

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN EXISTING COURSE: MAJOR & MINOR FEB 20 2007

OFFICE OF THE
SENATE COUNCIL

1. Submitted by College of Arts & Sciences Date 10/12/06
Department/Division offering course Anthropology
2. Changes proposed:
 - (a) Present prefix & number ANT 538 Proposed prefix & number ANT 338
 - (b) Present Title Beyond Economics, Beyond Growth: Anthropology's Critique of an Anti-Social "Science"
New Title Economic Anthropology
 - (c) If course title is changed and exceeds 24 characters (Including spaces), include a sensible title (not to exceed 24 characters) for use on transcripts:
 - (d) Present credits: 3 Proposed credits: 3
 - (e) Current lecture: laboratory ratio n/a Proposed: n/a
 - (f) Effective Date of Change: (Semester & Year) Fall 2007
3. To be Cross-listed as: _____
Prefix and Number _____ Signature: Department Chair _____
4. Proposed change in Bulletin description:
 - (a) Present description (including prerequisite(s)):
History of the development of various theoretical approaches to the cross-cultural study of economic systems and inquiry into the relationships existing between economy and the other systems within a society.
Prereq: Nine hours of cultural anthropology or consent of instructor.
 - (b) New description:
A comparative ethnographic, theoretical, and historical exploration of the socio-cultural constitution of economic practices. Students will examine different approaches to questions of human nature, choice, values and morality. The course explores power and social life in diverse cultures through a topical focus on peasants, markets, gifts, commodities, consumption and systems of production. The course provides a foundation for applying anthropological knowledge to real-world situations and the material is readily applied to archaeology, international business and social science.
 - (c) Prerequisite(s) for course as changed: 0
5. What has prompted this proposal?
Due to its narrow course description, odd title and advanced level, this course attracted only 6 students in the Spring of 2006. In order to attract more students, the course is being changed to complement the 300 level anthropology course on ecological anthropology and the topical focus has been expanded. Furthermore, there is an existing graduate level course in economic anthropology making this course redundant for students at that level (ANT 734)
6. If there are to be significant changes in the content or teaching objectives of this course, indicate changes:
While the teaching objectives of the course will remain the same, the content has been broadened to provide students with a more robust understanding of economic practices and social life across cultures. Rather than merely critiquing the discipline of economics, the course instead focuses on the application of anthropological knowledge to real-world situations, making the content useful for a wider array of students.
7. What other departments could be affected by the proposed change?

8. Is this course applicable to the requirements for at least one degree or certificate at the University of Kentucky? x Yes No
9. Will changing this course change the degree requirements in one or more programs? Yes x No
If yes, please attach an explanation of the change. (NOTE - If "yes," program change form must also be submitted.)
10. Is this course currently included in the University Studies Program? Yes x No
If yes, please attach correspondence indicating concurrence of the University Studies Committee.

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11. If the course is 400G or 500 level, include syllabi or course statement showing differentiation for undergraduate and graduate students in assignments, grading criteria, and grading scales. Check here if 400G-500.
12. Is this a minor change? X Yes No
 (NOTE: See the description on this form of what constitutes a minor change. Minor changes are sent directly from the Dean of the College to the Chair of the Senate Council. If the latter deems the change not to be minor, it will be sent to the appropriate Council for normal processing.)
13. Within the Department, who should be consulted for further information on the proposed course change?

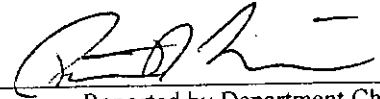
Name: Sarah Lyon

Phone Extension: 257-2710

Signatures of Approval:

9-15-06

Date of Approval by Department Faculty



Reported by Department Chair

12/15/06

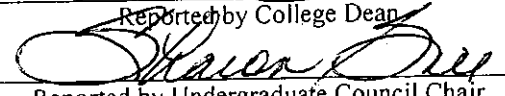
Date of Approval by College Faculty



Reported by College Dean

2/6/07

*Date of Approval by Undergraduate Council



Reported by Undergraduate Council Chair

*Date of Approval by Graduate Council

Reported by Graduate Council Chair

*Date of Approval by Health Care Colleges Council (HCCC)

Reported by HCCC Chair

*Date of Approval by Senate Council

Reported by Senate Council Office

*Date of Approval by University Senate

Reported by Senate Council Office

*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate.

