

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**ANTH 1001 A
2025 FALL
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIO-CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

Instructor: Matthew Hawkins

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:30 am – 12:30 pm; request to meet by Zoom by email.

Office: A707 Loeb Building

Pre-requisites & Precluded Courses: Precludes additional credit for ANTH 1000, HUMS 1005.

Method of Delivery: In-person lectures Wednesdays 2:35pm – 4:25pm; and 1-hr TA discussion groups (see Carleton Central for your group location)

Course Description

Socio-cultural anthropology is the study of the diverse ways of being human: the different ways people think and act about the relationships that they form with other people, beings, and things. This course will introduce you to how anthropologists explore these cultural differences and learn from different cultural examples from around the world. We will look at concepts of power, race, the nation, gender, the environment, economy and development, memory, and reconciliation to better understand the conditions of how people make social relationships. We will read ethnographies, which represent one of the important ways that anthropologists share knowledge about society and culture. In this class we will learn about social and cultural differences from around the world and in Canada. We will be exposed to ethnography and practice some of the anthropologist's research methods.

To write or create an ethnography, anthropologists use a research method called participant-observation. The researcher participates in the lived realities of other people and observes how they construct meaning in their lives to gain an understanding of what we call "culture".

Fundamental to how anthropologists do research is the concept of cultural relativity. Cultural relativity is not moral relativity, which would be to say all ways of being/acting are equally good. Rather, as anthropologist Marshall Sahlins writes, cultural relativity "is the simple prescription that, in order to be intelligible, other people's practices and ideals must be placed in their own historical context [and] in the field of their own cultural relationships." To learn about other people's culture therefore is to engage in a relationship with other people and to be present in and participate with their lived realities.

Learning Objectives

- To learn about the **cultural diversity** that exists in many aspects of **human life**.
- To recognize and critique **ethnocentrism** and the importance of **cultural relativism**.
- Be introduced to **ethnography** and learning from descriptions of lived experiences.
- Be able to define and apply core **concepts** (power, gender, colonialism, racialization and racism, space/place, etc.) to analyze a **socio-cultural phenomenon**.

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.

Important Note about Expectations:

For the instructor:

You can expect me: to share my knowledge about anthropology through original content (lectures), assign meaningful materials to read, listen and watch, and design this course to facilitate your learning. I will provide clear instructions and clarify when needed and maintain a fair assessment standard for all students. I aim to be fair and understanding of your circumstances and to make accommodations where necessary to help you succeed.

I can be reached for personal issues through email (I aim to respond within 1-2 days and respect weekends) or during the posted office hour.

For Teaching Assistants:

Teaching assistants are a core part of the teaching team with significant knowledge about anthropology and university skills to share with you. They will provide you fair and meaningful assessment on your assignments and help me to facilitate your education.

For the students:

I expect you to regularly engage with the course, which includes attending lecture, engaging with the assigned course materials and participate in your TA groups. I expect you to complete assignments on time. Overall, I expect you to apply yourself to your own learning, recognizing that readings may be difficult, that you may encounter ideas and histories you are not familiar with and that you will have to apply your self to develop your skills and knowledge.

Also, please let me know as soon as possible if physical/mental health, personal/family issue, technological access, and/or workload is affecting your ability to fulfill your responsibilities in this course, and we will work towards an accommodation.

For everyone:

Finally, we all have different backgrounds and life experiences that provide different perspectives on issues and understandings about what is most important in our lives. Some topics in this class include explorations of how people have been politically and socially marginalized, excluded, and exploited based on their gender, sexuality, religion, economic class and through processes of colonization and racialization. My expectation is that we all work towards an inclusive classroom and society; this project requires **all of us** to think and act with care and be open to the possibilities of rethinking how our experiences should influence our own knowledge and actions with a goal of ending the ways in which people are marginalized, excluded, and exploited.

