

Groups, Relations and Networks

Code: 43143
ECTS Credits: 9

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313769 Anthropology: Advanced Research and Social Intervention	OT	0	1

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: spanish (spa)

Teachers

Montserrat Ventura Oller
Diana Marre
Hugo Valenzuela García

External teachers

Renata Hosnedlova

Prerequisites

There are no previous requirements.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This module is part of the specialization E2 "Spaces and transnational relations". On the one hand, it attempts to provide knowledge about the principal methodologies and contemporary theoretical developments related to the analysis of groups and of global phenomena, which prepare students for the theoretical and methodological conceptualization linked with groups and their sociocultural relations. The module enables students to choose an adequate theoretical and methodological framework according to emerging transnational phenomena in order to analyze in depth concrete phenomena of the globalized reality and to revise the classical paradigms in light of new sociocultural and economic phenomena. On the other hand, the module is oriented to the ethnographic and historical-anthropological analysis of the emergence of sociocultural categories and classifications in diverse political-cultural contexts (lectures given by members of the research group Antropologia i Història de la Construcció d'Identitats Socials i Polítiques (AHCISP) of the Social and Cultural Anthropology Department of the UAB).

Main goals:

- To acquire knowledge about the principal methodologies and contemporary theoretical advances related the analysis of groups and global phenomenon
- To revise the classical paradigms in light of new sociocultural and economic phenomena.
- To know the key theoretical references about the ambivalence of identities and social classifications
- To choose a theoretical and methodological framework according to specific transnational phenomena

- To analyze in depth concrete phenomena of the globalized reality

Skills

- Carry out ground-breaking, flexible research in anthropology by applying theories and methodologies and using appropriate data collection and analysis techniques.
- Carry out theoretical ethnographic research into anthropological topics linked to identity and transnationality.
- Communicate and justify conclusions clearly and unambiguously to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Defend arguments clearly, precisely and appropriately within the context, and at the same time value the contributions made by other people.
- Integrate knowledge and use it to make judgements in complex situations, with incomplete information, while keeping in mind social and ethical responsibilities.
- Know the methodological and epistemological developments in the fields of anthropology research and social intervention in contexts of cultural diversity.
- Solve problems in new or little-known situations within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to the field of study.
- Systematically link up concepts, and theories within the discipline so as to analyse specific ethnographic contexts.
- Use information and communication technologies efficiently to acquire, create and spread knowledge.

Learning outcomes

1. Analyse the historical and cultural context of a theoretical tendency or an anthropological theory.
2. Apply the knowledge acquired to problem-solving in particular ethnographic contexts.
3. Defend arguments clearly, precisely and appropriately within the context, and at the same time value the contributions made by other people.
4. Establish relationships and networks between persons in the context of research into diversity.
5. Identify important elements in institutional documents and/or scientific texts that help to formulate judgments and reflect on social and ethical responsibilities in anthropology.
6. Identify particular social and cultural situations and their relation to global phenomena in specific anthropological research work.
7. In ethnographic monographs, identify differences that correspond to national and ethnic knowledge contexts, from different gender perspectives.
8. Present conclusions from research work in anthropology.
9. Study the relationships established by groups with the cultural habits of their places of origin.
10. Understand and use information and communication technologies in accordance with the ethnographic context chosen for study and/or intervention.
11. Use social networking techniques to compile and analyse ethnographic data.

Content

The module is divided into four "blocks":

1. Analysis of Transnational Networks

[Prof. Responsible: Renata Hosnedlova] (4 sessions, 8 hours)

1. Basic concepts of transnationalism
2. Transnational networks: cases I
3. Transnational networks: cases II
4. Applications and evaluation

2. Ages and Cultural Practices: Persons, Groups, Stages

[Prof. Responsable: Diana Marre] (8 sessions, 16 hours)

1. Presentation.
2. The construction of ages. Childhood, adolescence, youth and maturity in anthropology
3. Person, Body, Family, Community and Society
4. 'Governability', 'discipline' and rights
5. The social and economic value of ages
6. Scientific disciplines, Application and Intervention

3. Systems of Social Classification: Ambivalent Identities

[Prof. Responsable: Montserrat Ventura] (8 sesiones, 16 horas)

1. Introduction: Making the difference
2. Mixtures, kinships and filiations: the arab-muslim world
3. Census and social classifications in Latin America
4. Castes in India: nature, religion, social category
5. Sephardim in contemporary Spain: between nationalism, anti-Semitism and philosephardism
6. The nation does not admit mixtures: the Catalanian case
7. Creoles, miscegenation and pure blood: the Compañía de Jesús in Peru (XVI-XVIII)
8. Mixtures in the American Indian world and Final discussion

4. Emergent Forms of Labour and Consumption

[Prof. Responsable: Hugo Valenzuela] (7 sessions, 14 hours)

