

Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Introduction to anthropology

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Tutors:

Subject: What is anthropology? What do anthropologists do? What are the main anthropological theories? In this course we will address these questions as well as many others and will have a taste of the huge array of anthropological research. We will learn on rituals in different cultures, on myths and legends, on the interface of culture and the environment and on the ways with we which we think on the world. We will also learn how anthropology itself is embedded in historical, social and cultural contexts. We will therefore emphasize the tension between the cultural phenomena represented in anthropological texts ("ethnographies") and the theories applied so as to organize, analyze and interpret these phenomena.

The tutorials are of extreme importance and are meant to encourage discussion of the reading materials and to familiarize the students with the ways in which anthropological knowledge is produced and presented. The tutorials will also engage with the implementation of the different anthropological theories presented in class. The tutorials are meant to encourage active students' participation. The students are therefore required to read the assigned texts before the tutorials and to participate in class discussions.

Requirements and marking

1. Regular participation in classes and tutorials.

2. Active participation in classes and tutorials.

3. Quizzes and exams:

First semester: multiple-choice reading quiz (10%).

Second semester: multiple-choice reading quiz (10%); comprehensive exam (40%);

4. Assignments:

a. analysis of ritual (10%)

b. participant observation on a selected topic (25%)

c. reflexive analysis of participant observation (5%)

all assignments are compulsory

First Semester: The Emergence of Anthropology

Class 1. What is Anthropology?

Bohannon, L. 1990. 'Shakespeare in the Bush'. In Spradley, J.P. and McCurdy, D.W. (eds.) *Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology* (7th edition). Illinois: Scott, Foresman & Little, Brown. Pp. 78-8.

Class 2. Social and Cultural Evolution.

Sahlins, M.D. 1982. 'Poor Man, Rich Man, Big Man, Chief'. In Hunter, D.E. and Whitter, P. (eds.) *Anthropology: Contemporary Perspective*. Boston: Little Brown.

Class 3. Cultural Relativism; Culture and Ecology

Harris, M.B. 1987. *The Sacred Cow and the Abominable Pig: Riddles of Food and Culture*. Tel Aviv: Massada.

Class 4. Functional Thought in the Social Sciences

Mauss, M. 2005. *The Sociology of the Gift*. Chapters 1 and 2. tel-Aviv: Resling

Class 5. Psychological Functionalism

Malinowski, B. 1930. "The Essentials of the Kula", in his: Argonauts of the Western Pacific: New York: Dutton & Co., 81-104.

Malinowski, B. 1948. "Death and the Reintegration of the Group" in his Magic, Science and Religion. London: Faber and West.

Class 6. Malinowski and the 'Fieldwork Revolution'

Malinowski, B. 1930. "The Subject, Method and Scope of this Inquiry (Introduction)", in his Argonauts of the Western Pacific: An Account of Native Enterprise and Adventure in the Archipelagoes of Melanesian New Guinea, New York: Dutton & Co., 1-25.

Class 7. Culture and Personality

Mead, M. [1930]. *Coming of Age in Papua New Guinea*. Tel-Aviv: Massada

Class 8. Structural Functionalism

Shoked, M. 1977. Peacemaking in a Moroccan-Descendants Community. In *Generation of Change: Continuity and change in the world of North African Immigrants in Israel*. Jerusalem: Yad Ben-Zvi.

Class 9. The Structuralism of C. Levy-Strauss

Levy-Strauss, C. 1955. "The Structural Study of Myth", The Journal of American Folklore, Vol. 68, no. 270 pp. 428-444.

Class 10. Cultural Structuralism

Leach, E. 1969. "Genesis as Myth". In Genesis as Myth and other Essays. London: Cape.

Douglas, M. 1975. "Animals in Lele Religious Symbolism". in Implicit Meaning. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul. pp. 27-46

Class 11. Guest Lecture: The Anthropologist in the Field I

Class 12. Geertz and the Interpretation of Culture

Geertz, C. 1973. Deep Play: Some Notes on the Balinese Cockfight. *The Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Basic Books Publishing.

Class 13. More thoughts on the Interpretation of Culture

Avieli, N. 2005. "Vietnamese New Year Rice Cakes: Iconic Festive Dishes and Contested National Identity". Ethnology, Vol. 44(2):167-187.

Second Semester: Anthropological Matters

Class 1. Rituals: Structure

Turner, V. 2004. Liminality and Communitas. In The Ritual Process. Tel-Aviv: Resling.

Class 2. Rituals: From Structure to Meaning

Handelman, D. Katz, A. 1998. Israeli National Rituals: Memorial Day and Independence Day. In Adar-Bunis, M. *Introduction to Anthropology: A Reader*. Tel-Aviv: the Open University.

Class 3. Rituals: Meaning

Class 4. On Fieldwork: Being There

Rabinow, P. 1977. "Ali: An Insider's Outsider". In his Reflections on Fieldwork in Morocco. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 31-69

Class 5. On Fieldwork: The Informants

Turner, V.W. 1960. 'Mochuna the Hornet'. In Casagrande, J. (ed.) *In the Company of Man*. New York: Harper. Pp. 334-55.

