**Sabancı University, Fall 2020**

**Anth 214**

**Anthropology as Cultural Critique**

**Ayşecan Terzioğlu**

Mondays, asynchronus lectures will be uploaded

Wednesdays 9.40-10.30, we will meet synchronously for the discussions.

Office hours will be held through zoom, upon demand via e-mail.

Zoom link: <https://sabanciuniv.zoom.us/j/8245490563?pwd=K3M2Z1VvL2RGeHNqckxhWEJyU1IwQT09>

[aysecan@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:aysecan@sabanciuniv.edu)

The COVID-19 pandemic has became the most important global issue since the beginning of 2020. Many social scientists emphasize that this pandemic increased the existing social and cultural inequalities and discriminations, as well as making them more visible. In this framework, ANTH 214 will point out the social and cultural factors related with the causes and consequences of the pandemic, as well as providing an extensive introduction to Anthropology. The students will learn how theoretical perspectives and research methods have changed since the 19th century in Anthropology, and how the anthropologists study the current cultural and social issues, such as urbanization, environmental pollution and consumption. In this course, we will cover various anthropological theories, subfields and methods, based on qualitative and quantitative research from different geographical parts of the world, including Turkey.

**Requirements**

Although the 2/3 of the class will be recorded and uploaded lectures, the participation in the remaining 1/3 is crucial both for your understanding of the class material and your grade. It is important that all of us contribute to the creation of a class atmosphere that is supportive and inspiring for all participants. This requires regular contribution, mutual respect and openness for debate and criticism in the discussion hours on Wednesdays. The most important requirements are doing the readings, watching the lectures, and, although it is an early hour, participate in the Wednesday’s synchronus class, where we will be able to have a discussion. You will be responsible from all the readings in the class and in the exams.

***Attendance and Active Participation on Wednesdays (10%)*** Attendance and active participation in class discussions will help you to understand the class content better, and thus will have a positive influence on your class performance and grade. Taking notes during the class is also crucial!

***Pop quiz (2X10= 20)*** There will be two pop quizzes on two of the Wednesdays, which will be unannounced. The students who will miss any of the quiz, without a medical record, will get a 0 out of the missed quiz. The quiz question will be asked at the on a Wednesday session, and you will have 30 minutes to write the answer and mail it to me. The question will be based on that weeks’ issues and discussions.

***Midterm Exam (30%)*** The Midterm will have open-ended essay questions and short definitions, which will be in the take-home format. You will have 3 hours to complete your midterm and send it to me via e-mail.

***Final Exam (40%)*** The final will cover all the topics and readings we covered throughout the semester, and it will be slightly more difficult than the midterm. You will have 4 hours to complete your midterm and send it to me via e-mail.

**In case I have doubts that you did not answer one of your quizzes and exams, I will demand an online interview with you, where I will test your knowledge on what you wrote. I will also deduct points on the answers, which are too similar to each other. Therefore, please be honest to yourself, to me and your class-mates.**

**October 5-7: Introduction**

What is anthropology? How does it study culture? A brief introduction of the class and syllabus.

**October 12-14: The Foundation of Anthropology**

Malinowski, Bronislaw (1961) [1922] *Argonauts of the Western Pacific*, Waveland Press, Preface, Foreword and Introduction.

**October 19- 21: Classic Ethnographies**

Evans-Pritchard, E.E. (1969) [1940] *The Nuer: A Description of the Modes of Livelihood and Political Institutions of a Nilotic People*. Oxford University Press, Introductory & Chapter1.

**October 26-28: Classic Ethnographies Revisited**

Shostak, Marjorie (2001) [1981] *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, Introduction &Chapter 1

**November 2-4: Critical Perspectives in Ethnography**

Marcus, George (1986) “Contemporary Problems of Ethnography in the Modern World System” in *Writing Culture: The Poetics and Politics of Ethnography*, University of California Press, pp.165-193

Abu-Lughod, Lila (1991) “Writing Against Culture” in *Recapturing Anthropology: Working in the Present*, ed. Richard G. Fox, New Mexico: School of American Research Press, pp.137-162

**November 9-11: Midterm week. The Midterm questions will be posted via SuCourse announcements at 12.00 on Monday, and I will have the answers at 15.00 sharp. On Wednesday, I will review the answers and go over the common mistakes.**

**November 16-18: Race and Colonialism**

Mullings, Leith (2005) “Interrogating Racism: Toward and Antiracist Anthropology”

*Annual Review of Anthropology*, vol. 34: pp. 667-693.

