Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

Cultural Anthropology (A005312)

Course

Course size
Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020
A (semester 2) Dutch lecture 35.0 h on-line discussion group 5.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020
Stroeken, Koenraad LW21 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020
crds offering
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures 5 A

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
Position of the course
This course aims to introduce students to the central concepts and theories of the anthropological discipline: culture, nature-nurture, religion, identity and diversity. The necessity of having a comparative attitude is explained, together with the difficulties that go with it. The importance of the ethnographic method for 'knowing' is illustrated through casestudies and audiovisual material. The last sessions further apply the acquired concepts through practice-oriented lectures and online discussions.

Contents
• Critical overview of the main anthropological concepts and their interrelationships, with specific attention to the history of ethnocentrism.
• Application of the insights from anthropology to interconnected social fields and themes such as art, religion, intercultural interaction, and communication.
• nature-nurture, origins and the human as 'species'
• Discussion of the central role of ethnographic fieldwork: knowledge is always produced in a qualitative interaction. The emphasis is on the continuity between non-western and western societies.
• Cultural diversity, the existence of alternatives and their interrelations are systematically studied for the fields of (1) economy and gift systems, (2) politics and decision making, (3) cosmology and healing, (4) globalisation, migration and identity, (5) ecology and transition, (6) communication, technology and material culture.
• Opinion polls in realtime, audiovisual material and the interactive location-based service Zone-it keep track of timely discussions
• The last lectures further deepen the concepts by exploiting the possibilities of e-learning, specifically on the themes of identity and 'diversity management'

Initial competences

Final competences
1 To gain insight in the main concepts and theories of the anthropological discipline
2 To gain knowledge and insight in the relations between nature/nurture, materialism/idealism, agency/structure, local/global
3 Able to distinguish the views on the human that underlie dominant approaches in the humanities in the West
4 Having knowledge about non-Western cultures en local processes of change

(Approved)
5 Being able to anthropologically frame debates on culture and the comparison of cultural traditions
6 Being able to demonstrate the epistemological importance of the ethnographic method and the study of lifeworlds
7 Recognize concrete applications of a reflexive and ‘emic’ research attitude, as well as recognize deviations from it
8 Being able to critically assess information, produced by the media, about globalization and local lifeworlds
9 Being able to distinguish frames of experience in the domains of religion, magic and science

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract
Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods
Lecture, on-line discussion group

Learning materials and price

References

Course content-related study coaching
Online guidance through Minerva.

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment
• Periodical: written exam (100%)

Assessment form
Written exam with multiple choice and open questions

Calculation of the examination mark

Facilities for Working Students
Facilities:
1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3 Feedback can be given by email or during an appointment during office hours

Extra information:
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy

(Approved)