

San José State University Department of Anthropology
ANTH 105 - Applied Anthropology
Section 01 (47168), Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information:

Instructor(s):	Prof. Danae G. Khorasani
Office Location:	Online
Email:	danae.khorasani@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Online Wednesdays from 10:30-11:45 pm, and/or by appointment via Zoom http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/zoom/
Class Days/Time:	Synchronous, Mondays & Wednesdays from 9:00am to 10:15am PT
Classroom:	Online: http://sjsu.instructure.com
Prerequisites:	Upper division standing or instructor's permission
Scheduled Final Exam:	Tuesday, December 15 th , 7:15am - 9:30am PT

Canvas and MYSJSU Messaging:

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on **Canvas Learning Management System** course website at: <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. As a student, you are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas (or other communication system as indicated by the professor) to learn of any updates.

Course Description:

Welcome to ANTH 105! This course is designed to familiarize students with applied anthropology and the use of anthropological knowledge in problem solving and policy making. Anthropology's unique perspective on the study of social life has the potential to transform the world. It can bring institutional accountability and facilitate transparency in public policy and social matters, yet, this potential remains mostly unrealized – Why? This course proposes to address both the history and context of applied anthropology, emphasizing the importance of 'insiders', fieldwork conducted in ordinary settings of social life, ethical considerations, the need to address broader problems and the shortcomings of anthropology's transformative potential. Students will leave this course with a better understanding of practicing applied anthropology and its application to a diverse set of issues.

SJSU Course Catalog Description:

Use of anthropological knowledge in problem solving and policy making. Survey of applied anthropology, models of applying anthropology and affecting policy making, and the use of anthropology by non-professionals in diverse careers.

Course Format:

This is a technology intensive, fully online synchronous course. Internet connectivity and access to a laptop or computer are required in order to participate in the classroom activities and/or submit assignments. All assignments must be uploaded to Canvas in .doc or .docx formats to be graded due to the limitations of the grading software in Canvas. Please save or export documents created in other formats to MS Word before submitting the assignment. Please be aware that the mobile Canvas App does not include the full functionality of Canvas as seen on a computer and you will not be able to fully participate

in the class if using the app only. See [University Policy F13-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf> for more details.

ANTH 105 Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives:

Instructor specific student learning goals for this course are as follows:

- Form a basic understanding and definition of applied anthropology.
- Describe the development and history of the subfield of applied anthropology.
- Describe the role(s) of applied anthropology in various fields.
- Evaluate the ethics of intervention by which anthropological knowledge can be used to address societal issues and public policy.
- Improve writing skills, grammar and critical evaluation.

SJSU Anthropology Department Objectives:

The goals of the anthropology department include helping students to:

- SLO 1. Describe the development of the field of applied anthropology, and its place within the discipline of anthropology;
- SLO 2. differentiate basic characteristics of services as a context within which anthropology is conducted;
- SLO 3. explicate and use models of intervention by which anthropological knowledge can be used to analyze, modify, and create systems of services;
- SLO 4. learn about careers available to anthropologists, and the skills required to undertake them; and
- SLO 5. assess his or her skills and knowledge in order to apply anthropological concepts and methods in a variety of public and private settings.

Required Texts/Readings:

In an effort to reduce the financial strain on students this semester, the textbooks for this course are available as (mostly) free .pdf downloads through the Canvas course platform and/or online. Additional readings will be provided through Canvas as well.

Textbook(s):

1. Borofsky, Rob. (2011). *Why A Public Anthropology?* Hawaii Pacific University; Center for a Public Anthropology.

This text will be made available online as a .pdf through the Canvas course website.

