**Anth 214**

**Anthropology as Cultural Critique**

**Ayşecan Terzioğlu**

Mondays: 8.40-9.30 (online), 13.40-15.30 (hybrid.FASS 1076-1078)

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)

This course provides an extensive introduction to Anthropology as one of the oldest social sciences, which has changed considerably since the 1980s. The students will learn how theoretical perspectives and research methods in Anthropology have changed since the 19th century, and how the anthropologists study the current cultural and social issues, such as urbanization, health and illness, environmental pollution and consumption. In this course, we will cover various anthropological theories, debates, subfields and methods, based on qualitative and quantitative research from different geographical parts of the world, including Turkey.

**Requirements**

For both online and hybrid classes, active participation 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 discussions. The most important requirements are doing the readings and contributing to the discussions. You will be responsible from all the readings in the class and in the exams.

***Attendance and Active Participation (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, 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 question will be based on that partcular week’s readings and discussions.

***Midterm Exam (30%)*** The Midterm will have open-ended essay questions and short definitions.

***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.

**February 28: Introduction**

What is anthropology? How does it study culture? A brief introduction of the class and syllabus (This class will be at 8.40-9.30. The afternoon classes will start in March)

**March 7: The Foundation of Anthropology**

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

**March 14: 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.

**March 21: Classic Ethnographies Revisited**

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

**March 28: 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

**April 4: Midterm week.**

**April 11: 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.

**April 18, April 25: 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

**May 1-6: Ramadan Holiday/Spring Break. Enjoy ☺**

**May 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.

**May 16: Gender and Sexuality**

# Kütük-Kuriş, Merve (2021) “Muslim Fashionistas in Contemporary Turkey: Devoted Mothers, Benevolent Philanthropists, and Leisure Enthusiasts”, Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies, 17(3): 395-422.

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.

**May 23: The Body, Health and Illness**

Oyarzun, Yesmar, (2020) “Plantation Politics, Paranoia, and Public Health on the Frontlines of America's COVID-19 Response” Medical Anthropology Quarterly, 34 (4): 578-590.

Gomez-Temesio, Veronica, (2018)“Outliving Death: Ebola, Zombies, and the Politics of Saving Lives” *American Anthropologist*, 120(4): 738-751.

**May 30: Anthropology of Consumption**

Kaya, Dilek (2009), “The Cola Turka Controversy: 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

**June 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.

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.