

**ANT 4930/ANG 6930**  
**Special Topics in Anthropology:**  
**Anthropology of Crisis, Collapse, and Resilience**  
**Fall 2024**



**Instructor**

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**Description**

This course explores the use of the term resilience in the social sciences from an interdisciplinary perspective, with a focus on recent understandings of resilience in anthropology, archaeology, medical anthropology, ecology, sociology, and psychology. Resilience operates at several scales, from the individual to the community, and relates to several other topics, including crisis, collapse, disaster, adaptation, coping, and sustainability. However, the popularity of the resilience framework and its use as a buzzword has complicated the analytical utility of the term. Students will have an opportunity to reassess the notion of resilience and how to apply this concept in their own research.

**Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will:

1. be able to define resilience
2. have an interdisciplinary perspective
3. develop critiques of resilience
4. have the tools to address resilience in their own research

### **Class Meetings**

Friday, Periods 4–6, 10:40 am–1:40 pm  
Turlington Hall 208H

### **Office Hours**

Thursdays 10:00 am–12:00 pm or by appointment  
Turlington B129

### **Readings**

All readings will be provided on Canvas.

### **Grading**

A 93-100%	B+ 87-89.9	C+ 77-79.9	D+ 67-69.9	E <60
A- 90-92.9	B 83-86.9	C 73-76.9	D 63-66.9	
	B- 80-82.9	C- 70-72.9	D- 60-62.9	

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies>

Attendance and Participation	10%
Reading Responses	20%
Project Abstract	10%
Final Paper Draft	20%
Final Paper Peer Review and Presentation	20%
Final Paper	20%

### **Attendance and Participation**

The course is designed as a seminar and will require attendance and participation. If you anticipate being absent, please let the instructor know.

### **Reading Responses**

Each week, students will post reading responses on the Canvas discussion board (approximately 500 words). Students can write these responses placing all of the week’s readings in dialogue, or they can choose to write a deeper discussion of a single reading. These responses are intended to kickstart in-class discussions. Students are also encouraged to share additional relevant readings with the class.

### **Final Paper**

The final paper will be on a topic chosen by the student. The paper will consist of the student’s definition of resilience alongside either 1) a discussion of a specific theme or case study, or 2) a proposal for a research project. A project abstract/description will contextualize the project, and

a draft of the final paper will be due before the end of the semester. Students will then be assigned another student's draft to conduct a peer review to be presented on the final class date.

### **Late Work**

All work for this class must be submitted on time, as we will discuss the work in class. Late work will therefore not be accepted except under extreme circumstances.

### **Academic Honesty and Integrity**

Please be familiar with the University of Florida's Student Honor Code:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code>

### **Special Accommodations**

The process for requesting special accommodations is described at <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started>, including registering with the Disability Resource Center in Reid Hall and requesting an accommodation letter to be presented to the instructor.

### **Online Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results>.

### **Campus Resources**

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, (352) 392-1575.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1161.

University Police Department, (352) 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).  
<http://www.police.ufl.edu>

E-learning technical support, (352) 392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learningsupport@ufl.edu](mailto:Learningsupport@ufl.edu). <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.  
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, (352) 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio>

Student Complaints Campus: [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf)

On-Line Student Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess>  
Anthropology 4930/6930

## **Special Topics in Anthropology: Anthropology of Crisis, Collapse, and Resilience**

Fall 2024

### **Course Schedule (Subject to Change)**

#### **Week 1 (August 23): Introduction**

Rivera-González, Joyce and Michelle Hak Hepburn  
2022 What Resilience Does. AnthroPod: The Podcast of the Society for Cultural Anthropology.  
<https://culanth.org/fieldsights/what-resilience-does>

Wang, Yan, David Hulse, Jason Von Meding, Madeline Brown, and Laura Dedenbach  
2020 Conceiving Resilience: Lexical Shifts and Proximal Meanings in the Human-Centered Natural and Built Environment Literature from 1990 to 2018. *Developments in the Built Environment* 1:100003.

#### **Week 2 (August 30): Ecological Resilience**

Gunderson, Lance H. and C.S. Holling  
2002 *Panarchy: Understanding Transformations in Human and Natural Systems*.  
Island Press, Washington, D.C.

Nagatsu, Michiru, Roope O. Kaaronen, Mikko Salmela, and Miles MacLeod  
2023 Cultural Niche Construction as a Framework for Reorienting Human-Environment Relations. *Topics in Cognitive Science* 15(3):413–432.

Walker, Brian, C.S. Holling, Stephen R. Carpenter, and Ann Kinzig  
2004 Resilience, Adaptability, and Transformability in Social-Ecological Systems. *Ecology and Society* 9(2):Art. 5.

