

## Anthropology 233 Domains of Application

Professor Guadalupe Salazar Office: Clark Hall 402 H Phone: 924-5730 Email: <a href="mailto:guadalupe.salazar@sjsu.edu">guadalupe.salazar@sjsu.edu</a>	Class: Tuesday 6:00pm – 8:45 pm Room: Clark 310 Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 9-10 am Tuesday 3-6 pm
---	---

This course introduces four domains that intersect with anthropological knowledge: (1) health and illness; (2) environmental sustainability; (3) migration and immigration; and (4) business, industry, and labor. We will explore how anthropologists are addressing issues in each of these domains, and how anthropological perspectives might provide insight into social, economic, and political transformations in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Although this graduate course is offered within the context of an applied anthropology M.A. curriculum, the division between "applied" and "theoretical" (or "academic") anthropology is arbitrary. Indeed, the division emerged relatively recently (in the 1930s) in the United States. This distinction has never occurred in some countries. For example, in Mexico nearly all anthropologists have been expected to apply social science knowledge to meet human needs. Consequently in this course we will examine four specific domains but we will also critically examine a host of topics concerning the genesis, development, and consequences of applied anthropology, including:

1. *Perspective.* From what points of view is the anthropologist analyzing an issue or problem? What are the basic assumptions that are being made? Should the perspectives of "experts" be privileged over those of non-experts? Who provides the anthropologist with data? Who is the anthropologist serving?
2. *Cross-cultural comparison.* How are people in different cultures addressing a particular issue or problem? What ideas can the applied anthropologist take from other cultures to help solve problems at home?
3. *Historical analysis.* How have people in different historical periods addressed a particular issue or problem? How did a given issue or problem develop over time? What ideas can the applied anthropologist take from other time periods to help solve present-day problems?
4. *Power.* What role does power play in the definition, creation, and resolution of social problems? Through what institutions or mechanisms are anthropologists able to apply their knowledge?

We will also discuss several ethical issues related to the field of applied anthropology, including:

1. *Proprietary data and the question of secrecy.* Is it ethical for the social scientist to conduct covert research?
2. *AAA Principles of Professional Responsibility.* How have these changed over time, and what factors have impacted these changes? How do these compare to the professional guidelines of other professional associations (such as the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, etc.)?

3. *Ethical limits of applied anthropology.* Are there any institutions or agencies for which applied anthropologists should not provide services?

**Required Texts:**

- 1) S. Kedia and J. van Willigen, (2005) *Applied Anthropology: Domains of Application*
- 2) P. Durrenberger and S. Erem, (2006) *Class Acts: An Anthropology of Urban Workers and Their Union*
- 3) Anthropology 233: Domains of Application Reader

The books are available through the Spartan Bookstore and Amazon.com. The reader is available at Maple Press (located at 481 E. San Carlos). All material will be on reserve in the MLK Library. Many of the articles in the reader are available in the SJSU King Library Online Journals collection (see <http://sjlibrary.org/research/ejournals/index.htm>). Please come to class with photocopies or printouts of these articles.

**Course Format:**

This course will be conducted as a student-led seminar. In other words, four times during the semester you (along with a partner) will be responsible for presenting the week's readings to your peers. You will also be expected to lead a critical discussion of the week's readings.

**Course Requirements:**

Your grade for the semester will be based on the following assignments and activities:

1. *Weekly reading summaries.* Each week, you should prepare a 3-page double-spaced summary of the week's readings. You should concisely summarize the research problem, the main points, the methodology, and the article's conclusion. (3 points for each summary; 45 points total)
2. *Presentations.* Four times during the semester you (along with a partner) will be responsible for presenting the week's readings to your peers. You will also be expected to lead a critical discussion of the week's readings. (5 points for each presentation; 20 points total)
3. *Class project.* You will participate in a class project to be conducted in teams. Each project will focus upon one of the four domains covered during the semester. Teams will be assigned randomly by the instructor. Students will assume the role of applied anthropologists in a consulting group commissioned to solve a specific problem related to health and illness, environmental sustainability, immigration, or industry. Instead of a final exam, each group will present the results of your project on Tuesday, December 16 (5:15-7:30 pm), at which time each group should submit a 10-page project summary to the instructor. More information will be given to later in the course. (20 points total)
4. *Participation.* You will be expected to attend the seminar each week and actively participate in discussion. (1 point each week; 15 points total)

**Grading Distribution:**

100	-	97	A+	79	-	77	C+
96	-	93	A	76	-	73	C
92	-	90	A-	72	-	70	C-
89	-	87	B+	69	-	67	D+
86	-	83	B	66	-	63	D
83	-	80	B-	Below 63			F

### **Course Policies:**

**All** assignments must be completed in order to pass. **No** late assignments will be accepted unless student presents documentary evidence of illness, death in family, jury duty, etc. **No** assignments will be accepted via e-mail—I must receive hard copies of **all** assignments. No makeup exams will be given unless student presents documentary evidence of illness, death in family, jury duty, etc. Cell phones **must** be turned off during class to avoid disruption.

Plagiarism, cheating, and academic dishonesty will be reported to the University. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at SJSU, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs (the University's academic integrity policy can be found at <http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf>).

