**Anth 214**

**Anthropology as Cultural Critique**

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Monday:15.40-17.30 (G048), Tuesday (1101):13.40-14.30

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.

**Week 1: Introduction**

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

**Week 2: The Foundation of Anthropology**

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

**Week 3: 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.

**Week 4: Classic Ethnographies Revisited**

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

**Week 5: 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

Denzin, Norman K.(1998) “The New Ethnography”, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 27(3): 405-415

**Week 6: Midterm week.**

**Week 7: Race and Ethnicity**

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

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

Rysst, Mari (2022) ““Stuck in Their Skin”: Challenges of Ethnic Identity Construction among Children and Youth of Mixed-Race Heritage in Norway”,  *Journal of Critical Mixed Race Studies*

1(2): pp. 50-75

**Week 8-9: 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

**Week 10: 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.

**Week 11: 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

Lomotey, Benedicta A. (2020) Exploring Gender Ideologies in Social Media Jokes During The Coronavirus Pandemic, 19(1): 65-89

**Week 12: 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

**Week 13: Anthropology of Consumption**

Casati, Noemi (2016) Political participation in a Palestinian university: Nablus undergraduates’ political subjectivities through boredom, fear and consumption, *Ethnography*, 17 (4), 518-538

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* , 1-22

**Week 14: Anthropology in the Era of the Anthropocene**

Pizzaro Cristobal J.& Brendon M.H. Larson (2017) “Feathered Roots and Migratory Routes: Immigrants and Birds in the Anthropocene”, *Nature and Culture*, 12(3): 189-219

# Machin, Amanda (2019) “Agony and the Anthropos: Democracy and Boundaries in the Anthropocene”, *Nature and Culture*, 14(1): 1-16