ANTH 4400 / ANTH 5400, sections 200 / 300
ENVIRONMENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY
Spring 2022

Syllabus Contents

Contact Information

Professor: Dr. Jamie Johnson
Email: jamie.johnson@unt.edu
Office Phone: (940) 369-5403
Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: 1:00–2:30 p.m.
Please email to schedule an appointment.
Please allow up to 48 hours between responses.

Instructional Assistant: Thien Bui
Email: thienchaubui@my.unt.edu
Office Hours: Zoom, by appt. only
Please email to schedule an appt.
Please allow up to 24 hours between responses.

Course Introduction

While the "environment" is commonly understood to be whatever is not human, ultimately all human societies emerge from, are embedded within, and shape specific environments. "Nature" and "culture" are, in the end, a false binary. Furthermore, the environmental crisis we face in the 21st century is a human crisis – one that cannot be understood unless we analyze the socio-cultural and political-economic factors which have influenced, and are influenced by, our ecological contexts. As such, anthropology (the comparative and holistic study of humanity) has a great deal to tell us about the state of our environment. Environmental anthropology involves the study of humans and their multitudinous relationships to their environments, as well as the use of anthropological methods and perspectives to provide insight, and in some cases solutions, to environmental problems. It is closely related to other environmental social sciences and humanities, such as environmental sociology, geography, and environmental philosophy, and many of the concepts overlap.

In this course, we will explore anthropological approaches to the environment and the ways in which anthropology (and social science perspectives more broadly) can shed light on, and suggest remedies for, present-day environmental realities. In addition, you will conduct a research project that will provide training in the application of environmental anthropology frameworks. Ultimately, the goal of this course is to facilitate students' training as individuals capable of addressing the complex and pressing environmental crises we face.

Required Texts

1. Townsend, *Environmental Anthropology*, 3rd ed. (Waveland Press, 2018) **(T)**
2. Haenn, Wilk, and Harnish, *The Environment in Anthropology: A Reader in Ecology, Culture, and Sustainable Living*, 2nd ed. (New York University Press, 2016) **(HWH)**
3. All other readings will be made available on Canvas **(CNV)**

Learning Objectives

Objective	Corresponding Assignment
Identify and analyze sociocultural, discursive, and political-economic factors related to human/environment interactions	Discussions; Quizzes
Identify, use, and evaluate major theoretical perspectives within environmental anthropology	Discussions; Quizzes
Utilize these anthropological perspectives to analyze real-world environmental issues	Project; Discussions

Assignments

Discussions: For each module, you will take part in a discussion board (through Canvas) related to the week's readings and module. You will need to post: one substantial post responding to the prompts (for 15 points) and at least one thoughtful peer response (for 10 points) for a total of 25 points. I encourage you to do more than this; ideally, this would replicate a face-to-face class discussion where there is an engaging back-and-forth between students. You will be graded on the overall quality of your discussion contributions to each module. **Due: Every Sunday by 11:59 P.M. (CST) unless otherwise noted.**

Quizzes: There will be four timed quizzes throughout the course, one at the conclusion of each unit worth 50 points each. These will be due on **Sunday by 11:59 p.m.** and will contain questions over the readings and modules. You may use the course modules and readings as well as your personal notes but no other outside sources or person.

> Quiz 1: 02/06/22
> Quiz 2: 03/06/22
> Quiz 3: 04/10/22
> Quiz 4: 05/06/22

Research Project Outline: As preparation for the research project, you will submit a one-page, single-spaced outline of your proposed project, with at least three applicable and academic sources cited (note: the reference page <u>does not count</u> as part of the one-page length requirement); worth 50 points. **Due: 03/13/22 by 11:59PM (CST).**

Research Project: You will develop a scholarly, professional, and/or creative presentation of research and anthropological analysis on a *specific* environmental problem, drawing on analytical frameworks from this course; worth 300 points. **Due: 05/08/22 by 11:59PM (CST).**

Grade Components

Discussion (14 x 25 points)	350 points
Quizzes (4 x 50 points)	200 points
Research Project Outline	50 points
Research Project & Presentation	300 points
Total Points	**900 points**

Course Policies

1. **Withdrawing:** If you are unable to complete this course, you must officially withdraw by the University—designated date (for a "W"). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure that YOU must initiate. I cannot do it for you. If you simply stop attending or stop doing the assignments and do not withdraw, you will receive a final performance grade of 0 or "F".

