

Module Outline for PG/MA in Development Studies 2010/2011

Module Title: Anthropology of Development Course Outline

Facilitator: Mary Quinlan

Programme: PG/MA in Development Studies

Duration: 9 Sessions: 25 Hours

1. Aim of Module

The aim of the module is to introduce the discipline of anthropology and its use in development to students who will be expected to adopt a critical analysis of the subject and its potential role development.

Objectives

- To examine whether anthropological knowledge and perspective is relevant or not to development work.
- To critically explore the term 'culture' in all its complexity focusing on society and identities.
- To investigate enculturation and ethnocentrism using the multi-culturalism of the group.
- To explore the anthropology of globalization paying particular attention to the role of culture and consumption
- To assess the practical applications of applying cultural anthropological theory, knowledge, and research methods to development

Module Content

Introducing Cultural Anthropology

- The Sub-disciplines of Anthropology
- A historical critique of the social discipline
- The Anthropological Perspective
- Is Anthropology relevant to the work of Development?

Anthropologists and Culture

- The concept of 'culture' defined and explored
- A critical approach to 'culture', Society and Identity
- Enculturation and Ethnocentrism

Identities

- The Cultural Construction of Gender

- Race, Racism and Power
- Cultural Relativism, Nationalism and Ethnicity

The Anthropology of Economics

- A review of economic systems
- Distribution and Globalization
- Culture, Consumption and the Globalized Economy

Applying Anthropology to Development

- The uses of anthropology to Development
- The role of the Medical Anthropologist
- Ethical Principles in 'Doing Anthropology'

Qualitative Research Methodologies

- Participant Observation
- PRA

2. Module Approach and Methodology

The course will include power point presentations from the course facilitator together with both small and plenary group discussions. Active participation will be encouraged and the experiences, different cultures, ages and genders of the students will be utilized for group learning. Oral and visual methods including case studies, group exercises, observations and reflection learning will be used where appropriate.

3. Learning Outcomes

Students will have learned some of the more important anthropological theories in relation to development and will have learned to critically assess them in the light of their own experiences. They will have been encouraged to explore the importance of understanding how culture, in its broad and problematic sense, relates to development practice.

4. Assessment

4.1. Continuous Assessment

4.2. Summative or Final Assessment

Students will be invited to write an essay which will be marked and commented on.

5. Reading List

Bodley, J. H. (1996) *Anthropology and Contemporary Human Problems*. 3rd Ed. Mayfield Publications

Carmody, P. (2007) *Neoliberalism, Civil Society and Security in Africa*. Palgrave MacMillan

Chambers, E. (1985) *Applied Anthropology: A Practical Guide*. Prentice-Hall

Edelman M. & A. Haugerud (2005) *The Anthropology of Development and Globalization* Blackwell Publishing

Eller, J.D. (2009) *Cultural Anthropology: Global Forces, Local Lives*. Routledge

Ferraro, Gary. (1992) *Cultural Anthropology: An Applied Perspective*. West Publishing Company

Gardner, K. and D. Lewis (1996) *Anthropology, Development and the Post-Modern Challenge*. Pluto Press

Geertz, C. (1973) *The Interpretation of Cultures*. Basic Books

Grillo, R. and A. Rew (1987) *Social Anthropology and Development Policy*. Tavistock Publications.

Hall, S. (1997) *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*. Sage.

Howard, M. C. (1989) *Contemporary Cultural Anthropology*. 3rd Ed. Harper Collins.

Joralemon, D. (1999) *Exploring Medical Anthropology*. 3rd Ed. Allyn & Bacon

Keesing, R.M. and Strathern, A.J. (1998) *Cultural Anthropology: A Contemporary Perspective*. 3rd Ed. Holt, Rinehart & Winston

Harris, Marvin (1988) *Culture, People, Nature*. Harper & Row

Pelto, P. and G. Pelto. (1978) *Anthropological Research: the Structure of Enquiry*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Podolefsky, Aaron, and P.J. Brown (Eds) (1989) *Applying Anthropology: An Introductory Reader*. Mountain View. (Collection of essays)

Tucker. V. 1996. *Cultural Perspectives on Development*

Whitten, P., and D.E.K. Hunter. (1990) *Anthropology: Contemporary Perspectives*. 6th Ed. Harper Collins.

A more detailed reading list will be provided for each session