2. Nahm, S., & Rinker, C. H. (Eds.). (2015). *Applied Anthropology: Unexpected Spaces, Topics and Methods*. Routledge.

This text is available as a FREE e-Book download here: <https://b-ok.cc/book/2628657/c34a70>

Purchase online as an e-Book here:

https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=izrbCgAAQBAJ&rdid=book-izrbCgAAQBAJ&rdot=1&source=gbs_atb&pcampaignid=books_booksearch_atb

Purchase a printed copy here: <https://www.routledge.com/Applied-Anthropology-Unexpected-Spaces-Topics-and-Methods-1st-Edition/Nahm-Hughes-Rinker/p/book/9781138914520>

Notes on the textbook: Previous iterations of this course relied on Ervin's *Applied Anthropology: Tools and Perspectives for Contemporary Practice*, which is a great textbook, but it hasn't been updated since 2005 and is not available for purchase as an e-Book. For these reasons, I've decided to go with Nahm and Rinker's *Applied Anthropology: Unexpected Spaces, Topics and Methods* (2015). However, this new

textbook is missing some key methods and topics in applied anthropology, so I will assign additional readings to cover gaps in content.

Additional Readings:

Additional readings are available on Canvas as .pdf downloads. Readings from the textbook and supplementary materials will be assigned on a weekly basis and should be completed before the class session for which they are assigned. When reading, make sure to highlight important sections, take notes and write down your questions to share with the class.

Library Liaison:

The Anthropology Library Liaison is Silke Higgins, Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu. Or visit the SJSU library website here: <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/anthropology>.

Course Requirements and Assignments:

The assignments for this course are designed to meet learning objectives and familiarize students with the practicing and applied approaches in anthropology. Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 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. Your final grade will be determined by your performance on two exams (Midterm and Final), a public policy proposal, bi-weekly quizzes and discussion posts and the Wikipedia entry alternative final project. All of the assignments together **total to 300 points**.

Overview of Course Assignments and Total Points:

Eight (8) Quizzes (bi-weekly, every other week), 8 x 6 = 48 points

Eight (8) Discussion Posts & Comment (bi-weekly, every other week), 8 x 12 = 96 points

One (1) Public Policy Proposal, 20 points

One (1) Wikipedia Final Project, 40 points

Two (2) Exams - Midterm and Final:

Midterm: Online on 10/23/20 (Week 10) available between 9:00am to 11:59pm PT, 40 points

Final Exam: Online on 12/15/20 (Week 17-18) between 7:15am to 9:30pm PT, 56 points

Total: 300 points

1. Bi-Weekly Quizzes: The eight (8) bi-weekly quizzes (every other week, alternating weeks) will be available online through Canvas and based on the assigned lectures & readings. The quizzes are brief and will be **no more than 5 questions each quiz**. A single quiz question is worth between 1 to 2 points, depending on difficulty. These quizzes are designed to check that you've actually reviewed the materials and will be available on Canvas for the entire assigned week. The only exception is that there will be no quizzes during Thanksgiving holiday break, or during the mid-term and final exam weeks. The quizzes are graded and **worth 6 points each** and 48 points total.

- Quizzes are **due by 11:59pm PT on the Friday of the week it is assigned**.

2. Bi-Weekly Discussion Posts & Thoughtful Comment: Every other week students are expected to participate and post in a discussion forum online via the Canvas course discussion boards. Your post should be **about 200-230 words** in response to a prompt based on the readings, lecture topic and additional video or audio media. Discussion post questions, rubric and requirements can be found in course modules. Please do not exceed 300 words per post.

- These discussion posts should be **well-crafted, miniature essays that directly responds to the prompt**. To receive full credit for your discussion, the posts must meet the minimum word requirements, demonstrate critical evaluation of the topic and be relevant to the prompt questions. There will also be a final "reflection" discussion post at the end of the course.

- As part of this assignment, you are also expected to post **at least one (1) thoughtful response** (no word count) to discussion posts made by another classmate during the week that discussion posts are due. Your response is part of the discussion post grade. Students are encouraged to post as many times as they would like, but additional responses beyond the first post will not count towards your grade.
- This assignment is graded and **worth 12 points each** and 96 points total.
- **Discussion posts** should be posted by **11:59pm PT on the Thursday of the week it is due** unless otherwise stated.
 - ◊ **Responses to posts** should be made the following day, by **11:59pm PT on the Friday of the week it is due**.