2. **Extra Credit:** You will have at least two chances for extra credit, worth 10 points each. One opportunity will require you to attend an Applied Anthropology Expo (it will be virtual this semester) and write a one-page response on the event and its participants. The second opportunity will be at the end of the semester when SPOT Course Evaluations become available. This opportunity will require you to screenshot and provide your proof of completing the SPOT. Any additional extra credit opportunities are to be determined (TBD); we will update you as we go.

3. **Contacting the Professor:** Please feel free to come by office hours (please email to make an appointment); if that time does not work, we can schedule for another time. If you are not local, we can Zoom instead, just please let me know if you desire to do so. Otherwise, email is the best way to reach me outside of class: **jamie.johnson@unt.edu**. You must use your official UNT email, not a private email. In the email, indicate your course and your full name to facilitate my response. Please understand that I may not respond immediately. However, if I have not responded within 48 hours (36 hours on the weekend), please feel free to email me again to confirm receipt.

4. **Due Dates:** If you have a conflict with any due date or quiz date, it is your responsibility to make alternative arrangements ahead of time—not after the fact. Students may NOT take quizzes late unless there is written permission from the professor before the exam date or there has been a documented medical emergency. Allowing alternative arrangements in such instances is entirely at the discretion of the Professor and Instructional Assistant.

5. **Late Work:** Unexcused submission of late assignments will incur a 10% deduction per day. If there is an emergency, please contact your teaching team ASAP; all exceptions are at the discretion of the Professor and Instructional Assistant. Students may NOT take quizzes late unless there is written permission from the professor before the exam date or there has been a documented medical emergency.

6. **Academic Misconduct:** The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. Students suspected of any of these can be provided the opportunity for a hearing; a guilty finding will merit an automatic 0 in the course, no exception. I also reserve the right to pursue further disciplinary action within the UNT system, which may result in temporary or permanent dismissal from the university. Additionally, I reserve the right to assign 0 points on specific assignments or quizzes for instances of apparent cheating or plagiarism, at my discretion. Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. Any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of any information that is not common knowledge, should be cited. For more information on paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism, and how to use citations, see http://anthropology.unt.edu/resources/writing-guide. For information on the University's policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for

Student Rights and Responsibilities, http://www.unt.edu/csrr/.

7. **ADA:** The Anthropology Department does not discriminate based on an individual's disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Our program provides academic adjustments or helps to individuals with disabilities, and attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements. The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to the faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://disability.unt.edu/. You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

8. **Acceptable Student Behavior:** Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the class forum as applicable and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.deanofstudents.unt.edu. In this classroom, "acceptable student behavior" includes (but is not limited to), being respectful of each other's thoughts, opinions, and perspectives. The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment: please be respectful and polite when interacting with class members or the processor.

9. **Schedule Changes:** The Course Schedule (including assigned readings and due dates) may be changed at the discretion of the instructor—including the potential of additional readings based on student interests this semester. Schedule changes will be properly announced. However, please be sure to also check the Syllabus and Course Schedule (found on Canvas) and your email regularly to be made aware of any changes. It is your responsibility to keep up with the current schedule.

10. **Copyright:** Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

11. **Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Issues:** The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. In the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time-sensitive assessment activity, the instructor may extend the time windows at his discretion and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately

report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or (940) 565-2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues, but please be aware that this may take some time.

12. **Important Notice for F-1 Students Taking Distance Education Course:** For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to the completion of the class. An online or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no online or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance
To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experiences integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:
(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.