

Regional Ethnology I

Code: 101242
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500256 Social and Cultural Anthropology	OT	3	1
2500256 Social and Cultural Anthropology	OT	4	1

Contact

Name: Montserrat Ventura Oller
Email: montserrat.ventura@uab.cat

Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Other comments on languages

saber-lo llegir

Prerequisites

Students must finished the 1st and 2nd years of a degree on Social and Cultural Anthropology

Objectives and Contextualisation

Deepening in the classic fields of Anthropology through the ethnographic case of the indigenous peoples of the lowlands of South America, to provide a holistic approach to cultural diversity, concrete examples of application of the theoretical approaches studied in the core subjects, and a deepening in emerging issues of the anthropology of indigenous peoples, focused on the professional development of students.

Students must recognize and identify the complex and changing reality of the indigenous peoples of the lowlands of South America, from the pre-colonial past to the current social situation, marked by globalization processes.

Students must be able to detect and analyze the central sociocultural dimensions, as well as the main changes and continuities of indigenous societies in the economic, ecological, political, social, and ritual spheres. From here on, case studies will be presented, and tools will be offered to analyze this area from a dynamic point of view, considering the permanent tension between the fight for the conservation of particularity and what makes it possible par excellence, the territory and language, as well as insertion in a global world.

Competences

Social and Cultural Anthropology

- Act with ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights and duties, diversity and democratic values.
- Apprehending cultural diversity through ethnography and critically assessing ethnographic materials as knowledge of local contexts and as a proposal of theoretical models.

- Carry out effective written work or oral presentations adapted to the appropriate register in different languages.
- Demonstrate skills for working autonomously or in teams to achieve the planned objectives including in multicultural and interdisciplinary contexts.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- Use digital tools and critically interpret specific documentary sources.
- Using the discipline's ethnographic and theoretical corpus with analytical and synthesis skills.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analysing the complementarity and incongruities of several ethnographic reports from the same area.
2. Applying the knowledge of cultural variability and its genesis to avoid ethnocentric projections.
3. Apprehending cultural diversity through ethnography and critically assessing ethnographic materials as local context knowledge.
4. Assessing critically the explicit and implicit theoretical models in the ethnographic materials.
5. Assessing the positive and negative aspects of the dialectic between specific ethnographics and comparisons of transcultural scope.
6. Communicate using language that is not sexist or discriminatory.
7. Critically analyse the principles, values and procedures that govern the exercise of the profession.
8. Critically assessing ethnographic materials as a proposal for theoretical models.
9. Critically identify and compose a basic bibliography for the field of study.
10. Express ideas with a specific vocabulary appropriate to the discipline.
11. Identify main and secondary ideas and express them with linguistic correctness.
12. Identifying the sociocultural variability in specific ethnographic contexts.
13. Identifying the sociocultural variability through ethnographic texts and audiovisual resources.
14. Identifying the transcultural variability of economic, kinship, political, symbolic and cognitive, educational and gender systems as well as their corresponding anthropological theory.
15. Integrating holistically the progress from the classical fields of Anthropology.
16. Interpreting the cultural diversity through ethnography.
17. Knowing the acculturation effects of the colonial expansion.
18. Plan work effectively, individually or in groups, in order to fulfil the planned objectives.
19. Summarising acquired knowledge about the origin and transformations experienced in the several fields of anthropology.
20. Weigh up the impact of any long- or short-term difficulty, harm or discrimination that could be caused to certain persons or groups by the actions or projects.

Content

PART I: Regional Ethnology in the Amazon: Classic Fields

1. History, ethnic categories and cultural classifications
2. Ecology, economy, social and political organization
3. Person, body, shamanism and symbolism

PART II: Regional Ethnology in the Amazon: Emerging Fields

4. Museums and society
5. Collaborative Anthropology
6. Language, culture, indigenous forms of knowledge

7. Ethnoecology, Local technology
8. Peace, conflict resolution and mediation
9. Anthropology, development and tourism

Methodology

Training activities and teaching methodology

Directed theoretical and practical classes: master classes with audio-visual support

Reading texts and analyzing audiovisual products with ethnographic content, including a visit to a museum or similar: reading texts and viewing ethnographic documentaries