#### **Week 3 (September 6): Disaster Anthropology**

Albris, K.  
2022 Disaster Anthropology: Vulnerability, Process, and Meaning. In *Defining Disaster: Disciplines and Domains*, edited by M. Aronsson-Storrier and R. Dahlberg. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Faas, A.J. and Roberto E. Barrios  
2015 Applied Anthropology of Risk, Hazards, and Disasters. *Human Organization* 74(4):287–295.

Hoffman, Susanna M. and Anthony Oliver-Smith  
2002 Catastrophe and Culture: The Anthropology of Disaster. School of American Research  
Advanced Seminar Series, Santa Fe.

Oliver-Smith, Anthony  
1996 Anthropological Research on Hazards and Disasters. Annual Review of Anthropology  
25:303–328.

#### **Week 4 (September 13): The Social Construction of Disasters**

##### **\*\*Project Abstract Due\*\***

Ajulo, Oluwadunsin, Jason Von Meding, and Patrick Tang  
2020 Upending the Status Quo Through Transformative Adaptation. Progress in Disaster Science  
6:100103.

Chmutina, Ksenia and Jason Von Meding  
2019 A Dilemma of Language: “Natural Disasters” in Academic Literature. International Journal  
of Disaster Risk Science 10:283–292.

Oliver-Smith, Anthony  
2022 The Social Construction of Disaster: Economic Anthropological Perspectives on the  
COVID-19 Pandemic. Economic Anthropology 9(1):167–171.

Von Meding, Jason, Carla Brisotto, Haleh Mehdipour, and Colin Lasch  
2023 Disasters “Through the Looking Glass.” Disaster Prevention and Management.

#### **Week 5 (September 20): Collapse**

Butzer, Karl W. and Georgina H. Endfield  
2012 Critical Perspectives on Historical Collapse. Proceedings of the National  
Academy of Sciences 109(10):3632–3639.

Correia, David  
2013 F\*\*k Jared Diamond. Capitalism Nature Socialism 24(4):1–6.

Diamond, Jared  
2011 Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed. Penguin Books, New York.

Erickson, Clark  
1999 Neo-environmental Determinism and Agrarian “Collapse” in Andean Prehistory.  
Antiquity 73:634–642.

Tainter, Joseph A.  
2006 Archaeology of Overshoot and Collapse. Annual Review of Anthropology 35:59–74.

## **Week 6 (September 27): Resilience in Archaeology, Part 1**

Bradtmöller, Marcel, Sonja Grimm, and Julien Riel-Salvatore  
2017 Resilience theory in archaeological practice – An annotated review. *Quaternary International* 446(2):3–16.

Faulseit, Ronald K.  
2016 “Collapse, Resilience, and Transformation in Complex Societies: Modeling Trends and Understanding Diversity.” In *Beyond Collapse: Archaeological Perspectives on Resilience, Revitalization, and Transformation in Complex Societies*, edited by R.K. Faulseit, pp. 3–26. Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Occasional Paper No. 42.

Fisher, Christopher, J. Brett Hill, and Gary M. Feinman  
2012 *Archaeology of Environmental Change: Socionatural Legacies of Degradation and Resilience*. University of Arizona Press.

Jacobson, Matthew J.  
2022 Archaeological Evidence for Community Resilience and Sustainability: A Bibliometric and Quantitative Review. *Sustainability* 14(24):16591.

Løvschal, Mette  
2022 Retranslating Resilience Theory in Archaeology. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 51:195–211.

Redman, Charles L.  
2005 Resilience Theory in Archaeology. *American Anthropologist* 107(1):70–77.

## **Week 7 (October 4): Resilience in Archaeology, Part 2**

McAnany, Patricia and Norman Yoffee  
2009 *Questioning Collapse: Human Resilience, Ecological Vulnerability, and the Aftermath of Empire*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Lewit, Tamara  
2020 A Viewpoint on Eastern Mediterranean Villages in Late Antiquity: Applying the Lens of Community Resilience Theory. *Studies in Late Antiquity* 4(1):44–75.

Solich, Martin and Marcel Bradtmöller  
2017 Socioeconomic complexity and the resilience of hunter-gatherer societies. *Quaternary International* 446(2):109–127.

Torvinen, A., M. Hegmon, A.P. Kinzig, M.C. Nelson, M.A. Peeples, C. Strawhacker, K.G. Schollmeyer, and L. Swantek

2016 “Transformation without Collapse: Two Cases from the U.S. Southwest.” In *Beyond Collapse: Archaeological Perspectives on Resilience, Revitalization, and Transformation in Complex Societies*, edited by R.K. Faulseit, pp. 262–286. Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Occasional Paper No. 42.

