Department of Sociology & Anthropology, BGU

<u>Course: Advanced Anthropological Theories</u>

Level and status: 2 credit points B.A. obligatory course.

Prior requirements: Introduction to Anthropology.

Lecturer: Dr. Esmail Nashif

Taught: 2009/10, 2010/11

Course description:
The aim of this course is to critically introduce the students to the major anthropological theoretical traditions. These traditions had shaped the anthropological practices for the last century, and some of them are still active up to the present day. Anthropology, at least from its theoretical aspects, has been developing in direct and indirect relations with neighboring disciplines. Major among these disciplines is social history. The course will attempt to use the historical lenses in order to understand more fully the anthropological theories.
Course requirements: students are required to be present in class meetings, read and prepare the material and the assignments (10% of grade), mid-term exam (30%), final exam.

Grade: final exam 60%.
Course schedule and reading list:

1- **Introduction:**
2- **The turning point:**
   Malinowski, B., 2004. *Sex and Repression in Savage Society*. Tel-Aviv: Resling, pp. 83-105.
3- **Structural Functionalism:**
   Evans-Pritchard, E. E., 1968. *The Nuer: A description of the modes of livelihood and political institutions of a Nilotic people*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 94-138.
4- **Structuralism:**
   Levi-Struass, C., 1963. *The Savage Mind*. Tel-Aviv: Poalim, pp. 13-45.
5- **Structure and action:**
   Leach, E., 1964 [1954]. *Political Systems of Highland Burma: A study of Kachin social structure.* London: London School of Economics and Political Science, pp. 1-17.
6- **The interpretive approach**:
   Geertz, C., 1990. *The Interpretation of Cultures*. Jerusalem: Keter, pp. 15-39.
7- **Political economy:**

Wolf, E., 1982. *Europe and the People without History*. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 3-23.

8- The first crisis:

Clifford, J., 1986. Introduction: Partial truths. In J. Clifford & G. E. Marcus (eds.) *Writing Culture: The poetics and politics of ethnography*. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 1-26.

9- The native is speaking:

Narayan, K., 1994. How Native is a Native Anthropologist? *American Anthropologist*, 95, 671-86.

10- Feminist practices:

Visweswaran, K., 1994. *Fictions of Feminist Ethnography*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, pp. 1-16.

11- Current theoretical camps:

Lavie, S., & Swedenburg, T., 1995. Between and Inside the Borders of Culture. *Theory and Criticism*, 7, 67-86.

12- Summary: theory today.

Eagleton, T., 2003. *After Theory*. London: Penguin, pp. 1-22.