1. Globalization: basic concepts. The complex world we inhabit. Concepts, theoretical perspectives, history of globalization
2. Labour: an anthropological insight. Evolution of the thoughts about labour
3. Consumption: I consume, then I exist. Anthropological approach to consumption: culturalism, processualism, materialism

Methodology

- Master classes/expositive classes
- Reading and analysis of articles/reports of interest
- Presentation/oral presentation of dissertations
- Debates
- Lab practices
- Individual study

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
MasterClasses/ expositive classes	56.25	2.25	1, 4, 9, 11, 5, 7, 6, 10
Type: Supervised			
Presentation / oral presentation of essays	56.25	2.25	2, 8, 3, 10
Type: Autonomous			
Elaboration of Essays	32	1.28	8, 3, 10

Individual Study	40	1.6	1, 7, 6
Reading and Analyse of scientific papers/raports	40	1.6	1, 7, 6

Evaluation

This section of the Study Guide contains all information related to the process of evaluation of the module.

Assessment of the module:

In order to pass the module, the following aspects are taken into account:

- **Regular assistance and participation:** First, to ensure that the expected learning results are obtained, we consider it fundamental that students assist the classes and participate actively in them. For this reason, students are required to assist at least 80% of each course ("block"). Furthermore, the extent to which they participate in presentations, discussions, training sessions is evaluated. This participation is considered in the final note for each course.
- **Continued assessment of the blocks:** Second, each course or block proposes one or multiple activities that allow a continued assessment of the learning process. The activities can vary from a written test to a presentation in class, computer lab assignments, a review of a few articles or chapters, or a short essay, among others. Jointly, the evaluations for the different courses that make up the module (30%) and the participation in these courses (20%) constitute 50% of the final grade of the module. The deadlines for these activities are indicated by the lecturers.
- **Evaluation of the final paper for the module:** Last, the grade obtained on a final paper constitutes the remaining 50% of the final grade for the module. In the case of the modules that make up the specializations (in particular, E1.1, E1.2, E2.1, E2.2 and E3.1), each student **selects the course that is of major interest for his or her master thesis, from the set of courses that make up the module. The evaluation will be based on this course.** The evaluation can consist of a larger essay of approximately 3,000 / 4,000 words, possibly in the format of an article, a review of a state of the art of a specific theme, or a paper that addresses a specific issue in the discipline on the basis of readings recommended by the lecturer of the course that the student has chosen for evaluation. The deadline for the submission of the final paper is the **10th of February**.

It is essential to respect the deadlines.

Each lecturer determines the way in which papers are to be submitted (through the Campus Virtual, by e-mail or in printed form - delivered in person or in the mailbox of the lecturer-). The lecturers communicate the results of the evaluation through the established ways and establish a period of consultation before they communicate the grades to the coordinator of the module. The student can request a tutorial with their lecturers throughout the course if they wish to clarify some point of the contents of the course.

In general, not submitting the documents that are to be evaluated results in the qualification "**Not assessable**". In exceptional, well justified cases, the Committee of the Master Program may propose an alternative procedure for the evaluation.

General criteria

Assessment is understood as a **continued process** throughout the term.

The qualifications are made on a **scale from 0-10** with one decimal. To pass the subject, a **minimum final grade of 5.0** is needed, as a result of the assessment procedure explained above. Once the subject is passed, **it cannot be subjected to a new evaluation**.

The programming of assessment activities cannot be modified unless an exceptional and well justified reason exists for this, in which case a new program is proposed during the term.

When a student performs an **irregularity** that can lead to a significant variation of the qualification of an assessable activity, **the activity will be qualified with a 0**, independently of the disciplinary process that might follow. In the case that various irregularities in the assessable activities are performed within the same module, the qualification of the module will be 0.

The qualification **"not assessable"** in the final records of evaluation implies the **exhaustion of rights inherent in the enrolment to the module**, although the "not assessable" module will not figure in the academic transcript.

The **copying or plagiarism of material**, both in the case of papers as in the case of exams, constitutes an **offence** that will be sanctioned with the **qualification 0 on the activities, the loss of the right of reevaluation, and being suspended from the module**. "Copying" a paper refers to a student reproducing the whole or part of a paper of another student. Plagiarism is presenting the whole or a part of the text of another author as if it were the student's own, without citing the references, on paper or digitally. Please see the documentation of the UAB about plagiarism on:

http://wuster.uab.es/web_argumenta_obert/unit_20/sot_2_01.html

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
attendance and active participation in class	20%	0	0	2, 8, 3
Elaboration of reports / essays	30%	0.5	0.02	8, 3, 4, 9, 11, 5, 10
Individual essay of module	50%	0	0	1, 8, 3, 9, 5, 7, 6, 10

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