

Ethnological Approach to Cultural Diversity

Code: 101279
 ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500256 Social and Cultural Anthropology	FB	1	1

Contact

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Teaching groups languages

You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.
 Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2023.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites

Objectives and Contextualisation

Ethnographic approach to cultural diversity:

INDIA (Professor Alice Van den Bogaert)

We will address cultural diversity and the role of ethnography in the study of human beings, discovering major issues of anthropology (classifications, kinship, economics, politics, religion) with concrete examples and in-depth case studies from India and the Himalayas. This area of the world presents an immense linguistic, religious, political, and cultural diversity, which will allow us to delve into ethnography from classical and contemporary themes such as castes, Hinduism, possession, debt bondage, indigenous struggles or contemporary feminisms, among others.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Faced with the challenges that different societies face, in 2015 the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes 17 SDGs.

The SDGs address issues that affect different areas, from the eradication of poverty to the preservation of marine life. The ODS included in this subject are the following:

SDG 1: End poverty

SDG 2: Zero hunger
SDG 3: Health and well-being
SDG 5: Gender equality
ODS 10: Reduction of inequalities
ODS 12: Responsible consumption and production
ODS 13: Climate action
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and strong institutions

Competences

- 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 collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- Using the discipline's ethnographic and theoretical corpus with analytical and synthesis skills.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse the sex- or gender-based inequalities and the gender biases present in one's own area of knowledge.
2. Analysing a contemporary fact from an anthropological perspective.
3. Applying the basic concepts of Social and Cultural Anthropology to the understanding of relationships between various societies and cultures.
4. Applying the knowledge of cultural variability and its genesis to avoid ethnocentric projections.
5. Apprehending cultural diversity through ethnography.
6. Communicate using language that is not sexist or discriminatory.
7. Consider how gender stereotypes and roles impinge on the exercise of the profession.
8. Critically analyse the principles, values and procedures that govern the exercise of the profession.
9. Effectively working in teams and respecting different opinions.
10. Express ideas with a specific vocabulary appropriate to the discipline.
11. Identify main and secondary ideas and express them with linguistic correctness.
12. Identify the principal forms of sex- or gender-based inequality and discrimination present in society.
13. Identifying the sociocultural variability through ethnographic texts and audiovisual resources.
14. Interpreting the cultural diversity through ethnography.
15. Knowing and assessing the various processes of intercultural relationship.
16. Plan work effectively, individually or in groups, in order to fulfil the planned objectives.
17. Theoretically analysing ethnographic examples of cultural diversity in the fields of kinship, economy, politics and religion.
18. Using the basic concepts of Social and Cultural Anthropology for the understanding of relationships between various societies and cultures.

19. Using the ethnographic corpus in the cultural critique.

Content

Topic 1. Introduction

- The anthropological method and ethnographic techniques
- Unity and diversity
- Compare: how and why. Ethnocentrism, universalism, relativism.

Topic 2. Socio-political classifications and the construction of the other

- Racism
- Cultural fundamentalism
- Exoticism, orientalism
- Gender
- Castes

Topic 3. Kinship systems

- Kinship terminologies
- Affiliation and alliance
- Construction of the person: embryology, body, fluids, food
- Forms of marriage, dowry and bride price
- Family forms: monogamy, polygyny, polyandry, group marriage, Joint family

Topic 4. Economic systems

- Adaptation strategies: hunting-gathering, horticulture, agriculture, pastoralism
- Modes of production
- Debt bondage
- Distribution: market, redistribution, reciprocity

Topic 5. Political systems

- Political structures
- Authority and power
- Inequalities
- Resistance and agency
- Anti-caste movements
- Tribes and indigenous struggles

Topic 6. Religiosity and belief systems

- Ritual and rites of passage
- Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Sikhism, Buddhism and Parsis.
- Ontologies
- Possession and shamanism

Methodology

Teaching methodology:

- Master classes
- Viewing and discussion of ethnographic documentaries.
- Guidelines for the autonomous search of information.
- Preparation of essays and text comments on bibliographic and/or audiovisual material (individual or group).

Training Activities:

- Theoretical classes and discussion sessions oriented to audio-visual and written documents.
- Presentation and discussion of ethnographic cases and explanation of key concepts.
- Comprehensive reading and discussion of texts, and analysis of audio-visual products
- Individual study and discussion in a team prior to the presentation of work.
- Elaboration of essays.
- Individual study and examination.

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			
Debates on Audiovisual and texts	10	0.4	2, 4, 13, 14
Master classes	40	1.6	17, 2, 4, 3, 15, 13, 14, 5, 19, 18
Type: Supervised			
Individual and collective tutorials	15	0.6	4, 3, 13, 14
Type: Autonomous			
Preparation and presentation of essays	30	1.2	2, 4, 3, 13, 14, 19, 18

Assessment

EVALUATION (continuous or unique)

- To be evaluable, the student must have handed in at least 60% of the tests. Students will obtain a "Not assessed/Not submitted" unless they have submitted a minimum of 60% of the assessment items.
- In order to pass the course, it is necessary to obtain a minimum grade of 5.
- In order to participate in re-assessment, the teacher requires the student to have obtained a minimum final grade of 3,5.

(a). CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

25% Individual work

25% Group work

50% Theoretical exam

- On carrying out each evaluation activity, teacher will inform students (on Campus Virtual) of the procedures to be followed for reviewing all grades awarded, and the date on which such a review will take place.
- Activities excluded from re-assessment: group work.

(b). UNIQUE ASSESSMENT

25% Individual synthesis

25% Individual essay

50% Theoretical exam

- The student must deliver all the tests on the same day, when indicated by the teacher.

- In no case will the level of the tests be lower than the continuous assessment.

PLAGIARISM:

In the event of a student committing any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade awarded to an assessment activity, the Student will be given a zero for this activity, regardless of any disciplinary process that may take place. In the event of several irregularities in assessment activities of the same subject, the student will be given a zero as the final grade for this subject.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Group work on synthesis of readings	25%	1.5	0.06	8, 2, 3, 6, 13, 14, 18, 7
Individual work	25%	1.5	0.06	1, 17, 2, 4, 3, 6, 15, 10, 13, 11, 12, 14, 16, 5, 9, 19, 18
Theoretical exams	50%	2	0.08	17, 2, 4, 3, 10, 13, 11, 14, 19, 18

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Software

Word processor (Word type).