Course Format

Course content is organized by a theme or topic each week. Lectures will be delivered every Thursday in-person. Assigned materials (readings, podcasts, videos) will be available and/or linked on Brightspace. You will be asked to submit a question about the readings each week on the Brightspace forum.

You will also attend a 1-hour TA discussion group each Thursday. TA groups will include discussions on that week's course content (lecture and readings) as well as activities to facilitate your academic skills and prepare you for your assignments. You should complete the assigned materials before the TA discussion group to be able to fully participate in your TA group's discussions.

Check Carleton Central to see your section's meeting time and location.

Assessments:

TA Group	20% (total)
➤ Attendance	10%
➤ Weekly question	10%
Annotated Bibliography	15%
Decolonization Reflection	15%
Observation, Description, Analysis	25%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Assigned Materials

You are not required to purchase a book for this class. All assigned materials to read are available through the Brightspace page for this course.

Description of Assessments

TA Group – 20%

Attendance – 10%

Part of your TA Group mark (10%) will be based upon your attendance in your TA Groups. TA groups will start on **Wednesday September 17**. You will be expected to attend at least **8 of the 10 sessions** over the course of the semester to receive full marks. Your mark will also reflect only active attendance, so please attend TA groups ready to listen and engage with your peers.

You can find your TA Group number through your Carleton Central schedule. Your in-person TA Group location will be provided through Carleton Central.

Weekly Question – 10% (best 8 out of 10)

Post a question (1 to 2 sentences) about the assigned reading to the forum "Weekly Question" in the corresponding module on Brightspace. You will have 10 different opportunities to post a question, you will be marked on completing at least 8 questions over the semester.

Your question should demonstrate your effort to engage with the assigned material. Your TA will evaluate your question out of 2 based on your questions ability to demonstrate your engagement. 0 –

question clearly does not relate to week's reading; 1 – suggests limited engagement; 2 – suggests active engagement.

Annotated Bibliography – 15%

Due Friday, September 26 by 11:59pm

A short reading comprehension and reflection assignment that will introduce you to the practice of doing an “annotated bibliography” and citing academic work.

Further instructions will be provided on Brightspace.

Decolonization Reflection – 15%

Due Friday, October 17 by 11:59pm

A written assignment (600-800 words) that will ask you to reflect on the content of the “Decolonization is for Everyone” module.

Further instructions will be provided on Brightspace.

Observation, Description, Analysis – 25%

Due Friday, November 28 by 11:59pm

An activity that includes practicing your observation skills and applying analytical concepts to the description of your experience. Will be a written submission (~1500 words). You will have an opportunity to discuss in your TA Group appropriate locations / contexts to do your observation.

Further instructions will be provided on Brightspace.

Final Exam – 25%

Exam schedule will be posted in November

There will be an in-person final exam scheduled during the examination period at the end of the semester. The final exam will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions that will test your knowledge of course materials – including knowledge of the course readings – and ability to apply course concepts.

On Late Submissions

Each student has five (5) extension days to use as you need over the semester. You do not need permission from me or your TA to use your extension days; but do note how many extension days you have used when submitting your assignment after the due date. Weekends count as 1 day.

If for medical or personal reasons you need a more significant extension to submit an assignment, please contact me by email (matthewhawkins@cunet.carleton.ca) or my office hours for accommodations.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AI use in this course: Students may use AI tools for basic word processing and formatting functions, including:

- Grammar and spell checking (e.g., Grammarly, Microsoft Word Editor)
- Basic formatting and design suggestions (e.g., Microsoft Word's formatting tools, PowerPoint Design editor)

Students may also have a few other limited uses for AI tools:

- AI assistance as a research tool to find relevant resources for your Observation, Description, and Analysis assignment. Be aware that AI tools continue to incorrectly cite and may make-up citations. It is important that you download and read sources you are using, and to correctly cite your sources.
- AI tools may be helpful for creating summaries of readings, but **such summaries are not a replacement for doing the reading yourself**. For your own growth and success in the course, if you are using AI tools as reading aid, that you still complete the entire reading on your own.