Writing and presentation of works; individual study: writing of synthesis and analysis works based on a guide that will be published during the course in the Virtual Campus, and public presentation.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Discussion on emerging issues	3	0.12	7, 3, 6, 17, 10, 9, 12, 16, 19, 20
Teacher's master classes	30	1.2	7, 1, 2, 3, 8, 4, 5, 6, 17, 10, 9, 13, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20
Watching and discussing documentaries	3	0.12	2, 3, 4, 10, 13, 12, 14, 11, 16
museum visit or similar	5	0.2	7, 2, 3, 17, 12, 16, 19
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials for comprehension of texts and contents and preparation of written work	2	0.08	7, 2, 3, 8, 5, 10, 13, 11, 15, 18, 19, 20
Type: Autonomous			
Individual Study	20	0.8	7, 2, 3, 8, 4, 5, 9, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20
Reading texts and ethnographic documentation	25	1	1, 3, 8, 4, 5, 13, 12, 14, 11, 16, 18, 20
Writing papers	20	0.8	7, 1, 2, 3, 8, 4, 5, 6, 10, 9, 13, 14, 11, 16, 18, 19

Assessment

The student will perform a written test of synthesis of the contents of three thematic blocks from the proposed readings with a weight of 30%.

The student will have to deliver a work of reflection from an activity that can be a visit to a museum or equivalent with a weight of 30%

The student must submit a research essay on an emerging topic on the area from readings and other sources, with a weight of 30%

The student will participate in a presentation session, with a weight of 10%.

Compulsory, optional readings and work guidelines will be published on the Virtual Campus throughout the course.

All papers must be submitted within the time limit set for evaluation.

To participate in the recovery, the students must have been previously evaluated in a set of activities whose weight is equivalent to a minimum of 2/3 of the total grade.

Students who have failed one (or more) of the tests with a grade lower than 5, may recover it by submitting it again on the date set by the Faculty for re-evaluation.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Public presentation	10%	2	0.08	7, 3, 4, 6, 10, 9, 13, 11, 15, 18, 19, 20
Reflection Essay	30%	10	0.4	2, 3, 4, 6, 17, 10, 12, 16, 18
Research Essay	30%	20	0.8	7, 2, 4, 5, 6, 17, 10, 9, 11, 15, 18, 19, 20
Written test of synthesis	30%	10	0.4	1, 2, 8, 4, 5, 6, 17, 10, 13, 12, 14, 11, 15, 18, 19

Bibliography

Reference Books

ALBERT, B. & A. R. RAMOS (ORG) 2000 *Pacificando o Branco. Cosmologias do contato no Norte-Amazônico*, Sao Paulo: Editores UNESP.

BERGMAN, R. 1990(1980) *Economía Amazónica* Lima: CAAP.

CALAVIA, O. 2020 *Tierras bajas de América del Sur. Ensayos de Etnografía teórica*, Madrid: Nola Editores.

CANALS, R, CELIGUETA, G. Y G. OROBITG (Eds.) 2012 *La paz desde abajo. Perspectivas antropológicas sobre la paz en contextos indígenas y afroamericanos*, Barcelona: UBe.

CARNEIRO DA CUNHA, M. 1986 *Antropologia do Brasil*, Sao Paulo: editora brasiliense.

CHAUMEIL, J.-P. 1983 *Voir, savoir, pouvoir. Le chamanisme chez les Yagua du Nord-Est péruvien*, Paris: Ed. de l'E.H.E.S.S.

CLASTRES, P. 1986(1972) *Crónica de los indios Guayaquis*, Barcelona:Alta Fulla.

1981(1980) *Investigaciones en antropología política*, Barcelona:Gedisa.

CORREA, F.(ed) (?) *La selva humanizada. Ecología alternativa en el trópico húmedo colombiano*, Bogotá: instituto Colombiano de Antropología / Fondo FEN de Colombia / Fondo Editorial CEREC.

DECLARACIÓN DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS SOBRE LOS DERECHOS DE LOS PUEBLOS INDÍGENAS

DESCOLA, Ph. 1986 *La nature domestique: symbolisme et praxis dans l'écologie des Achuar*, Paris: Fondation Singer-Poignac / Editions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme. Trad: *La selva culta*, Quito: IFEA/ Abya-Ya1a.

ERIKSON, Ph. 1996 *La griffe des Aïeux. Marquage du corps et démarquages ethniques chez les Matis d'Amazonie*, Paris: Éd. Peeters.

