

HUM 203 - INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

(3+0) 3 credits 5 ECTS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers an in-depth introduction to the fundamental concepts and issues of social anthropology. Students will explore human diversity through a relativistic lens, gaining insights into the various cultural, social, and biological aspects that shape human societies. By examining anthropological theories and methodologies, students will develop critical thinking skills and a comprehensive understanding of cultural practices and social structures worldwide.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the scope and significance of anthropology.
2. Identify and explain the major specializations within anthropology.
3. Apply a holistic perspective to analyze human life.
4. Recognize and discuss patterns of social life across cultures.
5. Evaluate cultural diversity through the lens of cultural relativism.
6. Conduct basic ethnographic research and analyze anthropological data.



TEXT BOOKS

Peoples, J. & Bailey, G. (2009). Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (9th ed.). CA: Thomson Books

REFERENCE BOOKS

Monaghan, J., & Just, P. (2000). Social and cultural anthropology: A very short introduction. Oxford Press.

Emiroğlu, K. & Aydın, S. (2020) Antropoloji Sözlüğü. Işık Yayınları.

Kottak, C.P. (2013) Cultural Anthropology: Appreciating Cultural Diversity, 15/e. University of Michigan

Barnard A. & Spencer, J. (2010). Routledge Encyclopedia of Social and Cultural Anthropology. NY: Routledge.

Özbudun, S. ve Şafak, B. (2005). Antropoloji: Kuram ve Kuramcılar. İstanbul: Dipnot.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Midterm Exam (30%): A comprehensive exam covering the first half of the course content, including multiple-choice questions, short answers, and essay questions.

Project (20%): A research project where students will conduct a literature review on a chosen topic, submit a written report, and present their findings to the class.

Final Exam (40%): A cumulative exam that includes all course content, emphasizing critical analysis and application of anthropological concepts.

Class Participation (10%): Active participation in class discussions, regular attendance, and engagement in group activities and assignments.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic
Week 1	• An introduction to Anthropology • Scope of Anthropology • Class materials review
Week 2	• Anthropological approaches • Holism, Comparativism and Relativism
Week 3	• The Concept of Culture
Week 4	• Culture, Language, and Communication
Week 5	• The development of anthropological thought I
Week 6	• The development of anthropological thought II
Week 7	• Research Methods I
Week 8	• Research Methods II
Week 9	• Ecology, Anthropocene and Anthropocentrism
Week 10	• Social Stratification and Class
Week 11	• Ethnicity and Race
Week 12	• Sex and Gender
Week 13	• Postcolonial theory
Week 14	• Religion