

San José State University
Department of Anthropology
ANTH 144 Economic Anthropology Fall 2016

Instructor:	A.J. Faas, Ph.D.
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Office Hours:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11:45am
Class Days/Time:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-2:45pm
Classroom:	Clark Hall 204
Prerequisites:	ANTH 011 or instructor consent

Course Description

This course explores anthropological perspectives on the ways in which humans produce, exchange, and consume goods and services. We will explore evidence from the past and present around the world. We will begin by reviewing early anthropological examinations exchange and the broad questions they raise about how humans aim to produce and live good lives. Later, we will examine critical anthropological analyses of identities, moralities, and powers exercised in production, exchange, and consumption. We will be particularly concerned with the following questions: What powers are exercised in the giving of gifts? How do different people respond to pressures to give, receive, and reciprocate and how does this vary by cultural contexts? What insights can anthropologists provide for a better understanding of one of the most important dynamics of human behavior?

Topics to be covered this semester include: varieties and exchange, morality and economy, economics and power, corporate social responsibility, philanthropic giving, capitalism and socialism, consumption, distinction, identity, unequal development, and the future of human economies.

Much of this course's conceptual framework will be covered during the lectures and class discussions, so it is critical that you attend class meetings. Exams will be based upon readings, class discussions, and lectures. This course is open to all upper-division undergraduate and graduate students.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will:

1. Be knowledgeable about the origins and development of a variety of economic practices

2. Be able to analyze the invention and consequences of exchange, production, and consumption.
3. Be able to analyze economic behavior based upon cross-cultural and ethnographic data.
4. Be knowledgeable about and able to critique the concept of *Homo economicus*, or "Economic Man."
5. Be able to apply the concepts of economic anthropology to a range of case studies, including (but not limited to) the following: Trobriand kula exchanges; Northwest Coast Indian potlatches; the global commodity trade; disaster capitalism; global development; corporate social responsibility; and consumer culture.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

Hann, Chris, and Keith Hart

2011 *Economic Anthropology: History, Ethnography, Critique*. Malden, MA: Polity Press.

Browne, Katherine E., and B. Lynne Milgram

2013 *Economics and Morality: Anthropological Approaches*. New York: AltaMira.

*Additional readings, indicated by “***” in the course schedule, are available on Canvas.*

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Assignments for this course include the following: (1) complete SJSU plagiarism tutorial (no credit); (2) class participation (10% of course grade); (3) take-home midterm exam (20% of course grade); (4) take-home final exam (20% of course grade); (5) reading journal (20% of course grade); (6) Term paper (30% of course grade).

- Download the guidelines for the course assignments. Read the guidelines carefully to ensure that you complete course assignments according to instructions.
- All assignments and exams must be completed in order to pass. ***I will not accept late assignments nor will I administer makeup exams unless documents can be presented as evidence of illness, death in family, jury duty, recognized religious observance, etc.***
- No assignments will be accepted via e-mail—I must receive hard copies of all assignments.
- Please write clearly and correctly; seek help if you need it. Please proofread your papers carefully. Reading your work aloud often reveals mistakes in syntax and spelling.

SJSU Plagiarism Tutorial. All students must complete the SJSU plagiarism tutorial online and submit a printout of a passing grade on the quiz to the professor by September 1. The tutorial takes about 15 minutes to complete. Please note that I will not accept any assignments from Applied Anthropology, ANTH 144, Fall 2016

studentsuntilIreceivetheplagiarismtutorialprintout. The tutorial can be found here:
<http://goo.gl/7s6Tka>.

Class Participation (10% of final grade). Students are required to have completed assigned readings by the date indicated in the course schedule (see schedule below) and be prepared to discuss the material in class, either in group discussion or class-wide question and answer. Additionally, you are expected to be respectful of other students, the professor, and opinions and

be mindful to be courteous in your participation and avoid dominating discussions.