3. Develop a Public Policy Proposal: For this paper assignment, students should identify a real-world problem (preferably a local problem affecting your region, area or hometown) and design a public policy proposal as a practicing “applied anthropologist” using the methods and skills developed during this course. Your proposal will include a problem statement, domain in which anthropology is applied or practiced, discussion of the context of the problem, action plan (i.e. what you propose to do) and evaluation of anticipated outcomes. Your proposal should be approximately 2-3 pages double-spaced or 500-650 words. Additional details and rubric for this assignment can be found in course modules. This assignment is graded and worth **20 points total**.

4. Alternative Final Project Wikipedia Entry: For this final assignment, our class will be partnering with the Wikipedia Education Program (based in SF!) to improve Wikipedia entries in applied anthropology. You are expected to contribute **approximately 600 words** using **at least 3-4 reputable scholarly resources** to an existing Wikipedia entry or create a new entry on a topic related to the themes of this course. This project will take place over the entire semester and will have weekly work goals in the form of training modules through the Wikipedia Dashboard. The purpose of this assignment is to develop students’ skills in writing, reliable information literacy, critical thinking and improve public knowledge of applied anthropology as a form of web-based community service. Through this project students will also learn how to collaborate with their peers and frame academic research for a non-expert, public audience. As part of the assignment, you will be expected to turn in a brief topic proposal for your Wikipedia entry earlier in the semester. Additional details, the Wikipedia Dashboard course page link and rubric for this assignment can be found in course modules. This assignment is graded and **worth 40 points**.

5. Final Examination - Midterm and Final:

The Midterm and Final exams will utilize a combination of multiple choice, true/false and short essay/response questions to assess your mastery of key topics in applied anthropology. The exams will be based on the readings, materials and lectures from the course.

- The Midterm is graded and worth 40 points.
- The Final is graded and worth 56 points.
- See *University Policy S06-4* (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S06-4.pdf>) states that “There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless the course is on the official List of Courses in which a final is optional.”

Determination of Grades:

As stated earlier, this course is graded out of 300 points, which will be converted to a traditional grading scale with associated letter grades (e.g. roughly 70-72 = C-, 73-76 = C, and 77-79 = C+), please see table below and *University Grading System Policy F18-5* (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F18-5.pdf>).

A	B	C	D	F
97-100% = A plus 93-96% = A 90-92% = A minus	87-89% = B plus 83-86% = B 80-82% = B minus	77-79% = C plus 73-76% = C 70-72% = C minus	67-69% = D plus 63-66% = D 60-62% = D minus	Below 60% = F

Late Assignments and Papers:

Late assignments/papers will only be accepted with **grade penalty** up to 2 days past the assignment due date, unless a genuine emergency arrives with documentation or you have received an extension from the instructor in advance. If you are having trouble getting assignments submitted on time, you should discuss your situation with the instructor.

Incompletes:

Incompletes will be granted only if the professor has been notified in a timely manner and has approved. Students with missing major assignments (over 50 points) will receive a WU (unauthorized withdrawal). **No work will be accepted after the final.**

Extra Credit:

Extra credit may be offered at the instructor's discretion.

Classroom Protocol:

Although this is a synchronous online course, attendance is not graded, as per university policy, but participation is and so your regular participation online is important. In particular, participation in the online forums is part of your discussion post grade and participation during live lectures will be noted. When participating online, make sure to practice netiquette when replying to others, purposefully inflammatory, hateful, racist and anti-black statements will not be tolerated. Group study before the midterm and final is permitted. Weekly lecture videos will be available for viewing synchronously and asynchronously (live lecture recordings) through the Canvas course modules.

Covid-19:

In the event that you or a close family member contracts Covid-19, please notify the instructor **as soon as possible** and accommodations will be made for your situation.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material:

University Policy S12-7 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>), requires students to obtain instructor's permission to electronically or digitally record the course:

"Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

University Policies:

Per **University Policy S16-9** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' **Syllabus Information web page** at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>.

ANTH 105 / Applied Anthropology, Fall 2020 Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice and notifications will be made online through Canvas announcements.