The Minor Change route for courses is provided as a mechanism to make changes in existing courses and is limited to one or more of the following:

- a. change in number within the same hundred series;
- b. editorial change in description which does not imply change in content or emphasis;
- c. editorial change in title which does not imply change in content or emphasis;
- d. change in prerequisite which does not imply change in content or emphasis;
- e. cross-listing of courses under conditions set forth in item 3.0;
- f. correction of typographical errors. [University Senate Rules, Section III - 3.1]

Anthropology 338
Economic Anthropology

Spring 2006
T/TH: 8:00-9:15
Lafferty Hall 108
Office Hours:
Tuesdays 10:00-11:00
Thursdays 1:00-2:00

Professor: Sarah Lyon
Tel: 257-5038
Sarah.lyon@uky.edu
Office: Lafferty 202

Syllabus

Some have suggested that economics is the dominant cosmology of our contemporary, globalizing culture. If this is so then what insights, countervailing perspectives and challenges can economic anthropology contribute? How does economic anthropology inform our common understandings of human nature, rationality, morality, and culture? This semester we will explore diverse anthropological approaches to the study of the interrelationship between culture and economy. We will examine the history of the sub-discipline and gain a deeper understanding of the theories and debates that have shaped this field of inquiry over time. In the process, we will analyze concrete anthropological investigations into how people across the world make a living and how they make that living meaningful. We will approach our study through a comparative, cross-cultural lens to help us understand how economic processes result from human action instead of a closed, rational system acting upon individuals. We will also explore how economic processes are shaped by and deeply affect differences in power.

Course Goals:

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to ...

- Critically evaluate neo classical economic theory and anthropological critiques of it
- Analyze contemporary economic challenges facing diverse societies
- Articulate anthropological contributions to current global and local challenges and identify gaps in our collective knowledge
- Think critically about the cultural implications of economic practices and policies

Course Materials:

We will approach our study of economic anthropology through a mixture of books and scholarly articles. These have been chosen to reflect some of the newest research in the field as well as a selection of classic, older works. Articles will be posted on blackboard. You can log in to blackboard at www.uky.edu/blackboard. Please check to be sure your proper email address is entered into the system.

We will be reading the following books this semester:

- Bestor, Theodore C. 2004. *Tsukiji: The Fish Market at the Center of the World*.
- Blim, Michael. 2005. *Equality and Economy: The Global Challenge*.
- Bourgois, Philippe. 2002. *In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Collins Jane L. 2003. *Threads: Gender, Labor and Power in the Global Apparel Industry*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

- Little, Walter E. 2004. *Mayas in the Marketplace: Tourism, Globalization and Cultural Identity*.

Evaluation of Progress:

Evaluation of course work will be based on oral and written demonstrations of understanding and creative, critical use of course material.

Daily Quizzes & Class Participation 20%

This is a discussion based seminar, therefore you must complete the assigned reading before class. We will begin some class periods with two to three question reading comprehension quizzes. If you are absent for a documented illness or other acceptable emergency (e.g. death in the family, sport event etc.) you will be excused from that day’s quiz. Good class participation involves sharing your responses and queries about the assignments based on careful reading by the day they are due, reflections about the interconnections among the readings, and engagement with the perspectives of other students through comments and questions. Regular class attendance is expected and strong class participation will potentially help offset poor quiz performance.

One Short Paper 20%

Due in-class on 2/14.

This short (3-4 pages) writing assignment is designed to hone your critical thinking and writing skills. The paper is an opportunity for you to analytically discuss in writing a particular body of class material. Be sure to demonstrate that you have completed the readings and thoroughly understand them by directly engaging the texts and employing them as a foundation for your analysis. The paper assignment will be handed out in class on 2/7 and will be due on 2/14.

Two Exams 40%

Mid-term exam: February 28th

Final exam: May 4th at 8:00 a.m.

The mid-term exam (25% each) will have in-class short-answer and essay components in addition to a take-home essay component. The final exam will have no take-home component. All work must be completed in order to pass the course. Late work under normal circumstances will be penalized one letter grade for each day it is late.