Documenting AI use: It is not necessary to document the use of AI for the permitted purposes listed above. If you have questions about a specific use of AI that isn't listed above, please consult me.

Course Plan

1: Introduction Wednesday September 3	Concepts: socio-culture anthropology, ethnography
Reading: Syllabus.	
2: Ethnography and being human Wednesday September 10	Concepts: Culture, cultural relativism, ethnocentrism, ethnography
Reading: De León, J. (2024). "Introduction" and "Papo and Alma." In <i>Soldiers and Kings: Survival and hope in the world of human struggling</i> . Viking.	
3: Power and the state Wednesday September 17	Concepts: Power, the state, common-sense
Reading: Lems, A. (2022). Deciphering everyday meaning-making with Gramsci. <i>Dialectical Anthropology</i> , 46(4), 395–415.	
4: Gender, sexuality and violence Wednesday September 24	Concepts: Gender, biological sex, violence
Reading: Gutmann, M. (2021). The Animal Inside: Men and Violence. <i>Current Anthropology</i> , 62(S23), S182–S192.	
5: Racialization, class and the nation Wednesday October 1	Concepts: Nation/nationalism, race and racialization, social class
Reading: Millar, K. (2023). Dirt and Debt: The Racialization of Default in Brazil. <i>Anthropologica</i> , 65(2), Article 2.	
6: Decolonization is for Everyone Wednesday October 8	Concepts: colonialism, reconciliation, cultural appropriation, knowledge
Watch/listen to full interview with Marlene Pierre (knowledge keeper).	
7: Colonialism, genocide, and resistance Wednesday October 15	Concepts: settler-colonialism, genocide, resistance
Reading: Assali, H. (2024). Opacity in Gaza: Intimate Relations as Resistance. <i>Arab Studies Journal</i> , 32(2), 40–50.	

8: Development and economies Wednesday October 29	Concepts: Economies, reciprocity/exchange, capitalism, extraction, human-nonhuman relations (beings)
Reading: Bacigalupo, A. M. (2024). Cannibalistic exchanges with mountain-ancestors: Moral economies of gold mining in northern Peru. <i>The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology</i> , 29(3), 220–229.	
9: Memory and spaces/places in urban anthropology Wednesday November 5	Concepts: Space and place, memory/the past, urbanization
Reading: Schwabe, S. (2023). Chapter 4: Where memory moves. In: <i>Moving memory: Remembering Palestine in postdictatorship Chile</i> . Cornell University Press.	
10: Climate change, adaptation and ecological justice Wednesday November 12	Concepts: Ecology, environment, human-nonhuman relationships (ecology)
Reading: Gagné, K. (2025). The Feel of Climate Change: Attuning to the Shifting Ice of the Zanskar River. <i>Current Anthropology</i> , 66(1), 147–154.	
11: Care and Kinship Wednesday November 19	Concepts: Medical anthropology, care, health, family/kinship
Reading: Addlakha, R. (2020). Kinship Destabilized!: Disability and the Micropolitics of Care in Urban India. <i>Current Anthropology</i> , 61(S21), S46–S54.	
12: Beyond the Human Wednesday November 26	Concepts: human and non-human relations (technology); emotion; futures of humanness; technology
Reading: Wright, J. (2023). Chapter 4 Hug: Reconfiguring Lifting. In: <i>Robots won't save Japan: An ethnography of eldercare automation</i> . ILR Press, an imprint of Cornell University Press.	
13: Conclusion and Review Wednesday Dec 3	Concepts: review in preparation for the exam
No new readings this week. Will be reviewing concepts and course material for exam.	

University Regulations

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.
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.

Date	Activity
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.
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.

Date	Activity
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.
November 15, 2025	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 21, 2025	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).
November 28, 2025	Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.

Date	Activity
	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).
November 30, 2025	Last day for receipt of applications from potential winter (February) graduates.
December 5, 2025	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 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

Date	Activity
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.