Course Schedule:

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	08/19 - 08/21/20	Introduction to the Course Read: Preface of <i>Why A Public Anthropology?</i> by Borofsky DUE: Introductory Discussion Post and Week 1 Quiz on the Syllabus
2	08/24- 08/28	What is Applied Anthropology? Read: Ch 1. CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY'S CHALLENGE in <i>Why A Public Anthropology?</i> by Borofsky Film(s): <i>Off the Verandah</i> (1985)
3	08/31 - 09/04	History of Applied Anthropology Read: Ch 2. THE POWER OF CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY TO ADDRESS THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS in <i>Why A Public Anthropology?</i> by Borofsky Film(s): <i>The Shackles of Tradition</i> (1990) DUE: Discussion Post and Week 3 Quiz
4	09/07 - 09/11	History of Applied Anthropology (Cont.) Read: Introduction Chapter of <i>Applied Anthropology</i> by Nahm & Rinker (eds.) DUE: Wikipedia Project Topic Proposal *No class Monday, September 7 th for Labor Day*
5	09/14 – 09/18	Domains of Application Overview Read: Ch 1. of <i>Applied Anthropology</i> Hoffman, “Becoming a Practicing Disaster Anthropologist” Taylor, “How I Chose to Apply Anthropology through Film” (short media article) DUE: Discussion Post and Week 5 Quiz
6	09/21- 09/25	Domains of Application - Anthropology of Development Read: Escobar, “The Problematization Of Poverty: The Tale Of Three Worlds And Development” Kincaid, “A Small Place” Pgs. 23 to 37 Film(s): <i>Life and Debt</i> (2001)
7	09/28 - 10/02	Domains of Application - Anthropology's Evil Twin? Development Anthropology Read: Ch 3. of <i>Applied Anthropology</i> Ferguson, “Anthropology's evil twin” DUE: Discussion Post and Week 7 Quiz
8	10/05 - 10/09	Domains of Application - Military Service Read: Ch 2. of <i>Applied Anthropology</i> González, “‘Human terrain’ Past, present and future applications” Film(s): <i>Human Terrain: War Becomes Academic</i> (2010)
9	10/12 - 10/16	Domains of Application: Medical Read: Ch 7. of <i>Applied Anthropology</i> Farmer and Porter, “Drug Resistance and Biosocial Analysis in Practice” DUE: Discussion Post and Week 9 Quiz

Week/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
10	10/19 - 10/23	Ethics - Historic Cases Read: Bohren and Whiteford, "Ethics and Practicing Anthropology – Pragmatic, Practical, and Principled" Film(s): <i>Deadly Deception: Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment</i> (1993) DUE: Midterm Exam
11	10/26 - 10/30	Ethics - Dilemmas Posed by Emergent Technologies Read: Guedes and Guimarães, "Research Ethics and Indigenous Peoples: Repercussions of returning Yanomami blood samples" Eakin, "How Napoleon Chagnon Became Our Most Controversial Anthropologist" DUE: Discussion Post and Week 11 Quiz
12	11/02 – 11/06	Methods - Designing Projects & Analyzing Impacts Read: Ch 8. of <i>Applied Anthropology</i> Butler, "Methods and Approaches" DUE: Public Policy Proposal
13	11/09 - 11/13	Methods - Ethnography Read: Ch 9. of <i>Applied Anthropology</i> Holmes, "'Worth risking your life?'" from <i>Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies</i> (2013) DUE: Discussion Post and Week 13 Quiz *No class Wednesday, November 11 th for Veterans Day*
14	11/16 - 11/20	Methods - Community Participatory Research and Program Assessment Read: Sankar and Luborsky, "Developing a community-based definition of needs for persons living with chronic HIV" Nolan, "The Future of Practice: Anthropology and the Grand Challenges"
15	11/23 - 11/27	**No class due to Thanksgiving Holiday! Work on Final Project **
16	11/30 - 12/04	**No readings** Review for Final Exam and Final Project DUE: Wikipedia Entry Final Project DUE: Reflection Discussion Post and Week 16 Review Quiz
Final Exam 17-18	12/7 - 12/15	**No readings** DUE: Final Exam: Tuesday, December 15 th , 7:15am - 9:30am PT