

Degree	Type	Year
Social and Cultural Anthropology	FB	1

Contact

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites.

Objectives and Contextualisation

Ethnographic approach to cultural diversity. Maghreb

Professor. Josep Lluís Mateo Dieste

CONTEXTUALIZATION AND TRAINING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT:

This is a first year course that develops the basic training to study Social and Cultural Anthropology and that corresponds to the basic subject 'basic concepts and fields of Anthropology'. Introduction to the classic fields of Anthropology (economics, politics, kinship, religion) through specific ethnographic cases and a monograph, in order to provide a holistic approach to cultural diversity and to contrast with our sociocultural context and with other ethnographic examples.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES:

Students will have to recognize and identify the complex and changing reality of the Maghreb populations, from the recent past to the current social situation, marked by processes of modernization, globalization and diaspora, and will receive the tools to deconstruct stereotypes on the otherness and its political uses. Students should be able to detect and analyze the central socio-cultural dimensions as well as the main changes and continuities of Maghreb societies in their main fields: economic and ecological, political and social organization, kinship relations, and symbolic, religious and ritual varieties. From here, ethnographic case studies will be presented, especially in the northern area of Morocco, and tools will be offered to analyze this area from a dynamic point of view, considering the conflict over power, the construction of gender and community inequalities and the impact of modernization processes (colonization, urbanization, emigration), in order to be able to interpret contemporary phenomena.

Learning Outcomes

1. CM07 (Competence) Apply knowledge of cultural variability and its genesis to overcome ethnocentric projections in the understanding of social and cultural phenomena.
2. CM10 (Competence) Use an appropriate specific vocabulary in the transmission of basic anthropological information.
3. KM08 (Knowledge) Recognise social and cultural diversity theoretically and on the basis of specific cases.
4. KM09 (Knowledge) Identify the cultural character of conceptualisations and practices, as well as the various institutional systems that govern societies.
5. SM12 (Skill) Analyse ethnographical examples of cultural diversity.

Content

1. Introduction

- Ethnocentrism and otherness.
- Diversities: ethnicity, religion, class.
- Doing Ethnography in the Maghreb.

2. Economic relations and social organization

- Agricultural and livestock systems in transition.
- Exchange forms
- The informal economy of the border

3. Power, kinship and social organization

- The power of genealogy: state and tribe
- Patrons and clients
- Powers and counterpowers

4. Kinship and gender relations

- Dimensions of kinship
- Marriage and alliance
- Notions of person and gender

5. Islam, text and popular religion

- Religion, magic and symbolic systems
- Popular Islam
- Revitalization movements

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
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Type: Directed

Discussions on audiovisuals and texts	10	0.4
Master classes	40	1.6
Type: Supervised		
Individual and collective tutorials	15	0.6
Type: Autonomous		
Preparation and presentation of essays	35	1.4
Study and personal work	50	2

Teaching methodology:

- Master classes with the support of the new information and communication technologies (NTIC).
- Viewing and discussion of ethnographic documentaries.
- Guidelines for the autonomous search of information.
- Preparation of essays and text comments on bibliographic and 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.
- Ethnographic observation in small groups.
- 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.

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.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Delivery of essays	40	0	0	CM07, CM10, KM08, KM09, SM12
Presentations and participation	20	0	0	CM10, SM12
Theoretical exam	40	0	0	CM10, KM08, KM09, SM12

EVALUATION (continuous or unique)

- At the beginning of the course, a schedule will be provided with the calendar of assessment activities and the instructions for the exercises. Consult Moodle regularly to extend / update the information in this guide and for the general functioning of the course.

- Students may request a review of the grade of the exercises, which will be done in the teacher's office. The dates for the review of grades will be announced through the Virtual Campus.
- Students will obtain a "Not assessed/Not submitted" course grade unless they have submitted more than 30% 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; and to have submitted 66% of the evaluation exercises (and all the exercises in the case of unique assessment).
- Activities excluded from re-assessment: non-presence during a visit, practice or presentation cannot be recovered.
- 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. The exercise will not be recoverable. 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.
- This subject entirely prohibits the use of AI technologies in all of its activities. Any submitted work that contains content generated using AI will be considered academic dishonesty; the corresponding grade will be awarded a zero, without the possibility of reassessment. In cases of greater infringement, more serious action may be taken.

A. Continuous evaluation

40% Delivery of essays

20% Presentations and participation

40% Theoretical exams

B. Unique assessment

40% Individual work

20% Essays-commentaries

40% Theoretical exam

- The student must deliver all the tests on the same day, on the date indicated in the calendar.
- To participate in the reassessment, all exercises must have been submitted.
- Review of the qualification follows the same procedure as for the continuous evaluation.

Bibliography

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(*Recommended general reference work)

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Software

Word processor (Word type).

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed