San José State University  
College of Social Sciences  
ANTH 125, Urban Anthropology, Spring 2013

Instructor: Dr. Guadalupe Salazar
Office Location: Clark Hall 402 H
Telephone: (408) (924-5730)
Email: guadalupe.salazar@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 8:00 am – 9:30am
Class Days/Time: Tuesday/Thursday 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm
Classroom: WSQ 004
Prerequisites: ANTH 11 or consent from the instructor

Faculty Web Page
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page accessible through the Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page.

Course Description
Urban anthropology is the study of human beings and their cultural institutions in cities. The focus of this course will be on urbanization and how large, dense, heterogenous settlements shape behavior. We will look at the strategies people – both as individuals and in groups – use to cope with the demands posed by urban environments. Themes covered include fieldwork in cities, urban culture, urban structures and institutions, migration and adaptation, globalization and transnationalism. A thread running throughout this course is the concept of community and how it is manifest in urban settings. The approach will be comparative, drawing on research completed in all parts of the world.

Goals of the Anthropology Department
1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution;
2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity;
3. Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline;
4. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history;

5. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomenon shaping global society;

6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature;

7. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues;

8. Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and the ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline;

9. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences;

10. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

Course Content Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Think critically, especially using comparative frameworks, analyze processes and identify assumptions;

2. Distinguish contributors associated with modernity that influence health status;

3. Identify and define major themes and key concepts;

4. Recognize and analyze the forces that foster social cohesion and fragmentation in health related social movements;

5. Understand the complexities of social life both locally and globally in their communities as they reflect different points of view.

Required Texts / Readings

Textbooks
1) Gmelch, Kemper and Zenner (2009) Urban Life: Readings in the Anthropology of the City

The books are available at Spartan Bookstore and Amazon.com. Black Corona and Righteous Dopefiend are available at the King Library in ebook format. PDFs, marked with an asterisk (*) on the syllabus, are available online on my Faculty Web page.

Course Website
Course materials will be available on my Faculty Web Page.
Classroom Protocol / Student Responsibilities

• Please do not use your cell phones or MP3 players for any purpose during class. However, if you are expecting an important call you should notify me so we can make arrangements. Please do not use your computers to take notes during in-class films.

• I have a zero-tolerance policy for cheating and plagiarism; if you cheat or plagiarize you will fail the course! Incidences of cheating or plagiarism will be turned into the academic integrity office. Students are responsible to understanding and adhering to the academic integrity policy.

• If you are absent from class, please ask your fellow students for copies of their notes. If you have further questions, please come to my office hours.

Student Responsibilities

• Download and refer to course materials (syllabus and assignment guides) for detailed guidance.

• If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend an exam, it is your responsibility to contact me immediately by either e-mailing or telephoning me, leaving a message for me in the Anthropology Department office, or by coming by during my office hours.

• Only students with a documented excuse will be able to take a make-up exam or hand in a late assignment. Late assignments will not be accepted otherwise.

• Students are responsible for understanding policies about adding, dropping, and incompletes.

• Students are responsible for being aware of assignment due dates, midterm date, and the final exam schedule.

• If you have any concerns about your class performance or comprehension, see me in my office hours or schedule an appointment. I am always willing to help students and I care about whether students are grasping the material and enjoying the class.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html. Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Course Assignments and Grading

Midterm – The midterm will ask you to demonstrate your understanding of topics, concepts and arguments covered in the readings and class discussions. More details will be provided closer to the date of the midterm.
**Homework Assignments** – Students will complete two short homework assignments focusing on the idea of community.

   Homework Assignment 1: Meaning of Community  
   Homework Assignment 2: Community and Identity

Each assignment has a handout with instructions specific to it. Please refer to the syllabus for due dates. *No late submissions accepted.*

**Ethnography in the City:** Students will work in a group - the size of the group will be determined by class enrollment – on a poster presentation focusing on urban phenomena. A detailed handout will be distributed in class.

**Final:** The final is cumulative and will ask you to demonstrate your understanding of topics, concepts and arguments covered in the readings and class discussions. More details will be provided closer to the date of the final.

