

**ANTH 2620A**  
**Ethnography sub-Saharan Africa**

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<b>Term</b>	Fall 2024
<b>Course Delivery</b>	Blended Online Course
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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an examination of contemporary social and cultural life in parts of sub-Saharan Africa. In it, emphasis is placed on learning about the varied and contested social practices -- from everyday livelihood, economic activities, migrant labourers to political movements -- on the sub- continent and the historical contexts out of which they have arisen. In other words, we shall understand African practices as dynamic activities that have drawn on the cultural resources from an assortment of localized, national and international traditions. Through examining historically and culturally situated social practices through contemporary ethnographic research, it is hoped that students will go beyond common assumptions held about (sub-Saharan) Africa found in North America and elsewhere (which circulate in newspapers, films, novels, development projects, academic studies, tourist experiences, etc.). The aim is to foster a (deeper) understanding of how these common assumptions have shaped social, political, cultural and economic life in sub-Saharan Africa and beyond, how they have simultaneously been creatively (or destructively) reinterpreted and retooled by different Africans, and how they have inadequately explained the rich, diverse ways of living that have occurred in various parts of this sub- continent.

## **EVALUATION**

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Weight</b>
I. Reading responses ( <b>First reading response week 3 September 16 is the due date</b> )	Monday by 6pm <b>The first 5 weeks choose 3 papers to respond.</b>  <b>The last 8 weeks choose 1 and the Truth and Reconciliation is mandatory (2 required)</b>	6% x 5 = 30%
II. post-class discussion response	<b>Every Thursday Midnight</b> after every Wednesday class	1% x 10 = 10%
III Online Presence	Camera on During classes and presentation	1% x 10 = 10%

IV. Group discussion facilitation presentation (40 minutes max)	Begins Week 3 Due Every Tuesday at 6pm	20%
V. Take home exam (Final term paper)	Beginning December 6 <sup>th</sup> (Due December 21 <sup>st</sup> handed in online (Brightspace)	30%

## TEXT

There is no textbook requirement for this course. All readings will be placed on the course Brightspace page one week in advance with instructions on which pages to read. Readings should be done before the classes for which they are assigned. It is expected that you will consider the broad themes and arguments (i.e., don't get lost in the details) and arrive to class prepared to relate them to the relevant lectures and discussion.