Class 6. On Fieldwork: Documentation and Writing

Malinowski, B. 1967. A Diary in the Strict Sense of the Term. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. pp. 3- 15; 158-159; 218-219; 266-267.

Class 8. Guest Lecture: The Anthropologist in the Field II

Class 9. "The Crisis of Representation"

Bilu, Y. 1998. Researching Popular Culture in a Postmodern Age: A Personal Story. In Abuhav, O. Goldberg H. Marx E. (eds.) Israel: Local Anthropology. Tel Aviv: Cherikover.

Class 10. Identity and Strangeness: Postmodernism and the question of Identity

Markowitz, F. 1998. Friendship among Russian Immigrants in the American Context. In Shoked, M. Dshen, S. The Intercultural Experience: A reader in Anthropology. Jerusalem: Shoken.

Class 11. Identity and Strangeness: Nationalism and Diaspora

Levy, A. 2004. Homecoming to the Diaspora: Nation and State in Visits of Israelis to Morocco. In Markowitz, F. and A. Stefanson (eds.) Homecomings: Unsettled Paths of Return. Oxford: Lexington.

Class 12. Identity and Strangeness: Gender

Lerner, J. Erdrich, L. Rappaport, T. Palestinian Women and Russian Immigrants in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In Yona, Y. Kemp, A. (eds.) Civil Gaps: Critical discussion of Immigration, Population Management and Fertility. Jerusalem: Van Leer, Hakibutz Hameuhad.

Class 13. Identity and Strangeness: Tourism

Feldman, J. 2001. Following the Jewish Holocaust Survivor: Youth Trips to Poland and national Identity. Theoria Ubikoret, 19: 167-190.

Cohen, E. 1996. "Lovelorn Farangs: The Correspondence between Foreign Men and Thai Girls". In Thai Tourism. Bangkok: White Lotus: 305-23.

Class 14. Concluding Remarks

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טרנר, ו. 2004. "לימינאליות וקומיוניטיס", בתוך: התהליך הטקסי, ת"א: רסלינג, עמ' 87 - 115.

הנדלמן, ד. כץ, א. 1998. "טקסים ממלכתיים במדינת ישראל: יום הזיכרון ויום העצמאות" בתוך: מ. אדר-בוניס (עורכת) מבוא לאנתרופולוגיה, מקראה, האוניברסיטה הפתוחה, ת"א: 148-121.

Rabinow, P. 1977. "Ali: An Insider's Outsider". In his Reflections on Fieldwork in Morocco. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 31-69

טרנר ו. 1988. "מוציאה הצרעה מפרש הדת", בתוך: ר. בייט-מרום שיטות מחקר במדעי החברה יחידה 4, האוניברסיטה הפתוחה, ת"א, עמ' 108-120.

Malinowski, B. 1967. A Diary in the Strict Sense of the Term. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. pp. 3- 15; 158-159; 218-219; 266-267.

גירץ, ק. 2005. "עד לעצמו: ילדיו של מלינובסקי". מתוך עבודות וחיים. ת"א: רסלינג, עמ' 103 - 129.

בילו, י. 1998. "חקר התרבות העממית בעידן הפוסט מודרני: סיפור אישי", בתוך: אבוהב, א. הרצוג, א. גולדברג, ה. מרקס, ע. (עורכים) ישראל: אנתרופולוגיה מקומית, תל אביב: צ'ריקובר, עמודים 655 - 679.

Levy, A. 2004. Homecoming to the Diaspora: Nation and State in Visits of Israelis to Morocco. In Markowitz, F. and A. Stefanson (eds.) Homecomings: Unsettled Paths of Return. Oxford: Lexington.

מרקוביץ, פ. 1998. "חברות בקרב יוצאי רוסיה בהקשר האמריקני". בתוך שוקד, מ. ודשן, ש. החוויה הבין תרבותית: מקראה באנתרופולוגיה. ירושלים: שוקן.

לרנר, י. ארדריק ל. ות. רפפורט. 2008. "לחלחל פנימה", להתבצר מבחוץ: נשים פלסטיניות ומהגרים רוסים באוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים, יונה, י. וא. קמפ (עורכים), פערי אזרחות: דיון ביקורתי על הגירה, ניהול אוכלוסין ופריזון, ירושלים ותל-אביב: מכון ון ליר בירושלים והוצאת הקיבוץ המאוחד: 264 - 289.

פלדמן, ג'. 2001. "בעקבות ניצול השואה הישראלית: משלחות נוער ישראליות לפולין וזהות לאומית". תיאוריה וביקורת, 19: 167 - 190.

Cohen, E. 1996. "Lovelorn Farangs: The Correspondence between Foreign Men and Thai Girls". In Thai Tourism. Bangkok: White Lotus: 305-23.

חסן, מ. 1999. "הפטריארכיה, המדינה ורצח בשם כבוד המשפחה". בתוך מין, מגדר, פוליטיקה. הוצאת הקיבוץ המאוחד, עמ' 267 - 306.

רבינוביץ, ד. 1995. "המסע המפותל להצלת נשים חומות", תיאוריה וביקורת: 7 עמ' 5 - 19.