

Carleton University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Fall 2025 – Winter 2026
ANTH 6000: Doctoral Seminar
Fridays, 11:35-2:35PM

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Overview:

This seminar is designed to introduce you to our Engaged Anthropology doctoral program. Together with the course on Research Design (ANTH 6002), it initiates you into the program's process-based learning during your first semester. These courses encourage you to start defining your thesis project as soon as you begin doctoral studies.

The first half of the ANTH 6000 course is designed to address the doctoral program's "engaged anthropology" theme by examining some of the many ways that anthropological research shapes and is shaped by the human conditions we study. By considering a diverse range of what "engaged anthropology" can mean, the goal is to help you develop a nuanced and informed approach to the complexities of anthropological research. Such awareness should help you anticipate and debate whatever challenges your chosen stances might incur.

In the second half of the course we will engage with each other's specific theoretical, ethical, methodological and topical concerns.

The first half is primarily led by the instructor, who introduces key theoretical and/or methodological literature as well as ethnographic work exemplifying engaged anthropology, and the second half is primarily led by you, the students in the class, who (with the instructor's guidance and approval) select readings relevant to your own research and to the field generally, introduce them to the class, and lead discussion. In preparing the course content, you will not only deepen your knowledge of your own work, but learn to effectively communicate its importance to your peers. Similarly, in engaging with material outside your area of interest on days your peers are presenting, you will learn to better situate your work in its intellectual, historical, and political context.

Course Requirements and Methods of Evaluation:

Your Fall semester grade consists of four equal parts: Three short essays (3-5 typed pages) worth 25% each and an overall participation mark made up of your regular attendance, attention, and engagement in class discussion *plus* your weekly selection and presentation of a significant passage and question for discussion from the assigned readings. (You are of course expected to complete all the assigned reading and have more ideas and questions for discussion than just

your selected passage.) The first essay, due September 29th, will invite you to reflect on your motivations—personal, ethical, political, intellectual, etc.-- for pursuing PhD research on your chosen topic. The second, due November 3rd, will build on this by asking you to relate a key theoretical concept from the course to both your topic and your motivations. Together these two essays should help you think through your own versions of “engaged anthropology.” The third essay, due the last day of class, is a formal book review of one of the three newer monographs we will read together in the Fall term. More details about each of these assignments will be provided as the due dates approach.

In the Winter term your grade will come from your presentation/leading discussion of your chosen readings one week of the term (30%), a conference paper (20%) and conference presentation (20%) at the end of the term, and participation, including engagement with your peers’ presentations (30%). The schedule of individual presentations (weeks for which you will be responsible for choosing the assigned readings) will be determined the first week of the Winter term. Proposed readings should be submitted to the instructor, however, by November 21st of the Fall term.

Required readings:

The instructor will ensure readings for the first half of the semester are accessible through the library’s ARES service and/or on the course Brightspace page by the beginning of classes. It will be each student presenter’s responsibility to make sure readings for the second half are made available either through direct communication or through the instructor on Brightspace at least a week in advance of the scheduled discussion date.

Equity and inclusion in learning:

Anthropology is unthinkable without colonialism and the racialized inequalities it entails. We will not try to escape this fact in this course. Rather, we will do our best to read, write, talk, think, and do a version of anthropology that might loosen some of the ways it has secured its authority as an academic discipline in an imperial frame. That we will do so in a geopolitical context of intensifying settler-colonial occupation severely limits our chances of success. But insofar as each of us must hope to stretch our understanding of the world beyond our respective places in the class structure, in the gender binary, in racial hierarchies, we should still try, and be kind and patient and generous with each other in the effort.

AI:

The use of LLM’s such as ChatGPT for writing, reading, or research is prohibited in this course. If any doubt arises about the limits of this prohibition given the embeddedness of AI tools in most online research tools, please consult with the instructor *in advance* of deploying a particular research strategy. The course is designed specifically so that research or reading outside the assigned materials is not a requirement.