“The Shirt on Your Back” Paper 20%

Due April 27th in-class

This 6-7 page paper will provide you with an opportunity to critically reflect on our class work on global commodity chains, production and your own consumption. You will be expected to integrate your personal reflections, your analysis of the empirical data gathered in class and the relevant theoretical approaches.

Topics Readings & Assignments:

1/12 Th Introduction to Course & Economic Anthropology
Economics: the current “sexy” science; self-interested, social and moral perspectives on economic behavior

- 1/17 T **Neo-Classical Economics**
Self-interest & rationality
Reading:
Bigelow, Let There Be Markets (on blackboard)
Elster, Introduction to Rational Choice (on blackboard)
- 1/19 Th **“Pop” Economics, Critiques & Anthropology**
Economic “best sellers”: strengths & weaknesses
Reading:
Blim, Equality & Economy (1-14)
Yates, Naming the System (on blackboard)
Levitt & Dubner, Freakonomics (on blackboard)
Sachs, The End of Poverty (on blackboard)
- 1/24 T **Anthropological Contrasts**
Substantive approaches & the defining debate in economic anthropology
Reading:
Blim, Equality & Economy (17-70)
- 1/26 Th **Anthropological Contrasts Continued**
Reading:
Blim, Equality & Economy (71-124)
- 1/31 T **Anthropological Approaches to Economic Decision Making**
Formalist theory and approaches to decision-making
Reading:
Ortiz, What is Decision Analysis About? (on blackboard)
Heinrich, What is the Role of Culture in Bounded Rationality? (on blackboard)
- 2/2 Th **The World System, Marx & Anthropology**
Reading:
Wallerstein, The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System (on blackboard)
Marx, The Fetishism of the Commodity and Its Secret (on blackboard)
McLellan, Preface to *Karl Marx* (on blackboard)
McLellan, Economics (on blackboard)
Marx, Alienated Labor (on blackboard)
- 2/7 T **El Barrio & The World System**
Reading:
Bourgeois, In Search of Respect (1-48)
Short Paper Assignment Handed Out In Class
- 2/9 Th **Cultures of Poverty & Equality**

Structure vs. agency

Reading:

Bourgois, In Search of Respect (48-77)

Blim, Equality & Economy (165-179)

- 2/14 T Work, Class & Identity**
“learning to labor”
Reading:
Bourgois, In Search of Respect (77-136)
Short Paper Assignment Due In Class
- 2/16 Th Work, Class & Identity Continued**
Reading:
Bourgois, In Search of Respect (137-212)
- 2/21 T Gender, Economics & Class**
Reading:
Bourgois, In Search of Respect (213-258, 318-326)
- 2/23 Th Cultural Identity & Economics**
Film: The Highland Maya: A Case Study in Economic Anthropology
Reading:
Little, Mayas in the Marketplace (1-34)
- 2/28 T MID-TERM EXAM!!!**
The exam will cover course material through 2/21
- 3/2 Th The Anthropology of Tourism**
The economic and cultural impact of tourism
Film: Cashing in on Culture
Reading:
Little, Mayas in the Marketplace (35-63)
- 3/7 T Markets & Marketplaces**
What’s the difference?
Reading:
Little, Mayas in the Marketplace (89-143)
- 3/9 Th Gender & The Household Economy**
The household as a unit of analysis, economics & changing gender roles
Reading:
Little, Mayas in the Marketplace (143-202)
- 3/14 T SPRING BREAK!!!**

