

**University of Waterloo**  
**Department of Anthropology**  
**ANTH 300**  
**Practicing Anthropology**  
**Winter 2019**  
**TTh 10:00-11:20; PAS 1229**

**Instructor and T.A. Information**

Instructor: Nicole Hayes

Office: PAS 2017

Office Phone: 31011, but email is a much more reliable way of contacting me

Office Hours: TTh 12:00-1:00

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**Course Description**

Thinking anthropologically means bringing observations and empirical findings into a dialogue with theoretical approaches. This course explores how anthropologists have developed the methods they use, considers how they interpret their findings through such lenses as functionalism and structuralism, and examines how they formulate critiques of fieldwork.

**Course Goals and Learning Outcomes**

Students will learn key concepts as they apply to methods in cultural anthropology. Topics will include literature review, research design, sampling, interviewing, participant observation, fieldnotes, and conducting ethical research. Students will demonstrate mastery of these concepts and reinforce writing skills by writing a sample Wenner Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant proposal for an independently designed ethnographic research project.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. Demonstrate mastery of the practical aspects of research design
  - Understand how to test and sample variables
  - Understand how experimental design relates to different types of inquiry
- B. Demonstrate mastery of interviewing, field notes and data analysis
  - Understand purpose of different types of interviewing strategies
  - Understand different ways of keeping field notes and analyzing data
- C. Demonstrate mastery of the ethical implications of ethnographic research
  - Consider how issues of identity and power influence participant observation
  - Consider the pitfalls, hazards and rewards of fieldwork
- D. Write a grant proposal
  - Demonstrate ability to generate interest in a non-specialist audience
  - Demonstrate ability to write a concise literature review, select appropriate methods and formulate a compelling justification for an ethnographic project

## Required Text

- H. Russell Bernard. 2018 Research Methods in Anthropology: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches. Sixth edition. Toronto: AltaMira Press.
- Antonius C. G. M. Robben and Jeffrey A. Sluka, eds. 2012. Ethnographic Fieldwork: An Anthropological Reader. Second Edition. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.

You may use an older version of Research Methods in Anthropology if you can find it, but we will be covering several chapters of the Ethnographic Fieldwork reader that are unique to this edition. Both are on reserve at Dana Porter Library.

## Course Requirements and Assessment

There will be one midterm examination, two papers and a final examination. Students will also be graded on class participation.

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Midterm Examination	February 26, 2019	20%
Paper 1	March 5, 2019	20%
Paper 2	April 4, 2019	30%
Participation	Ongoing	10%
Final Examination	April 12, 2019	20%
Total		100%

### Midterm Examination

Students of this course will write a midterm examination worth 20% of the grade. This midterm will consist of short answer questions based on material covered in H. Russell Bernard's Research Methods in Anthropology.

### Paper 1

Students of this course are required to write two papers. The first paper will be 5 pages long, single spaced. It will take the form of a draft grant proposal and will be worth 20% of your grade.

### Paper 2

The course instructor will edit students' first papers and hand them back with suggestions. This paper will form the basis of the second paper, which will conform to the same guidelines and will be worth 30% of the grade. Students will edit their earlier work based on the instructor's suggestions and make the recommended changes. This second paper will be worth 30%

### Participation

Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the material. Ten percent of the final grade will be awarded for participation in class.

### Final Examination

Students of this course will write a take home final examination that will be handed out on the last day of class and due one week later. This exam will be worth 20% of the grade and will cover readings from Robben and Sluka's Ethnographic Fieldwork.

## Course Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
1	January 8, 10	Foundations of Social Research; the Grant Writing Template	Research Methods Chapter 2
2	January 15, 17	Preparing for Research and Research Design; How to write research objectives	Research Methods Chapters 3 and 4
3	January 22, 24	Sampling; How to write a literature review	Research Methods Chapters 5-7
4	January 29, 31	Interviewing; How to write methods	Research Methods Chapters 8 and 9
5	February 5, 7	Participant Observation and Fieldnotes; How to write about your preparedness	Research Methods Chapters 12 and 13
6	February 12, 14	Text Analysis; How to write about contributions to science	Research Methods Chapters 18 and 19
7	February 26, 28	Midterm February 26; Fieldwork Identity	Ethnographic Fieldwork Chapters 5 and 6
8	March 5, 7	Fieldwork Relations and Rapport; Paper 1 due March 5	Ethnographic Fieldwork Chapters 8 and 9
9	March 12, 14	The "Other" Talks Back; How to write a CV	Ethnographic Fieldwork Chapters 11 and 14
10	March 19, 21	Multi-sited and Reflexive Fieldwork	Ethnographic Fieldwork Chapters 26 and 32
11	March 26, 28	Conflicts, Hazards and Dangers; How to write a budget	Ethnographic Fieldwork Chapters 15 and 17
12	April 2, 4	Fieldwork Ethics; Bad writing; Paper 2 due April 4	Ethnographic Fieldwork Chapters 20 and 22

## Late Work

I do not entertain requests for an extension within a week of an assignment's due date, short of documented illness or personal tragedy. Late papers will be docked 5% per day. Students who miss a midterm examination are required to provide documentation of the reason for their absence (e.g. illness or personal tragedy) within 48 hours of the test and will arrange to write an alternate midterm outside of class time before the end of the term. The same policy applies to final exams, with one exception. If the student and the instructor are unable to schedule a mutually satisfactory date for writing an alternate final before the end of term, the student will have to fill out an Incomplete Grade Agreement Form in consultation with the instructor. The student will then arrange to write the exam at the beginning of the next term. Failing this, the student will have the opportunity to write the exam during the next exam period that the course is taught. This is not recommended because the instructor and course content may not remain the same. If the student has not written the examination before the end of the next term, the INC will convert automatically to a FTC (failure to complete). NB: If a student is present at the exam and is able to complete the exam, it is understood that the student is well enough to write the exam. Any student who completes the exam should be aware that the instructor will not allow him or her to rewrite the exam at a later date because the student feels that his or her performance was affected by illness.

## **Information on Plagiarism Detection**

Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all materials and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

## **Electronic Device Policy**

Please turn your cell phones off in class. A variety of studies have shown that writing lecture notes by hand boosts comprehension and memory in comparison to typing lecture notes. Furthermore, a recent Canadian study demonstrated that laptop use in class is distracting not only for the laptop user but also the people sitting near him or her. Please confine your use of electronic devices to taking notes and do not distract your peers by using them to engage in non-class related activities. I also ask that laptop and notebook users sit at the back of the classroom to avoid distracting those who choose not to use them. I reserve the right to ban laptop use in class, except where permission is granted by AccessAbility Services, if there are complaints about inappropriate use of electronic devices in the classroom.

## **Attendance Policy**

While I have no specific attendance policy, please understand that poor attendance will adversely affect your class participation grade.

## **Institutional-required statements for undergraduate course outlines approved by Senate Undergraduate Council, April 14, 2009**

### **Cross-listed course**

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

### **Academic Integrity**

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#).

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4](#).

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student

Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

### **Other sources of information for students**

[Academic integrity](#) (Arts) [Academic Integrity Office](#) (uWaterloo)

### **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

***Note for students with disabilities:*** The [AccessAbility Services office](#), located in Needles Hall Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.