

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**ANT 1002A
2023 FALL TERM
INTRODUCTION TO ISSUES IN ANTHROPOLOGY**

Instructor: Jared Epp

Office Hours: Friday 2pm to 3pm or by appointment (Zoom link posted in Brightspace)

Email: jaredepp@cunet.carleton.ca

Pre-requisites & Precluded Courses: None

Method of Delivery: Blended: Lectures will primarily be synchronous with some asynchronous material as well. Slides will be posted but lectures will NOT be posted online. Students are expected to attend synchronous lectures.

Meeting time: Friday 8:35am - 10:35am. Zoom link on course Brightspace page.

Synchronous tutorials (two groups): A1 - Friday 10:35-11:25; A3 - 11:35-12:25. Zoom links for lectures and tutorials available on course Brightspace page.

Course Description and Objectives

This course introduces students to anthropology through in-depth consideration of selected issues facing contemporary cultures and societies. The goal of this course is to provide an opportunity for students to use anthropology as a tool to understand aspects of our daily lives and current historical moment. We explore the daily realities of infrastructures, phones, social media, conspiracy theories, and urban waste and the resistance to extractive and exploitive processes. In exploring these contexts, we will think about and learn and share through mediums beyond writing such as film, sound and image.

The objective of this course is to engage students in how anthropology can be applied to different kinds of contexts that impact our daily lives. The course explores three broad themes:

Between Everyday Life, Climate Change and the City: Situating the Hyper-Local

- 1) Anthropology as a tool to understand our daily lives: the hyper-local and global, and exploring key concepts and their application to the ordinary and taken for granted
- 2) Waste, stuff and the city: waste management and consumption patterns
- 3) Daily life and individual resistance: social justice, daily habits, urban change and public space

Beyond Writing: Thinking, Learning, Doing with Images, Video and Sound

- 1) Ethnographic and Documentary Filmmaking
- 2) Soundscaping daily life
- 3) Living, Learning, Creating on social media: what we do and become through apps like TikTok

Accepting, Creating, Resisting Narratives: Between Individuality and the Social through Conspiracy Theories

- 1) Conspiracy Theories: Where they come from, why they proliferate and how to make sense of their impact in the contemporary moment

Class Format

The class is blended and will consist of synchronous and asynchronous material. The lectures will be primarily synchronous at the scheduled lecture slot of 8:35am each Friday morning. Students are expected to attend and participate in synchronous lectures on a weekly basis. There will be two film screenings as part of the course; these are asynchronous. Students must attend the synchronous tutorials at the scheduled time. Guidance about what is expected will be discussed week to week.

All assignments will be handed in through Brightspace.

Reading(s)/Textbook(s): No required texts. All course material available through class Brightspace

Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation

REFLECTION RESPONSES 20%

Students must submit 4 responses out of a total of 8 classes. Each response should be around 150 words or half a page double spaced. These are reflections based on a prompt from the lecture material. Reflection prompts will be given at the end of each class related to the material of the lecture. They are due by the following Tuesday between classes. Each response is worth 5%.

TAKE HOME MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT 25% (DUE OCT. 20)

Guidelines will be distributed on October 6. It will consist of two long answer responses of one page double spaced, each on different topics related to course material.

MULTIMODAL ASSIGNMENT OR FILM REVIEW 25% (DUE NOVEMBER 24)

Students can choose between different options that engage in multi-modal ethnography and seek to document a space, situation or context of everyday life experience that speaks to the hyper local realities of global processes. The options are:

- 1) A short ethnographic film, of one minute, including a 150 word write up about the process and reflection.
- 2) A visual essay using photography (10 photos) and captioned text.
- 3) Podcast style of field recordings and commentary three minutes.

OR

Students can create a two-page double spaced film review of *Leviathan* that integrates aspects of the course material related to the film and multimodal anthropology.

FINAL ASSIGNMENT ESSAY 30% (DUE DECEMBER 8)

Guidelines and prompts will be discussed during the second half of course. The assignment will consist of a long essay response of 1000 words to a specific theme of the course.

Late Assignment Policy

All assignments must be handed in on time. Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the professor. Without discussing with the professor first, marks will be docked 1 point out of the assignment total per day. Please stay in communication with me, I understand that things happen and life gets in the way. This will be kept in mind with regards to late assignments.