Midterm and Final Exams (each counts for 20% of final grade, 40% total). There will be take-home midterm and final examinations—essay questions requiring some independent research—based on lectures and readings. You will have a week to work on and submit your exams. The midterm will cover all material up to that point, while the final will cover all material after the midterm and likely include a question based on cumulative material.

Reading Journal (20% of final grade). Students are required to keep a reading journal in which they write summaries of each reading assigned in class. Keep this journal current and bring it with you to each class. I will collect and grade all journals on two surprise dates during the semester and one final date (December 6).

What to write? Please summarize the main argument of each reading, including: (a) The main thesis or objective (what the author is trying to argue); (b) the evidence the author presents to support the argument; (c) core conclusions of the article; (d) you may (this is optional) record your opinions of the reading and any questions you may have (please clearly distinguish this section).

How long? 250-500 words.

Grading: Each surprise deadline counts for 25% of the assignment grade and the final deadline counts for 50% of the assignment grade. You will be graded on completeness, including all articles since last due date and all components (a, b, c above); and comprehension, or evidence that you have read carefully and have either clear summary or good questions that demonstrate you are working to understand the reading.

If you are absent or forget your journal on a surprise deadline: You lose 10% if you submit the journal by 6pm on the day. No credit if turned in later without a documented emergency.

Term Paper (30% of final grade) Each student will complete an ethnography of an organization, institution, or group, examining some core domain of economic anthropology (e.g., gifts, value, morality, poverty).

Term papers will be ten double-spaced pages (Times New Roman, 12-point font, one-inch margins) for undergraduate students and 20 double-spaced pages for graduate students. *Page totals do not include references.*

Students are expected to use at least 5 academic sources (journal articles or books) in the paper (graduate students must use 10).

For all references, you should conform to the American Anthropological Association Style Guide, available on the Canvas page for this course.

The assignment has several parts and due dates (see class schedule below): (1) paper idea in two paragraphs, one describing the site/group and the other the topic (10% of assignment grade); (2) annotated bibliography (a list of sources and summaries like the reading journal, 10% of assignment grade); (3) Paper outline with short summaries of each section (10% of assignment grade); (4) Final paper (70% of grade).

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

Plus and minus grades will be assigned (e.g. roughly 70-72.9 = C-, 73-76.9 = C, and 77-79.9 = C+), but extra credit will not be accepted.

Canvas

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for regularly checking Canvas and your email to learn of any updates.

Classroom Protocol and Student Responsibilities

1. It is expected that students will be attentive and respectful of their fellow students, the instructor and cultures and traditions which are not their own.
2. Students arriving habitually late to class will be asked to leave as this is disruptive to the learning process.
3. **Mobile phones, laptops, and tablets must be turned off during class and must be out of sight or else the instructor will collect the device from the student until the end of class.**
4. Students may record lectures for their own private use only, **not to be redistributed or sold.**
5. Students are required to read SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 (see below). **This university policy on plagiarism and cheating will be strictly honored.**
6. In the event that the building is evacuated because of an emergency during class time, the class will convene in the parking lot directly adjacent to the building. No assignment will be canceled because of any such emergency.
7. If you miss a class, ask your fellow students for copies of their notes. If you need further help, please see me in my office hours.
8. Students are responsible for being aware of exam dates and assignment deadlines.
9. 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.

ANTH 144 Fall 2016 Course Schedule

Changes to the following schedule will be made if necessary. Students will be notified in class and by e-mail (using the official class roster e-mail addresses), and all students are responsible for any changes in the calendar.