- 3/16 Th SPRING BREAK!!!**
- 3/21 T Japanese Contrasts**
Economic practice in a different sort of market
Reading:
Bestor, Tsukiji (1-49)
- 3/23 Th Market Organization & The Family Firm**
Reading:
Bestor, Tsukiji (177-245)
- 3/28 T An Introduction to Commodities**
Reading:
Bestor, Tsukiji (126-176)
- 3/30 Th Consumption**
Consumerism as Ideology & Anthropological Perspectives
Film: No Logo: Brands, Globalization, Resistance
Reading:
Sklair, The Culture-Ideology of Consumerism (on blackboard)
- 4/4 T The Global Clothing Industry**
Reading:
Collins, Threads (1-61)
- 4/6 Th Production and Change in the U.S. Economy**
Film: Behind the Labels
Reading:
Collins, Threads (62-103)
- 4/11 T Workers & Global Production Networks**
“The Shirt on My Back” Project Planning
Reading:
Collins, Threads (104-125)
- 4/13 Th Workers in the Global Labor Market**
“The Shirt on My Back” Project Planning
Reading:
Collins, Threads (126-149)
- 4/18 T No Class!!!**
Conduct empirical research and surveys
- 4/20 Th Production & Consumption**
Compile research data and compare notes
Reading:

Collins, Threads (149-190)

- 4/25 T Consumption, Sustainability & Change**
The politics of consumption, resistance, boycotts & buycotts
Reading:
Schor, Towards a New Politics of Consumption (on blackboard)
- 4/27 Th The Future of Economic Anthropology**
Reading:
Wilk, Complex Economic Beings (on blackboard)
*** “The Shirt on Your Back” Paper Due In-Class***

Anthropology 538

**BEYOND ECONOMICS: ANTHROPOLOGICAL CRITIQUES OF AN
ANTI-SOCIAL SCIENCE**

Wednesday 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Lafferty Hall 108

Professor: Paul Trawick

Office Hours: Tuesday 2-4 pm.

Tel. #257-2888

e-mail: pbtraw0@pop.uky.edu

This course is a seminar focusing on anthropology's long dialogue with economics, supposedly the most scientific of the social science disciplines. It will review some of the history of that relationship, including the 'formalist-substantivist' debate, but will focus primarily on recent critical work that seeks to go beyond micro-economics and arrive at a more realistic and humane theory of and for human behavior. This will include interpretive approaches that emphasize the symbolic dimension of economic behavior, seeing much of our production, marketing and consumption in the marketplace as generated by a desire for status, prestige or a sense of self-worth.

Equally important will be a focus on policy, involving a critique of the basic concepts of micro-economic theory in terms of their impact in the real world--i.e., the unprecedented concentration of wealth and power that they have set in motion in the hands of multinational corporations. This will amount to a sort of expose on the myth of "the free market", showing how the market really works. We will also look at some proposed alternatives, covering both theory and policy, which seek instead to create a sustainable and more equitable world in which the value of personal freedom is seen as paramount and constitutive of development.

Ultimately, we will see that what is emerging within the field today is a complex body of theory that redefines economic anthropology as the study of human rationality and choice, one that makes use of several contrasting views of human nature and promises to place anthropology at the forefront of social science, posing a serious challenge to the primacy and hegemony of economics.

Prerequisites: Anthro 350 (History of Theory Seminar) or consent of instructor.

Requirements:

Grades will be based on a short essay (4-5 double-spaced pages), a research paper (roughly 15 pages), and class presentations. The essay will address some aspect of the history and/or the theoretical traditions of economic anthropology.

Students are encouraged to consult with the instructor in selecting a topic for their seminar paper. Each person will make an oral presentation on their seminar paper during the final week of the semester.

The class participation grade will be based on students' performance as discussion leaders of assigned readings, as well as their general contribution to the class. Guidelines and expectations for leading discussions will be given out the first day of class. Here the emphasis will be on summarizing important concepts as well as providing some critical perspective or other reflective commentary.

Grading:

Grades will be based on:

Short essay	10%
Seminar paper	60%
Class participation	30%

Course Objectives: The following are some of the goals or objectives that students can expect to achieve in the course:

- 1) to know the basic concepts of microeconomic or neo-classical economic theory, i.e., to know how the market is theoretically supposed to work;
- 2) to understand how the market really works in practice, according to leading critics within the fields of business and economics;
- 3) to be familiar with the various critiques and alternatives that anthropologists have offered to microeconomics as a theory of and for human behavior (e.g., substantivist, neo-Marxist, feminist, social economics, moral economics);
- 4) to recognize and appreciate some of the alternatives devised by economists themselves, particularly those focusing on alternative approaches to sustainable 'development' of the impoverished countries of the world.

