Gazing and Talking Back: Reviewing the Problematics of Position, Voice, and Accountability Among "Native" Anthropologists. *American Anthropologist*, Vol. 104(3): 791-804.

King, Cecil (R&S 12)

2012 [1977] Here Come the Anthros. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 207-209. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

- Kondo, Dorinne K. **(S)**
 1986 Dissolution and Reconstitution of the Self: Implications for Anthropological Epistemology." *Cultural Anthropology* 1: 74-96.
- Malinowski, Bronislaw **(R&S 3)**
 2012 [1922] Method and Scope of Anthropological Fieldwork. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 69-81. Malden, MA: Blackwell.
- Middleton, C. Townsend **(S)**
 2011 Across the Interface of State Ethnography: Rethinking Ethnology and its Subjects in Multicultural India." *American Ethnologist* 38(2):249-266.
- Powdermaker, Hortense **(R&S 4)**
 2012 [1966] A Woman Going Native. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 92-102.
- Scheper-Hughes, Nancy **(R&S 14)**
 2000 Ire in Ireland. *Ethnography* Vol. 1(1): 219-233.
- Shaery-Eisenlohr, Roschanack **(R&S 5)**
 2012 [2009] Fixing and Negotiating Identities in the Field: The Case of Lebanese Shiites. In *Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader*. Robben and Sluka, eds. Pp. 103-113.
- William Willard **(S)**
 1994 Indian Newspapers, or "Say, Ain't You Some Kind of Indians?" *Wicazo Sa Review* 10 (2): 91-97.

COURSE SCHEDULE*

WEEK 1	
Jan. 24	Course Introduction
Jan. 26	Briggs: Acknowledgements and Introduction
WEEK 2	
Jan. 31	Briggs: Chapter 1 Powdermaker (R&S 4) "A Woman Going Native"
Feb. 2	Briggs: Chapter 2 Shaery-Eisenlohr (R&S 5) "Fixing and Negotiating Identities in the Field: The Case of Lebanese Shiites"
WEEK 3	
Feb. 7	Briggs: Chapter 3 Bateson and Mead (R&S 28) "Balinese Character: A Photographic Analysis"
Feb. 9	No Reading Assignment

WEEK 4

Feb. 14 Briggs: Chapters 4- 5
Geurts **(R&S 31)** "On Rocks, Walks and Talks in West Africa: Cultural Categories and an Anthropology of the Senses"

Feb. 16 Briggs: Chapter 6

WEEK 5

Feb. 21-23 No Reading Assignment

WEEK 6

Feb. 28 No Reading Assignment

Mar. 2 American Anthropological Association **(RS 23)** "Code of Ethics"
Scheper-Hughes **(RS 14)** "Ire in Ireland"

WEEK 7

Mar. 7 Degérando **(R&S 1)** "The Observation of Savage Peoples"
Boas **(R&S 2)** "The Methods of Ethnology"
Malinowski **(R&S 3)** "Method and Scope of Anthropological Fieldwork"

Mar. 9 No Reading Assignment

WEEK 8

Mar. 14 No Reading Assignment

Mar. 16 **Midterm Exam**

SPRING BREAK

WEEK 9

Mar. 28 Sturm: Chapters 1-2

Mar. 30 Sturm: Chapter 3-4

WEEK 10

Apr. 4 Sturm: Chapter 5
Hitt **(S)** "The Newest Indians"

Apr. 6 Sturm: Chapter 6
El Guindi **(S)** "Suckling as Kinship: The Case of Qatar"

WEEK 11

Apr. 11 Sturm: Chapters 7-8

Apr. 13 Greenwood **(S)** "In China, Searching for the Mysterious Gaps in the Family Tree."
Kondo **(S)** "Dissolution and Reconstitution of Self"

WEEK 12

- Apr. 18 Ramirez: Introduction - Chapter 1
- Apr. 20 Jacobs-Huey **(S)** "The Natives are Gazing and Talking Back: Reviewing the Problematics of Position, Voice, and Accountability Among 'Native Anthropologists' "
Deloria **(R&S 11)** "Custer Died for Your Sins"
King **(R&S 12)** "Here Come the Anthros"

WEEK 13

- Apr. 25 Ramirez: Chapter 2
Biolsi **(S)** "Imagined Geographies: Sovereignty, Indigenous Space, and American Indian Struggle"
- Apr. 27 Ramirez: Chapter 3
Willard **(S)** "Indian Newspapers, or 'Say, Ain't You Some Kind of Indians?'" "

WEEK 14

- May. 2 Ramirez: Chapter 4
Middleton **(S)** "Across the Interface of State Ethnography: Rethinking Ethnology and its Subjects in Multicultural India"
- May 4 Gupta and Ferguson **(RS&S)** "Beyond Culture: Space, Identity and the Politics of Difference"

WEEK 15

- May 9 Ramirez: Chapter 5 – 6
- May 11 Ramirez: Chapter 7 – Epilogue

FINALS WEEK

- May 18 Thursday, Final Exam (12:45-2:45 pm)

* This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.
NOTE: ANY CHANGES IN THE COURSE SCHEDULE WILL BE POSTED TO **SacCT**.