CLASS SCHEDULE

September 8 (Week 1)	Course Introduction (Synchronous)
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Going over the syllabus, discussing the assignments, exams, online activity

September 15 (Week 2) A Brief Introduction to Anthropology: Historical Trajectory, Key Concepts, Contemporary Concerns (Synchronous)

Read:

Chapter 1, "Anthropology: Comparison and Context"

in Eriksen, T 2015. <i>Small Places Large Issues: An Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology</i>

<u>Introduction, "Why does the world need anthropologists?"</u>

In <i>Why the World Needs Anthropologists</i> 2020. Edited by Dan Podjed, Meta Gorup, Pavel Borecky & Carla Guerron Montero

September 22 (Week 3) Engaging in Everyday life: Anthropology and the Ordinary, The Local, the Routine, the Familiar (Synchronous)

Read:

Perec, G. [1973] 2002. "Approaches to What?" In *The Everyday Life Reader*, edited by Ben Highmore pg. 176-179

Pylypa, J. (2020). A Week in the life of COVID-19 in Ottawa, Canada," *Anthropology Now* 12(1), 33-38.

Sept. 29 (Week 4) Change and Resistance: Individual Responses to Social, Economic, and Environmental Injustice (Synchronous)

Read:

Maharawal, M. (2021) Infrastructural Activism: Google Bus Blockades, Affective Politics, and Environmental Gentrification in San Francisco. *Antipode*, 1-25.

De Certeau, Michel (1984). *The Practice of Everyday Life*. (Introduction)

Oct. 6 (Week 5) Waste and Daily Life: The Hyper Local and Every day of Climate Change (Synchronous)

Read:

Alexander ,C. & O'Hare, P (2020). Waste and Its Disguises: Technologies of (Un)Knowing. *Ethnos* (Special Issue), 1-25

Listen:

Podcast: "Waste Land" episode of Planet Money NPR podcast (link in brightspace)

Guest Lecture: Daniel Mireault, City of Saskatoon Waste Management

**GUIDELINES FOR TAKE HOME MIDTERM
ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED**

October 13 (Week 6) ASYNCHRONOUS (No Scheduled Class)

Film Screening:

Instead of lecture, students will be expected to watch an ethnographic; film TBD

Available through Carleton Library website

October 20 (Week 7) Take home midterm due NO CLASS

October 22-27 Reading Week Enjoy the Break!!

**November 3 (Week 8) Introduction to Multi-Modal Ethnography:
Knowing and Sharing through Sound, Film and Image, Part 1)
(Synchronous)**

Read:

Pink, S. 2006. "Chapter 1: Engaging the Visual: An Introduction" In *The Future of Visual Anthropology*. 3-20

Frohlick, S., Boudreault-Fournier, A., Macevicius, C. (2020) Urban Syncopation: Curating Sounds, Normalcies, and Discrepancies during COVID-19 in BC, Canada. *City and Society* (Special Issue). 1-13

**November 10 (Week 9) Introduction to Multi-Modal Ethnography:
Knowing and Sharing through Sound, Film and Image, Part 2)
(Synchronous)**

Read:

Pavsek, C. (2015) Leviathan and the Experience of Sensory Ethnography. *Visual Anthropology Review* 31(1) 4-11

Dennis Lim, "The Merger of Academia and Art House" New York Times (published Aug. 31 2012)

MoMA Museum of Modern Art description of film *Leviathan* (link in Brightspace)

November 17 (Week 10) ASYNCHRONOUS (No Scheduled class)

Watch:

Lucien Castaing-Taylor, Verena Paravel. (2012). *Leviathan*

Film available through streaming service Kanopy accessible through Carleton Library website. Instructions posted on Brightspace

November 24 (Week 11) Phones, Data, TikTok: Knowing, Learning, Experiencing Ourselves and Others online (Synchronous)

Read:

Nair, V. (2021) Becoming data: biometric IDs and the individual in 'Digital India'. *The Journal of the Royal Institute of Anthropology* (27) 26-42

"How People *Actually* Use Their Smartphones" (2021) Sapiens magazine (link in Brightspace).

