ANTY 430.50: Social Anthropology (Online)

G.G. Weix

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ANTY 430: Social Anthropology  Section 01 (lecture) and Section 50 (online)

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Office: 223 Social Sciences, 243-6319  
Office hours: Friday 9:00-noon and by appointment

Classroom: Social Science 344  
Day/Time: Mondays 2:00-4:30 P.M.

Course Description
Anthropology 430 is an upper division course that fulfills Advanced Writing in the Major general education requirement and the Sub-area I Theory requirement for the Major in Anthropology. The class has two sections: 01 meets Mondays in person, and 50 is asynchronous; both sections share a Moodle supplement that provides accessible scanned selections from the readings, four writing assignments for submission, at least one of which is revised and resubmitted by December 14th. There is no final exam for this course.

A graduate supplement outlines additional requirements for UG credit for MA candidates.

The 01 section combines short lectures and film showings with in class writing assignments; students in 01 attend 2:00 to 4:50 P.M. with two ten-minute breaks. The online section is a self-paced, asynchronous course with weekly assigned readings, streaming films and writing exercises.

Prerequisites
The course has two pre-requisites: completion of WRIT 101 (with a grade of a C or better) and either completion (with a C or better), or concurrent enrollment in, and completion of an intermediate writing course this semester. The reason for this rule is that the learning outcomes for intermediate and advanced writing both must be met, preferably in order, to graduate. Writing guidelines from the Academic Catalog are posted in the Introduction.

Writing Assignments, informal and formal
Students complete two informal (ungraded) writing assignments in response to prompts on Moodle, by Sept. 10th and Sept. 17th. These assignments receive narrative feedback to assess writing and information literacy skills, so that the learning outcomes for Advanced Writing can be met during the semester. Students then write two formal essays, due October 22nd (midterm) and November 22nd (final). At least one of these essays must be revised and re-submitted December 14th to demonstrate editing skills required of Advanced Writing courses. Both formal and informal writing assignments are submitted on Moodle by the due dates on the syllabus. Assignments may be submitted early; no late assignments will be accepted. The final course grade is based on the completion of all four assignments. and (at least) one edited revision of a formal essay.

Required Readings
Rutherford, Danilyn 2018. Living in the Stone Age: reflections on the origins of a colonial fantasy
Steadly, Mary. 2013. Rifle Reports: a story of Indonesian Independence
Stassler, Karen. 2020. Demanding Images: democracy, mediation and image-event in Indonesia

Advanced Writing Learning Outcomes
1. Identify and pursue more sophisticated questions for academic inquiry  
2. Find, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information effectively from diverse sources  
3. Manage multiple perspectives as appropriate  
4. Recognize the purposes and needs of discipline-specific audiences and adopt the academic voice necessary for the chosen discipline  
5. Use multiple drafts, revision, and editing in conducting inquiry preparing written work  
6. Follow the conventions of citation, documentation, and formal presentation appropriate to that discipline  
7. Develop competence in information technology and digital literacy (at upper division level)
Introductory essay I due September 10th at 10 PM (prompt on Moodle)
Introductory essay II due September 17th at 10 PM (prompt on Moodle)
Informal writing assignments are evaluated credit/no credit, each is 10% of the final grade. Narrative feedback assessment provides a baseline for evaluating the learning outcomes for the course.

Midterm essay (formal writing, evaluated by rubric) due Oct. 22nd
Choose one ethnography (Rutherford, Steedly, or Smith Hefner), identify the theoretical approach to social anthropology of (Papuan, Sumatran, or Javanese) societies in the context of contemporary Indonesia. Draw on examples that demonstrate the ethnographer’s methods and approach to ethnography (description of a way of life) and ethnology (comparative studies). Cite examples from the text using a citation convention from Social Sciences. This assignment is due Friday, Oct. 22, 2021 at 10:00 P.M. (6-7 pages)

Final essay (formal writing, evaluated by rubric) due Nov. 22nd
Based on a different text than that discussed for the midterm essay, address how the author challenges or contributes to innovation in theoretical approaches in social anthropology, and cite examples how she broadens or changes our understandings of contemporary Indonesia. Cite examples from the text using a citation convention in the Social Sciences. This assignment is due Monday, November 22, 2021 at 10:00 P.M. (6-7 pages)

Grading Rubric: Formal writing is evaluated according to Advanced Writing criteria. Each formal essay is evaluated according to the following rubric for Advanced Writing and each essay is worth 40% of the final grade. An additional 10% credit can be earned for improvement due to revision of one, or both formal essays. For all grades, +/- is at the discretion of the instructor. The criteria for evaluation are as follows:

1) Argument: thesis is cogently and logically presented
2) Organization and Structure: essay follows a clear narrative
3) Evidence and Citation: examples are drawn from required readings
4) Clarity and Style: precise prose with no grammatical errors
5) Discipline based conventions: essays address anthropological debates and issues

Editing and revisions will be conducted between November 29th when draft essays are returned with feedback from the instructor, and submission of a revised version of one or both formal writing assignments by December 14th at 5:00 P.M. when all assignments are due for grading. No late assignments will be accepted.