GORDON, C. 2006 *Economia selvagem. Ritual e mercadoria entre os índios Xikrin-Mebêngôkre*, Sao Paulo: UNESP

HALBMAYER, E. (ed.) 2020 *Amerindian Socio-cosmologies between the Andes, Amazonia and Mesoamerica*, London & New York: Routledge.

HAMES, R.B. & VICKERS, W.T.(eds.) 1983 *Adaptive Responses of Native Amazonians*, N.Y.:Academic Press.

KENSINGER, K.M. (ed) 1984 *Marriage Practices in Lowland South America*, Urbana & Chicago: University of Illinois Press.

KOPENAWA, D. & B. ALBERT 2010 *La chute du ciel. Paroles d'un chaman yanomami*, Paris: Plon.

L'HOMME, Avril-Décembre 1993 *La remontée de l'Amazone. Anthropologie et Histoire des Sociétés Amazoniennes*, num.126-128.

LATHRAP, D.W. 1970 *The Upper Amazon*, London: Thames and Hudson.

LEVI-STRAUSS, C. 1955 *Tristes Tropiques*, Paris: Plon. Trad: 1969 *Tristos Tròpics*, Barcelona: Anagrama.

1985 *La potière Jalouse*, Paris: Plon. Trad: 1986 *La alfarera celosa*, Barcelona, Buenos Aires:Paidós.

LÓPEZ GARCÍA, J. y P. PITARCH (eds.) 2006 *Lugares indígenas de la violencia en Iberoamérica*, Madrid, Madrid: AECI

McCALLUM, C. 2001 *Gender and Sociality in Amazonia. How real People are Made*, Oxford & New York: Berg.

MEGGERS, B. 1971 *Amazonia: Man and Culture in a Counterfeit Paradise*, Chicago: Aldine. Trad: 1984 *Amazonía. Un paraíso ilusorio*, Mexico: Siglo XXI.

METRAUX, A. 1967 *Réligions et magies indiennes d'Amérique du Sud*, Paris: Gallimard.

MORÁN, E. 1993 *La ecología humana de los pueblos de la Amazonía*, México: FCE.

NUGENT, S. *Amazonian Caboblo Society. An Essay on Invisibility and Peasant Economy*, Providence / Oxford: Berg.

REICHEL-DOLMATOFF, G.1968 *Desana. Simbolismo de los indios Tukano del Vaupés*, Bogotá: Universidad de los Andes.

1978(1975) *El chamán y el jaguar*, Mexico:Siglo XXI.

RENARD-CASEVITZ, F.-M., SAIGNES, Th. TAYLOR, A.C. 1986 *L'Inca, l'espagnol et les sauvages*, Paris: Recherches sur les civilisations. Trad: 1988 *Al este de los Andes*, Quito:Abya-Yala.

REYES-GARCÍA, V. Y T. HUANCA (Eds.) 2014 *Cambio global, cambio local. La sociedad Tsimane' ante la globalización*, Barcelona: ICARIA/ICA.

RIVERA ANDÍA, J.J. (ed.) 2019 *Non-Humans in Amerindian South America*, New York and Oxford: Berghahn.

RIVIERE, P. 1984 *Individual and Society in Guiana. A comparative Study of social organization*, N.Y., Cambridge U.P.

SANTOS, F. (ed.) 1996 *Globalización y cambio en la Amazonía indígena*, Quito: Abya-Yala.

SANTOS, F. (ed.) 2012 *La vida oculta de las cosas. Teorías indígenas de la materialidad y la personificación*, Quito: Abya-Yala

STEWART, J. (ed) 1948 *Handbook of South American Indians*, Washington D.C.: Smithsonian Institution.

SURRALLÉS, A. 2009 [2003] *En el corazón del sentido. Percepción, afectividad, acción en los candoshi, Alta Amazonía*, Lima: IFEA / IWGIA.

SURRALLÉS, A. y P. GARCÍA HIERRO (eds) 2004 *Tierra adentro. Territorio indígena y percepción del entorno*, Copenhagen: IWGIA.

VENTURA I OLLER, M. 2009 *Identité, cosmologie et chamanisme des Tsachila de l'Équateur. À la croisée des chemins*, Paris: L'Harmattan.

VIVEIROS DE CASTRO, E. 1993 *From the Enemy's Point of View. Humanity and Divinity in an Amazonian Society*, Chicago & London: The University of Chicago Press.

A list of texts by thematic blocks will be delivered at the beginning of the course, with the specific and compulsory bibliography.

Software

Microsoft Word, PowerPoint