"A Psychologist Explains Why Suddenly Everyone is on TikTok" (2020) vice.com

(swipe, scroll, tap, search: do what you do on your devices)

GUIDELINES FOR FINAL ASSIGNMENT DISCUSSED

*****Visual Essay/ Film Review Due*****

December 1 (Week 12) Accepting, Creating, Resisting Narratives: Anthropology and Conspiracy Theories

Read:

Richard Hofstadter (1964) "The Paranoid Style in American Politics" Harpers Magazine

Fassin, D. (2021) Of Plots and Men: The Heuristics of Conspiracy Theories. *Current Anthropology* 62(2), 128-137

Course wrap up and review of material for final assignment

December 8 (Week 13)

*****Final Assignment due midnight*****

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50	WDN = Withdrawn from the course	DEF = Deferred	

Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at **613-520-6608** or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your ***Letter of Accommodation*** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*).

*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for December full fall and late fall examinations and fall/winter midterm examinations is November 15, 2023.

For Religious Obligations:

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website:

www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For Pregnancy:

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website:

www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning,

working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit:

www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

<https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?

A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including but not limited to: a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

What are the Procedures?

All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

Assistance for Students:

Academic and Career Development Services: <https://carleton.ca/career/>

Writing Services: <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

Important Information:

- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
 - Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
 - Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
 - Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton's Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.
 - In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your [MyCarletonOne account](#) through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the [MyCarleton Portal](#).
 - Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://students.carleton.ca/>
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Important Dates and Deadlines: Fall 2023

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| August 29, 2023:
registered in full | Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students
fall, early fall, and fall/winter courses. |
| September 1, 2023:
graduates. | Last day for receipt of applications from potential fall (November) graduates. |
| September 4, 2023: | Statutory holiday. University closed. |
| September 5, 2023: | Academic orientation (undergraduate and graduate students).

Orientation for new Teaching Assistants.

All new students are expected to be on campus. Class and laboratory preparations, departmental introductions for students, and other academic preparation activities will be held. |
| September 6, 2023: | Fall term begins. Full fall, early fall, and fall/winter classes begin. |

September 12, 2023. Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in early fall courses.

September 19, 2023: Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full fall, late fall, and fall/winter courses.

Last day to withdraw from early fall courses with a full fee adjustment.

Graduate students who have not electronically submitted their final thesis copy to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs will not be eligible to graduate in fall 2023 and must register for the fall 2023 term.

September 22-24, 2023: Full summer and late summer term deferred final examinations will be held.

September 30, 2023: Last day to withdraw from full fall and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.

October 1, 2023: Last day for academic withdrawal from early fall courses.

Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for Oct/Nov final examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.

October 6, 2023: December examination schedule (fall term final and fall/winter mid-terms) available online.

October 9, 2023: Statutory holiday. University closed.

October 13, 2023: Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in early fall term undergraduate courses, before the official Oct/Nov final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).

October 15, 2023: Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term from applicants whose documents originate from outside Canada or the United States.

October 20, 2023: Last day of early fall classes.

Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned in early fall courses, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

Last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for early fall courses.

October 23, 2023: Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in late fall courses.

October 23-27, 2023: Fall break, no classes.

October 28-29,

November 4-5, 2023: Final examinations in early fall undergraduate courses will be held.

October 30, 2023: Late fall classes begin.

November 10, 2023: Last day to withdraw from late fall term courses with a full fee adjustment.

November 15, 2023: Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall courses.

Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for December full fall and late fall examinations and fall/winter midterm examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.

Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term.

November 17-19, 2023: Early fall undergraduate deferred final examinations will be held.

November 24, 2023: Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full fall term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official December final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).

December 1, 2023: Last day for receipt of applications from potential winter (February) graduates.

Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.

Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in late fall term undergraduate courses, before the official final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).

December 8, 2023: Fall term ends.

Last day of full fall and late fall classes.

Classes follow a Monday schedule.

Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for full and late fall courses.

Last day for receipt of applications for undergraduate degree program transfers for winter term.

December 9, 2023: No classes or examinations take place.

December 10-22, 2023: Final examinations in full fall and late fall courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.

December 22, 2023: All final take-home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

December 25,
2023 through
January 3, 2024
inclusive: University closed.

Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Statement:

We each come to this class from our own experience and background and we need to give space and understanding to each unique perspective. Some topics in this class include political and socially dynamic issues including how people have been marginalized, excluded, and exploited; my expectation is that we all work towards an inclusive classroom and society. This requires all of us to think and act with care and be open to the possibilities of rethinking how our experiences should influence our actions towards ending the ways in which people are marginalized, excluded, and/or exploited.

Land Acknowledgement:

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.