Disabled students with special needs should make arrangements with me as soon as possible. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of disability, or if you need 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. SJSU Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Computers may be used only for note taking – if used for non-class related purposes, you will be asked to leave.

### **Departmental Objectives:**

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 Readings and Topics**

#### **Week 1: Introduction**

Aug. 26 C.W. Mills, "The Promise"  
L. Nader, "Barriers to Thinking New about Energy"

#### **Week 2: Development of Applied Anthropology**

Sept. 2 \*S. Kedia and J. van Willigen, "Applied Anthropology"  
R. González, "From Indigenismo to Zapatismo"

- Week 3:**           **Anthropology: Top-Down or Bottom-Up?**  
 Sept. 9           L. Nader, "Up the Anthropologist"  
                       A. Ervin, "What Is Policy and How Does It Relate To Anthropology?"  
                       J. Spradley, "The Ethnography of Crime in American Society"
- Week 4:**           **Health and Illness (Part I)**  
 Sept. 16          C. Helman, "Medicine and Culture: The Limits of Biomedical Explanation"  
                       \*L. Whiteford and L. Bennett, "Applied Anthropology in Health and Medicine"  
                       P. Bourgois, "Everyday Violence of Hepatitis C among Women Who Inject Drugs"  
                       M. Singer, "Beyond the Ivory Tower"
- Week 5:**           **Health and Illness (Part II)**  
 Sept. 23          L. de la Gorgendiére, "Rights and Wrongs: HIV/AIDS Research in Africa"  
                       B. Rylko-Bauer and P. Farmer, "Managed Care or Managed Inequality?"  
                       L. Nader and R. González, "Framing Teenage Health Care"
- Week 6:**           **Environmental Sustainability (Part I)**  
 Sept. 30          \*T. McGuire, "The Domain of the Environment"  
                       B. Berlin and E. Berlin, "Community Autonomy and the Maya ICBG Project in Chiapas"  
                       P. Durrenberger and K. Thu, "The Industrialization of Swine Farming in the U.S."  
                       C. Kottak, "An Anthropological Take on Sustainable Development"
- Week 7:**           **Environmental Sustainability (Part II)**  
 Oct. 7            M. Huang, "Sacramento Learns from Bangladesh"  
                       A. Waldrop, "Gating and Class Relations: The Case of a New Delhi 'Colony'"  
                       K. Chung et al., "Civic Agriculture"  
                       M. Boyd, "The Downside of Racial Uplift"
- Week 8:**           **Immigration and Minority Issues (Part I)**  
 Oct. 14           D. King, "Asylum Seekers/Patron Seekers: Interpreting Iraqi Kurdish Migration"  
                       K. Bubinas, "Gandhi *Marg*"  
                       C. Stack, "Beyond What Are Given as Givens"  
                       S. Lee, "Behind the Model-Minority Stereotype"
- Week 9:**           **Immigration and Minority Issues (Part II)**  
 Oct. 21           L. Chavez et al., "Undocumented Latin American Immigrants and US Health Services"  
                       J. Freeman, "Work as Mission in an Immigrant Community and its Homeland"
- Week 10:**          **Industry, Business, and Labor (Part I)**  
 Oct. 28           \*M. Baba, "Anthropological Practice in Business and Industry"  
                       D. McCurdy, "Using Anthropology"  
                       G. Ferraro, "The Need for Linguistic Proficiency in Global Business"  
                       S. Striffler, "Inside a Poultry Processing Plant"  
                       J. van Rij, "Trends, Symbols, and Brand Power in Global Markets"
- Week 11:**          **Industry, Business, and Labor (Part II)**  
 Nov. 4            P. Durrenberger, *Class Acts* (Chapters 1-19, Epilogue, and Appendix)
- Week 12:**          **Veteran's Day**  
 Nov. 11           No Class

**Week 13      Advocacy and Objectivity in the Social Sciences**  
Nov. 18      M. Furner, "Advocacy and Objectivity" (excerpts)  
                 S. Cook, "Anthropological Advocacy in Historical Perspective"  
                 J. Halper, "Israel and the Empire"

**Week 14      Anthropology, the Military, and Intelligence Agencies**  
Nov. 25      M. McFate, "Counterinsurgency and Four Tools of Political Competition"  
                 J. Mooney, "The Ghost-Dance Religion" (excerpts)  
                 E. Wolf and J. Jorgensen, "Anthropology on the Warpath in Thailand"

**THANKSGIVING BREAK — November 27-28**

**Week 15      Dilemmas in Practicing Anthropology**  
Dec. 2        H. Gusterson, "Where Are We Going? Dilemmas in Practicing Anthropology"  
                 H. Gusterson and D. Price, "Spies in Our Midst"  
                 G. Bonfil Batalla, "Conservative Thought in Applied Anthropology"  
                 E. Colson, "Tranquility for the Decision Maker"

**Week 16      The Future of Anthropology**  
Dec. 9        David Graeber, "Direct Action" or "The New Anarchists" (to be announced)  
                 David Price, "Past Wars, Present Dangers, Future Anthropologies"  
                 David Price, "America the Ambivalent"  
                 **Review and Discussion**

**FINAL EXAM—Tuesday, DECEMBER 16 (5:15-7:30 pm)**

\*Articles marked with an asterisk may be found in the book *Applied Anthropology* by S. Kedia and J. van Willegen.