Note that readings marked with “****” can be found on Canvas.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Thursday, August 25	Introduction to class goals and format, review syllabus, assignments, add/drop process and deadlines
2	Tuesday, August 30	<i>Orientation to Economic Anthropology</i> Reading Hann and Hart, Ch1 and Ch2
	Thursday, September 1	<i>Traditions in Modern Economic Anthropology</i> Reading Hann and Hart Ch 3 Plagiarism Tutorial Due
3	Tuesday, September 6	<i>The Gift, Part I</i> Reading Malinowski (1922) Essentials of the Kula****
	Thursday, September 8	<i>The Gift, Part II</i> Reading Mauss (1925) The Gift**** Paper ideas due
4	Tuesday, September 13	<i>The Gift, Part III</i> Reading Carrier (1990) Reconciling Commodities and Personal Relations in Industrial Society****
	Thursday, September 15	<i>Karl Polanyi and the Golden Age of Economic Anthropology</i> Reading Hann and Hart Ch 4
5	Tuesday, September 20	<i>After the Formalist Debate – Marxism, Feminism, Culture</i> Reading Hann and Hart Ch 5
	Thursday, September 22	<i>Marxist Anthropology</i> Mintz (1976) “Time, Sugar, and Sweetness”****
6	Tuesday, September 27	<i>Economics and Morality</i> Reading E&M Intro - Browne (2013) Economics and Morality
	Thursday, September 29	<i>Gifts and Commodities</i> Reading E&M CH1 - Robbins (2013) Rethinking Gifts and Commodities

7	Tuesday, October 4	Morality, Reciprocity, and Change, Part I Reading E&M CH 2 - Walsh (2013) The Grift: Getting Burned in the Northern Malagasy
	Thursday, October 6	Morality, Reciprocity, and Change, Part II Reading E&M CH 3 - Little (2013) Maya Daykeepers: New Spiritual Clients and the Morality of Making Money
8	Tuesday, October 11	Moral Agency inside Market Logic Reading E&M CH 5 - Prentice (2013) Thieving a Chance Annotated bibliography due. Mid-Term Exam Distributed.
	Thursday, October 13	NO CLASS MEETING – Mid-Term Exams Due in CL469 by 1:15
9	Tuesday, October 18	Consumer Social Responsibility Reading E&M CH 7 - Dolan (2013) Virtue at the Checkout Till
	Thursday, October 20	Corporate Social Responsibility I Reading E&M CH8 - Garsten and Hernes (2013) Beyond CSR
10	Tuesday, October 25	Corporate Social Responsibility II Reading E&M CH 9 - Rajak (2013) “I am the Conscience of the Company”
	Thursday, October 27	Calculating Risk and Values Reading E&M CH 5 - Werner (2013) Patriotism, Profits, and Waste
11	Tuesday, November 1	Disaster Capitalism Reading Button & Oliver-Smith (2008) Disaster, Displacement, & Employment***
	Thursday, November 3	Philanthropic Gifting Reading E&M CH 4 - Halperin (2013) Extreme Gifting Paper outlines due.
12	Tuesday, November 8	Consumption, Distinction, and Identity I Reading Ngai (2003) Subsumption or Consumption?***
	Thursday, November 10	Consumption, Distinction, and Identity II Reading Favero (2003) Phantasms in a Starry Place***
13	Tuesday, November 15	Socialism Reading Hann and Hart CH7

	Thursday, November 17	<i>One-World Capitalism</i> Reading Hann and Hart CH8
14	Tuesday, November 22	<i>Unequal Development I</i> Reading Hann and Hart Ch6
	Thursday, November 24	NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
15	Tuesday, November 29	<i>Neoliberal Development and Anti-Politics</i> Readings Ferguson (1994) The Anti-Politics Machine*** Moberg (2014) Certification and Neoliberal Governance***
	Thursday, December 1	<i>Micro-Finance</i> Reading Brett (2006) “We Sacrifice More and Eat Less”*****
16	Tuesday, December 6	<i>Possible Futures</i> Reading Hann and Hart CH9 Reading Journals Due
	Thursday, December 8	<i>Semester Debrief and Final Exam Review</i> Reading E&M Afterward - Maurer (2013) Afterward: Moral Economies, Economic Moralities: Consider the Possibilities! Final Papers Due Final Exams Distributed
FINAL EXAM	Friday, December 16	12:15pm-2:30pm in regular classroom Final Exams Due

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>