

ANTHROPOLOGY OF NON-MARKET ECONOMIES

ANG 6186 (Graduate)

ANG 4930 (Undergraduate)

Professor: William Keegan (keegan@flmnh.ufl.edu)

Office: 134 Dickinson Hall

Office Hours by Appointment (352) 273-1921 or (352) 226-5853

Objectives:

Even today most economic transactions occur in non-market contexts. A situation that was essentially universal prior to the development of States. This seminar will explore a variety of approaches to economic behavior with an emphasis on historical ecology. The class will be divided into five main issues: Price Theory/Behavioral Ecology, Marxism/modes of production, Behavioral Decision Theory/applied economics, Neo-Institutional Economics, and exchange theories. We will begin with a theoretical discussion, followed by specific case studies. The goal is to gain a more encompassing perspective on the operation of traditional economies, and explore different approaches to the same issue. The class can be adjusted to meet the particular interests of the students.

Topics:

1. Introduction to non-market economies
2. Marginal Value Theorem (Price Theory/Behavioral Ecology)
3. Case studies
4. Case studies
5. Marxism/modes of production (what is affluence?)
6. Case studies
7. Behavioral Decision Theory (what is rationality?)
8. Case studies
9. Neo-Institutional Economics (what is reality?)
10. Case studies
11. Exchange theory (how are goods distributed?)
12. Case studies
13. Presentation of research designs

Project and Grading:

Grading will be based on class participation and the final project. There are no exams. Students are expected to be conversant in the readings assigned each week and to discuss these and other knowledge of the subject. The final project will be to design a research study to explore economic behavior in your area of interest, and present it to the class.

Required Texts (available on-line at reasonable prices):

Plattner, Stuart, Editor (1989). *Economic Anthropology*. Stanford: Stanford U. Press.

Ensminger, Jean, Editor (2002). *Theory in Economic Anthropology*. New York:

AltaMira.