This seminar exposes graduate students in anthropology and other social sciences to contemporary discourses and debates on the plurality, disparities, and asymmetries among the anthropologies that have developed within diverse national and regional contexts. The international division of intellectual labor has come to be marked by the dominance of certain anthropologies, namely those grounded in North Atlantic metropolitan epistemologies and institutional complexes. This means that the core body of anthropological knowledge and theory is validated mainly in the West, whereas much of the rest of the world has been treated as peripheral zones of inquiry and theorization. The discourse on world anthropologies has questioned and challenged this unequal state of affairs, demanding that “Northern” anthropologies produced in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Western European countries such as France, be decentered within a more horizontal and democratic ecology of knowledges. Decentering or provincializing U.S. and European anthropology does not mean jettisoning or abandoning it. However, it does entail that we interrogate and unlearn its hegemonic status in order to recognize the significance of otherwise unknown or underappreciated sources of social analysis and theorizing for making sense of and explaining the world, both past and present.

A key objective of this seminar is to expand the boundaries of what students understand to constitute anthropologically-relevant social analysis and theory; and to decolonize the parameters of anthropological thinking, writing, and knowledge.

**TEXTS**


*Plus occasional RECOMMENDED READINGS* accessible via AnthroSource and other electronic links via the Smathers Libraries’ journal catalog.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Participation—25% (or 25 points)

Five short essays—25%

Paper proposal—10%

Seminar paper—40%

This course is a seminar; therefore, regular attendance and active engagement (e.g., in general discussions as well as through individual or team presentations and discussion facilitation) are imperative to create conditions conducive to collective learning. There are no exams, only five short essays and a culminating research paper. Critical reflections or short reaction papers on some aspect of the readings will be submitted periodically (see due dates below). These papers are to be at about 4-5 double-spaced pages long. The more elaborate seminar paper of about 20-25 pages is due on the last day of class, **December 4th**. Students must discuss their potential topics for this assignment with the professor as early in the semester as possible. A proposal for the paper is due on **October 2nd**. These papers—or “performance scripts” of them—will be presented during the last three classes. Should additional time be necessary, we will use the December 12th (10-noon) examination period for the final round of presentations.

Effective and, ideally, eloquently compelling writing is an important skill anthropologists need to include in their professional tool kits. In the final papers, students should emulate the quality and format of juried journal articles, using those published in *American Anthropologist, American Ethnologist,* or *Cultural Anthropology* as models. The final papers will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria: i- the effective application and articulation of an anthropological perspective or an interdisciplinary perspective informed by anthropological inquiry and analysis, ii- the clarity and cogency of exposition, iii- the quality of evidence used to support arguments, iv- the adequacy of organization and writing (i.e., word usage, grammar, spelling, and logical flow), and v- the relative quality and quantity of citations. *Most of these criteria, particularly i-iv, should be considered general guidelines for all writing assignments.*

**GRADING**

Based on the total number of points accumulated, the scale will be the following:

A=95-100 points, A- =90-94, B+ = 87-89, B=83-86, B- =80-82, C+ = 77-79, C=73-76

**POLICIES**

**Extensions on Assignments**

Students will be allowed extensions on writing assignments ONLY if there are serious extenuating circumstances that can be documented (e.g., illnesses, deaths in family, or religious
observances). Otherwise, due dates are written in stone. You are to manage your time accordingly. The university, especially the Graduate School, is part of the real world.

**Academic Honesty**
An implied honor code is observed in all academic work at the University. Every student must operate according to an implied pledge that “any work submitted for credit the student has neither received nor given unauthorized aid.” In other words, cheating and plagiarism are breaches of academic honesty subject to disciplinary action, which may include a failing grade for the course. For further details, consult the honor code website: [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentrights.php#studenthonorcode](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentrights.php#studenthonorcode).

**Accommodations to Students with Disabilities**
Students needing classroom accommodation should register with the Dean of Students Office, where the necessary documentation will be issued. Students must submit their documentation to the professor when requesting accommodation.

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**SEMINAR SCHEDULE OF TOPICS, READINGS, & ASSIGNMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.21</td>
<td>Introductions and Course Expectations/Requirements</td>
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| 08.28  | Knowledge Divides in Anthropology and the Social Sciences            | Faye V. Harrison, 2012, “Dismantling Anthropology’s Domestic and International Peripheries”  
  *WAN e-Journal*, No. 6, pp. 86-110  
  *World Social Science Report: Knowledge Divides*  
| 09.04  | Knowledge Divides continued  
  **Critical Reflection #1 due** | More selections from UNESCO/ISSC report                                                 |
| 09.11  | Perspectives on/from World Anthropologies                           | Gustavo Lins Ribeiro & Arturo Escobar, eds., *World Anthropologies* |
| 09.18  | Perspectives from World Anthropologies Network (WAN)  
  **Critical Reflection #2** | Selected articles from *WAN e-Journal*, [http://www.ram-wan.net/html/journal.htm](http://www.ram-wan.net/html/journal.htm) |
| 09.25  | Social Theory from the Global South  
  **Critical Reflection #3** | Raewyn Connell, *Southern Theory*                                                               |
| 10.02  | Indian Ethnography as Base for Social Analysis & Theory  
  **Term Paper Proposal** | Veena Das, *Life and Words*                                                                     |
| 10.09  | Anthropologically-informed Theory from the South                      |                                                                                               |
Jean & John Comaroff, *Theory from the South*

10.16 Intervention from an African Ethnographer  *Critical Reflection #4*

Mwenda Ntarangwi, *Reversed Gaze*

10.23 Another African Perspective on Anthropology and Ethnography


-----Married but Available

10.30 African Ethnography and Fiction  *Critical Reflection #5*

*Married but Available* continued

11.06 Social Movements and Decolonial Knowledge Production

Arturo Escobar, *Territories of Difference*

11.13 Student research presentations

11.20 **No class. AAA Meeting**

11.27 **No class. Hanukkah and Thanksgiving Holidays**

12.04 Last day of class; student research presentations. **Seminar Paper Due**

12.12 If necessary, reserved for student research presentations at 10 am- noon.

**Happy Holidays!**