### **Week 8 (October 11): Medical Anthropology and Psychological Resilience**

Fjord, Lakshmi and Lenore Manderson

2009 Anthropological Perspectives on Disasters and Disability. *Human Organization* 68(1):64–72.

Nuttman-Shwartz, Orit

2015 Shared resilience in a traumatic reality: a new concept for trauma workers exposed personally and professionally to collective disaster. *Trauma Violence Abuse* 16(4):466–475.

Mendenhall, Emily and Andrew Wooyoung Kim

2021 Rethinking Idioms of Distress and Resilience in Anthropology and Global Mental Health. In *Global Mental Health Ethics*, edited by Allen R. Dyer, Brandon A. Kohrt, and Philip J. Candilis, pp. 157–170. Springer, New York.

Panter-Brick, Catherine

2014 Health, Risk, and Resilience: Interdisciplinary Concepts and Applications. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 43:431–448.

Basseler, Michael

2019 Stories of Dangerous Life in the Post-Trauma Age: Toward a Cultural Narratology of Resilience. In *Narrative in Culture*, edited by Astrid Erll and Roy Sommer, pp. 15–35. De Gruyter, Berlin.

Kim, A.W., Kaiser, B., Bosire, E., Shahbazian, K., and E. Mendenhall

2019 Idioms of resilience among cancer patients in urban South Africa: An anthropological heuristic for the study of culture and resilience. *Transcultural Psychiatry* 56(4):720–747.

### **Week 9 (October 25): Crisis and Risk, Part 1**

Chandler, David

2014 *Resilience: The Governance of Complexity*. Routledge, New York.

Hage, Ghassan

2009 “Waiting Out the Crisis: On Stuckedness and Governmentality.” In *Waiting*, edited by Ghassan Hage, pp. 97–106. Melbourne University Press, Melbourne.

Keck, Markus and Patrick Sakdapolrak

2013 What is Social Resilience? Lessons Learned and Ways Forward. *Erdkunde* 67(1):5–19.

Koselleck, Reinhart (translated by Michaela W. Richter)  
2006 Crisis. *Journal of the History of Ideas* 67(2):357–400.

Vigh, Henrik  
2008 Crisis and Chronicity: Anthropological Perspectives on Continuous Conflict and Decline. *Ethnos* 73(1):5–24.

Whyte, Susan R.  
2008 Discrimination: Afterthoughts on Crisis and Chronicity. *Ethnos* 73(1):97–100.

### **Week 10 (November 1): Crisis and Risk, Part 2**

Coaffee, Jon  
2008 Risk, Resilience, and Environmentally Sustainable Cities. *Energy Policy* 36(12):4633–4638.

Narotzky, Susana and Niko Besnier  
2014 Crisis, Value, and Hope: Rethinking the Economy. *Current Anthropology* 55(S9):S4–S16.

Pickett, S.T.A., M.L. Cadenasso, and J.M. Grove  
2004 Resilient Cities: Meaning, Models, and Metaphor for Integrating the Ecological, Socio-economic, and Planning Realms. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 69(4):369–384.

Roitman, Janet  
2014 *Anti-Crisis*. Duke University Press, Durham.

Welsh, Marc  
2014 Resilience and Responsibility: Governing Uncertainty in a Complex World. *The Geographical Journal* 180(1):15–26.

### **Week 11 (November 8): Beyond Resilience, Part 1**

Atalay, Sonya  
2006 No Sense of the Struggle: Creating a Context for Survivance at the NMAI. *American Indian Quarterly* 30(3–4):597–618.

Estêvão, Pedro, Alexandre Calado, and Luís Capucha  
2017 Resilience: moving from a “heroic” notion to a sociological concept. *Sociologia* 85:9–25.

Vizenor, Gerald  
2008 *Survivance: Narrative of Native Presence*. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln.

González-Ruibal, Alfredo



2014 *An Archaeology of Resistance: Materiality and Time in an African Borderland*. Rowman and Littlefield, Lanham.

Scott, James C.

1990 *Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts*. Yale University Press, New Haven.

## **Week 12 (November 15): Beyond Resilience, Part 2**

### **\*\*Final Paper Draft Due\*\***

Boholm, Åsa

2010 The cultural nature of risk: can there be an anthropology of uncertainty. *Ethnos* 68(2):159–178.

Brown, Michael F.

1996 On Resisting Resistance. *American Anthropologist, New Series* 98(4):729–735.

Humbert, Clemence and Jonathan Joseph

2019 Introduction: the politics of resilience: problematizing current approaches. *Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses* 7(3):215–223.

Newsinger, Jack and Paula Serafini

2021 Performative Resilience: How the Arts and Culture Support Austerity in Post-crisis Capitalism. *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 24(2):589–605.

Oxfam

2013 *No Accident: Resilience and the Inequality of Risk*.

## **Week 13 (November 22): Student Peer Review and Presentations**

### **December 10**

### **\*\*Final Paper Due\*\***