Assigned Readings

The readings for the course will include book and journal articles on reserve in the library (in Lafferty Hall) as well as the following texts:

Wilk, Richard 1996 Economics and Cultures: Foundations of Economic Anthropology. Westview Press.

Korten, David 1995 When Corporations Rule the World. Kumarian Press

Sen, Amartya 1999 Development as Freedom. Alfred A. Knopf

Class Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 12: Introduction and Class Overview

Jan. 19: Economics and Images of Human Nature
Reading: Wilk, Chap. 1 & 2

Jan. 26: Microeconomic Theory and Its Critics
Reading: Wilk, Chaps 3&4

Feb. 2nd: The Moral Human
Reading: Wilk, Chaps 5 & 6.

Feb. 9: A. Appadurai, The Social Life of Things (Intro); L. Hyde, Usury: A History of Gift Exchange

Feb. 16th: Braudel, Afterthoughts on Material Life; Editor's Intro: Pierre Bourdieu on Art, Literature and Culture

Feb. 23rd: Corporations and the Growth Illusion
Reading: Korten, Chaps. 1&2

March 1st: Corporate Colonialism
Reading: Korten, Chap. 3
Tape: Noam Chomski on "The Myth of the Free Market"

March 8th: Millionaires and Refugees (SHORT ESSAY IS DUE)
Reading: Korten, Chaps 4&5.

March 15th: *Spring Break* (no class)

March 22nd: One Alternative: An Awakened Civil Society
Reading: Korten, Chap 6, Epilogue and Appendix

March 29th: The Moral Economy: Comedy and Tragedy in the Commons
G. Hardin, 1968, "The Tragedy of the Commons", 10 pages (in library)
B. McCay and J. Acheson, "Human Ecology of the Commons".
P. Trawick, 1998, "The Moral Economy of Water", 65 pages (in library)

April 5th: Freedom and Development
Reading: Sen, Chaps 1-3.

April 12th: Poverty, Opportunity and Democracy
Reading: Sen, Chaps 4-6.

April 19th: Famine, Population and Women's Agency
Reading, Sen, Chaps. 7-9.

April 26th: Human Rights, Freedom and 'Development'
Reading: Sen, Chaps 10-12

(Research papers are due)

Course Outcomes:

- 1) students will learn the basic concepts of microeconomic theory, understanding how the "free market" is theoretically supposed to work;
- 2) they will learn how the market really works in practice, according to leading critics both within and outside the field of economics
- 3) students will become familiar with the various critiques and alternatives that anthropologists have offered to microeconomics as a theory of human behavior;
- 4) they will recognize and appreciate some of the alternatives devised by economists themselves, particularly those focusing on alternative approaches to sustainable 'development'.

ARTS AND SCIENCES
EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE
{PRIVATE } INVESTIGATOR REPORT

INVESTIGATING AREA: Behav. & Soc. Sci.

COURSE, MAJOR, DEGREE or PROGRAM:

ANT 538 + 0338

DATE FOR EPC REVIEW: 12-5-06 CATEGORY: NEW, CHANGE, DROP

INSTRUCTIONS: This completed form will accompany the course application to the Graduate/Undergraduate Council(s) in order to avoid needless repetition of investigation. The following questions are included as an outline only. Be as specific and as brief as possible. If the investigation was routine, please indicate this. The term "course" is used to indicate one course, a series of courses or a program, whichever is in order. Return the form to Leonidas Bachas Associate Dean, 275 Patterson Office Tower for forwarding to the Council(s). ATTACH SUPPLEMENT IF NEEDED.

1. List any modifications made in the course proposal as submitted originally and why.
2. If no modifications were made, review considerations that arose during the investigation and the resolutions.
3. List contacts with program units on the proposal and the considerations discussed therein.
4. Additional information as needed.
5. A&S Area Coordinator Recommendation:

APPROVE, APPROVE WITH RESERVATION, OR DISAPPROVE

6. A&S Education Policy Committee Recommendation:

APPROVE, APPROVE WITH RESERVATION, OR DISAPPROVE

7. _____
A&S Educational Policy Committee, Jonathan Golding

Date: 12-5-06

File: \InvestigatorRp