Anth 4701.027/5700, Community Engagement through Action Research
Spring 2021, Wed, 3:30-4:30pm CST
Remote Zoom meetings

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Mariela Nuñez-Janes (profe)
EMAIL: Mariela.Nunez-Janes@unt.edu
OFFICE HOURS: You may contact me by email to set-up a virtual appointment. I will share my Zoom office hours times on Canvas.

Course Description:
"…the whole thing becomes a part of your life."-students from Anth 4701.027 Spring 14

Action research is considered both a critique and an alternative way of conducting research. It challenges the separation of expert/scholarly knowledge from non-expert/community knowledge and proposes collaborative frameworks for doing research. Universities have recently made community engagement an important part of their mission as they are challenged to justify their relevance to the public. Anthropologists have engaged the community for some time and in multiple ways by insisting on the relevance of local knowledge. As a result some anthropologists envision their research as applied, public, engaged, or activist. This class is focused on doing anthropology by engaging the community as experts and active collaborators. You will learn about various approaches to action research and do action research. The course requires a commitment to think about and do anthropology differently. As action researchers, we will engage in hands-on learning and research to create social change attempting to democratize the process of research and the relationships between the university and community.

Spring 2021 Project:
During the Spring 2021 semester you will conduct a group project with the following community partner:
- Denton ISD Bilingual Homework Hotline: a virtual homework hotline created in Fall 2020 to support Denton ISD students with their homework during the pandemic.

You must have a flexible schedule and be available during the week and maybe weekends. Most of the work for this class will be conducted outside of class time. In addition, you must have a professional attitude and be committed to serving the local community.

Objectives:
When you finish this class you will:

1. Understand how and why action research is different from other types of research
2. Understand how action research can benefit community engagement
3. Be familiar with various forms of action research
4. Be familiar with research design and collaborative research

A NOTE ABOUT LEARNING DURING UNPRECEDENTED TIMES (adapted from Dr. Jason Tham)
The COVID-19 pandemic continues and so do the challenges and suffering of people in our own country and around the world. As we try to navigate, manage, and survive during these times of injustice, persecution, joblessness, homelessness, sickness and death we have the opportunity to come together in this class. We are a learning community and as part of this community our engagement as individuals who are part of this collective space should be guided by the following principles:

People are the priority. Educational institutions claim that students and teachers are their top priority, yet the holistic wellbeing of students and educators is ultimately demonstrated by actions and practices that clearly and uncompromisingly prioritize the people most impacted by them. As participants in the process of teaching and learning we should remember to put people first by practicing the ideas we will learn about in this class with empathy and compassion. We must remember to engage each other with our minds as well as our hearts as *sentipensantes*, human beings whose humanity is deeply connected to our ability to think and feel.

Stay informed. We will seek reliable sources of information to stay informed about developments related to the pandemic and to local and global social injustices. We will use this to make informed personal and professional decisions.

Communicate and connect. We will communicate with each other often and will remain connected. This may mean experimenting with communication platforms that may be new to some of us. It may also mean changing platforms as needed. Please reach out when you have questions and when you need support.

Celebrate accomplishments. We will take time to celebrate and mark our collective class accomplishments and the individual accomplishments that are significant to you. Any kind of achievement during an uncertain time is

a testament to your ability to persevere and our collective ability to do it together.

Take time to thrive. It is important that individually and collectively we take time to take care of our minds, bodies, and spirits. If you are not feeling well and are struggling to do the work for this class let me know so that we can come up with alternatives. Do not push yourself beyond your limits; invest in self-care and self-preservation. Take time to do things that nurture your body, mind, and soul.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use "I" statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual's experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people's ideas, instead of attacking individuals. Rely on the credible sources of information.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as "YELLING!"
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using "text-talk" unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.
- See these Engagement Guidelines (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