Preliminary Schedule of Readings (subject to change with one week’s notice):

Fall 2025

Friday, September 5th
Introductions and Welcome to the course

September 12th
Foucault, 1979. The Order of Things, preface.
Williams, 1958. "Culture is Ordinary"
Wolf, 1989. "Facing Power"

September 19th
Hurstun, 1935. Mules and Men

September 26th
Said, 1989. "Representing the Colonized." *Critical Inquiry*.
Trouillot, 2003. "Anthropology and the Savage Slot." Global Transformations.
Ahmed, 2000. "Who Knows? Knowing Strangers and Strangeness." *Australian Feminist Studies*

Motivations essays due Monday September 29th.

October 3rd
Bonilla, 2020. Non-sovereign Futures

October 10th
Bourdieu, 1979. Distinction

October 17th
Cassidy, 2007. Horse People

October 24th
No class. Reading week.

October 31st
Haraway, 1988. "Situated Knowledges." *Feminist Studies*
Latour, 2004. "Why Has Critique Run Out of Steam?" *Critical Inquiry*
Stengers, 2005. "The Cosmopolitical Proposal."

Conceptual essays due Monday November 3rd.

November 7th
Bhungalia, 2023. Elastic Empire

November 14th
Simpson, 2017. "The Ruse of Consent and the Anatomy of 'Refusal.'" *Postcolonial Studies*
Jobson, 2020. "The Case for Letting Anthropology Burn." *American Anthropologist*
Günel and Wantanabe, 2024. "Patchwork Ethnography." *American Ethnologist*

November 21st

No class. Proposed readings for Winter term due.

November 28th

Wrap-up/Make-up class. Book reviews due.

Winter 2026

Friday, January 9th

Welcome back. Presentation schedule set.

January 16th – March 20th

Student-assigned readings

March 27th – April 3rd

Student conference and wrap-up

Additional Information

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/>

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (<https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>). For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC: <https://carleton.ca/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 October/November examinations is **October 1, 2025** and **November 15, 2025** for December examinations.

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:

“As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>”

Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>

Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>

Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>

Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>

Equity & Inclusive Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Career Services: <https://carleton.ca/career/>

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/>.

FALL TERM 2025 – Important Dates and Deadlines

Date	Activity
August 27, 2025	Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in full fall, early fall, and fall/winter courses.
August 31, 2025	Last day for receipt of applications from potential fall (November) graduates.
September 1, 2025	Statutory holiday. University closed.
September 2, 2025	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 3, 2025	Fall term begins. Full fall, early fall, and fall/winter classes begin.

Date	Activity
September 9, 2025	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in early fall courses.
September 16, 2025	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 Graduate Studies will not be eligible to graduate in fall 2025 and must register for the fall 2025 term.
September 19-21, 2025	Full summer and late summer term deferred final examinations will be held.
September 30, 2025	Last day to withdraw from full fall and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
October 1, 2025	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 9, 2025	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 10, 2025	December examination schedule (fall term final and fall/winter mid-terms) available online.

Date	Activity
October 13, 2025	Statutory holiday. University closed.
October 15, 2025	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 16, 2025	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 20, 2025	Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in late fall courses.
October 20-24, 2025	Fall break, no classes.
October 25-26, November 1-2, 2025	Final examinations in early fall undergraduate courses will be held.
October 27, 2025	Late fall classes begin.
November 7, 2025	Last day to withdraw from late fall term courses with a full fee adjustment.
November 14-16, 2025	Early fall undergraduate deferred final examinations will be held.

Date	Activity
November 15, 2025	<p>Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall courses.</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p>Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term.</p>
November 21, 2025	<p>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).</p>
November 28, 2025	<p>Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.</p> <p>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).</p>
November 30, 2025	<p>Last day for receipt of applications from potential winter (February) graduates.</p>
December 5, 2025	<p>Fall term ends.</p> <p>Last day of full fall and late fall classes.</p>

Date	Activity
	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 6-7, 2025	No classes or examinations take place.
December 8-20, 2025	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 20, 2025	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 24, 2025 at noon through January 2, 2026 inclusive	University closed.