**Grading Distribution**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>A- to A+ = 186- 200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework Assignments (2@ 25)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>B- to B+ = 166-185 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnography in the City</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>C- to C+ = 146-165 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>D- to D+ = 126-145 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>F = below 125</td>
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**University Policies**

**Academic integrity**

Students should know that the University’s [Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf). Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at [http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.
# ANTH 125 / Urban Anthropology, Spring 2013

## Course Schedule

Students will be informed about changes to the schedule ahead of time. Students are responsible for noting those changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td><strong>Course Introduction</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2    | Jan. 29 | **Urban Fieldwork**  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 1, Anthropological Fieldwork in Cities  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 2, Networks, Neighborhoods and Markets: Fieldwork in Tokyo  
Jan. 31  
Read: Gregory, Ch. 1 & 2 |
| 3    | Feb. 5  | **Anthropologists in Cities**  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 3, Nomads in the City: Studying Irish Travellers  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 4, Moscow Encounters: Ethnography in a Global Urban Village  
Feb. 7  
Read: Gregory, Ch. 3 & 4 |
| 4    | Feb. 12 | **Urban Culture**  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 7, Urbanism as a Way of Life  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 8, Urban Danger: Life in a Neighborhood of Strangers  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 9, The Edge and the Center: Gated Communities and the Discourse of Urban Fear  
Feb. 14  
Video: Silent Witness: The Kitty Genovese Murder (XD1086; 43 min)  
Read: Gregory, Ch. 5  
**Homework Assignment 1: Meaning of Community** |
| 5    | Feb. 19 | **Urban Communities**  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 10, Rethinking Camps: Palestinian Refugees in Damascus  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 11, In Motion: Transportation and Knowledge in São Paulo  
Video: Bus 174  
Feb. 21  
Read: Fortified Enclaves: The New Urban Segregation  
Read: Gregory, Ch. 6  
Video: Bus 174 |
| 6    | Feb. 26 | **Myths about the Urban Poor**  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 12, The Culture of Poverty  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 13, How Urban Ethnography Counters Myths about the Poor  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 14, Office Work and the Crack Alternative Among Puerto Rican Drug Dealers in East Harlem  
Feb. 28  
Read: Gregory, Ch. 7 |
| 7    | Mar. 5  | **Urban Structures and Institutions**  
Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 15, The View from the Desk: Addressing |
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|      | Mar. 7     | **Homelessness and the Homeless in Dallas**  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 16, Gangs, Poverty and the Future  
**Read:** Gregory, Ch. 8                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 8    | Mar. 12    | **Urban Structures and Institutions**  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 17, Civic Ecology, Urban Elders, and New York City’s Community Garden Movement  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 18, Neighbors and Kin in Chinese Cities  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 19, Caste, Politics, and Criminality in Urban India  
**Read:** Gregory, Ch. 9  
**Homework Assignment 2: Community and Identity**                                                                                                                                                          |
|      | Mar. 14    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 9    | Mar. 19    | **Midterm**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|      | Mar. 21    | **Video: Roger and Me**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 10   | Mar. 26    | **SPRING BREAK**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|      | & Mar. 28  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 11   | Apr. 2     | **Migration and Adaptation**  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 20, The Extended Community: Migration and Transformation in Tzintzuntzan, Mexico  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 21, A West Indian Life in Britain  
**Read:** Bourgois and Schonberg, Introduction & Ch. 1                                                                                                                                                  |
|      | Apr. 4     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 12   | Apr. 9     | **Migration and Adaptation**  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 22, First Nations Migration: The Case of Western Canada  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 23, Japanese Brazilian Ethnic Return Migration  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 24, Cityward Migration in Comparative Perspective  
**Video: Los Olvidados**  
**Read:** Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 2 & 3                                                                                                                                                               |
|      | Apr. 11    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 13   | Apr. 16    | **Globalization and Transnationalism**  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 25, Transnationalism, Old and New: New York Immigrants  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 26, From Cuenca, Ecuador to New York, USA: Families and Transnational Lives  
**Read:** Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 4 & 5                                                                                                                                                              |
|      | Apr. 18    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 14   | Apr. 23    | **Globalization and Transnationalism**  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 27, Global Transactions: Sudanese Refugees Sending Money Home  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 28, Hyderabad: Continuities and Transformations  
**Read:** G, K, & Z, Ch. 29, Beyond Urban and Rural Communities in the 21st Century  
**Read:** Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 6 & 7                                                                                                                                                              |
|      | Apr. 25    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 15   | Apr. 30    | **Urban Politics, Governance and Economics**  
**Read:** Place and Production in the Global Economy  
**Read:** Cities and Uneven Economic Development                                                                                                                                                        |
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td><strong>Read:</strong> Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 8, 9, Conclusion&lt;br&gt;<strong>Video:</strong> Dark Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>May 7</td>
<td><strong>The Future of the City</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Read:</strong> The Reconstruction of Social Meaning in the Space of Flows&lt;br&gt;Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Presentations&lt;br&gt;Wrap-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Thurs. May 16</td>
<td>9:45 pm – 12:00 pm&lt;br&gt;WSQ 004</td>
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</tbody>
</table>