Baker, Lee D. (2007) “Columbia University’s Franz Boas: He Led the Undoing of Scientific Racism” *The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education*, no.55, pp: 77-84.

**November 23-25, November 30-December 2: Migration and Culture**

Malkki, Liisa H. (1999) “National Geographic: The Rooting of Peoples and the Territorialization of National Identity among Scholars and Refugees” in *Culture, Power, Place: Explorations in Critical Anthropology*, eds. Akhil Gupta and James Ferguson, Durham: Duke University Press, pp.52-74

Riano-Alcala, Pilar (2008) “Journeys and landscapes of Forced Migration: Memorializing Fear among Refugees and Internally Displaced Columbians”, *Social Anthropology*, 16 (1), pp.1-18

Parla, Ayşe (2011) “Undocumented Migrants and the Double Binds of Rights Claims” *differences* 22(1): pp. 64-89

Inhorn, Marcia C., (2018) “*America’s Arab Refugees: Vulnerability and Health on the Margins*”, Stanford University Press, pp: 1-42

**December 7-9: The City as an Ethnographic Site**

Mills, Amy (2006) “Boundaries of the Nation in the Space of the Urban: Landscape and Social Memory in Istanbul.” *Cultural Geographies* 13, pp: 367-394.

Bartu Candan, Ayfer and Biray Kolluoğlu (2008) “Emerging Spaces of Neoliberalism: A Gated Town and a Public Housing Project in Istanbul.” *New Perspectives on Turkey* 39, pp. 5-46.

**December 14-16: Gender and Sexuality**

Babb, Florence E. (2008) “Out in Nicaragua: Local and Transnational Desires after the Revolution” *Cultural Anthropology*, 18(3): 304-328.

Özyeğin, Gül, 2015. “Vulnerable Masculinity and Self-Transformation: Ali’s Story”, in *New Desires, New Selves: Sex, Love and Piety Among Turkish Youth*, New York UP.

Biscop, Kilian & Steven Malliet & Alexander Dhoest, (2019) “Subversive Ludic Performance: An Analysis of Gender and Sexuality Performance in Digital Games” *Journal of Diversity and Gender Studies*, 6 (2): 23-42

**December 21-23: The Body, Science and Medicine**

Terzioğlu Ayşecan (2018), “The Banality of Evil and the Normalization of Discriminatory Discourses against Syrians in Turkey”, Anthropology of Contemporary Middle East and Central Euresia (ACME), 4 (2), pp: 34-47.

Kayaalp, Ebru & İbrahim Burhan Işık. (August 30, 2020) “Covid-19 and Healthcare Infrastructure in Turkey”, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*.

**December 28-December 30: Anthropology of Consumption**

Kaya, Dilek (2009), “The Cola Turka Contrversy: Consuming Cola as a Turkish Muslim”, *Muslim Societies in the Age of Mass Consumption*, Johanna Pink (ed), Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 105-124

Polese, Abel & Oleksandra Seliverstova (2019) “Luxury Consumption as Identity Markers in Talinn: A Study of Russian and Estonian Everyday Identity Construction through Consumer Citizenship”, *Journal of Consumer Culture* , pp. 1-22

**January 4-6: Anthropology in the Era of the Anthropocene**

Moore, Amelia (2015) “Anthropocene Anthropology: Reconceptualizing Contemporary Global Change” *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 22, pp. 27-46.

Kirksey, Eben, Craig Schuetze and Stefan Helmreich (2014) “Introduction” in *The. Multispecies Salon,* ed. Eben Kirksey. Durham and London: Duke University Press, pp. 1-24.

Tsing, Anna Lowenthaup (2014) “Blasted Landscapes (and the Gentle Arts of Mushroom Picking)” in *The. Multispecies Salon,* ed. Eben Kirksey. Durham and London: Duke University Press, pp.87-109.