REQUIRED READINGS (UNT Bookstore)
Stringer, Ernest Alfredo Ortiz Aragón 2020. *Action Research*: Sage*.*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
- Reading Journal (50 points each)
- Activities Report (50 points each)
- Project Plan (50 points)
- Final Report (50 points)
- Synchronous meetings: Weekly 1 hour Zoom meetings
- Weekly volunteer: Minimum 2 hours
- Technology requirements:
  Canvas App and Browser Compatibility
  Software and other technical needs: Microsoft Office Suite, Power Point, Prezi, Zoom, webcam or computer with video camera and mic.
  Technical skills: knowledge of how to upload and attach files, create power points, using the apps version of some of the software required for the course (Microsoft, Zoom), know how to record video.
  Digital literacy skills: using online library and online databases, using online academic search tools, citing information using Chicago Manual of Style.
  Data Privacy: See the data privacy policies for:
  > Canvas
  > Zoom
  > Microsoft Office
  > Prezi

Accessibility Statement: See statements for all CLEAR supported technologies.

What other courses should I have taken before taking this class?
At least 1 upper division anthropology or education course.

What skills should I have from other courses?
You should be familiar with how to read academic articles and books, how to summarize and critique academic research, and how to write research papers. You should also have some understanding on how to communicate research to a broader audience.

GRADING AND EXPECTATIONS
I believe that teaching and learning are forms of emancipation and empowerment that require mutual support and collective participation. Attendance is required as evidenced in your timely submission of class assignments. Late work will not be accepted unless you have a documented excuse (for example, a doctor's note). Please email me if you

are unable to turn in an assignment by the deadline so that we can discuss your individual circumstances.

All grades will be assigned based on the following grading scheme:

100-89% = A
88-79% = B
78-69% = C
68 -59% = D
58% or below = F

I will return your graded assignments to you within about a week of their due-date. You should expect responses to emails, phone calls, or other inquiries directed to me within 48 hours.

COVID-19 Impact on Attendance

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Withdrawal: Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure which YOU must initiate (for a "W" or "WF," as determined by the instructor, with instructor approval). If you simply stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an "F."

Statement on Plagiarism and Cheating: The department of anthropology considers graduate students to be new members of the community of professional anthropologists, who are thus held to the high ethical standards of practicing professionals. They are expected to follow the American Anthropological Association's code of ethics: "*Anthropological researchers bear responsibility for the integrity and reputation of their discipline, of scholarship, and of science. Thus, anthropological researchers are subject to the general moral rules of scientific and scholarly conduct: they should not deceive or knowingly misrepresent (i.e., fabricate evidence, falsify, plagiarize), or attempt to prevent reporting of misconduct, or obstruct the scientific/scholarly research of others*" (http://www.aaanet.org/committees/ethics/ethcode.htm). Any work not meeting this standard will be evaluated in a hearing before the student; infractions will merit dismissal from the master's program. Go to the Department of Anthropology website for more information about paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism, and how to use citations. Visit UNT's Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities for information on the University's policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty.

UNT POLICIES

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation 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 a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students 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 ODA website (https://disability.unt.edu/).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

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 classroom 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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at

SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website (http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) 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 completion of the class. An on-line 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, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line 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 experience 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 it 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.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002).

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work. If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all

students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

Class Recordings & Student Likenesses

Synchronous (live) sessions in this course will be recorded for students enrolled in this class section to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes.   Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Where to go for help:
Technical Help

If you have a technical problem in this course, contact the UIT Help Desk (If you do not understand the assignments or need help with the course content, please contact the instructor.)

In order for the Help Desk to help you, make sure that you have the following information:

1. The course title, number, and instructor

2. Which browser and browser version you are using

3. Where you are when you experience these difficulties (home, work, school, etc.)

4. If at home, please include your internet service provider

5. The exact text of any error messages

6. Your EUID and Student ID for troubleshooting purposes

7. Specific actions that led to the problems you experienced

Help with Canvas

The UNT Canvas server rarely experiences unscheduled down time. However, as with any type of technology, it is possible that it could fail.

If you need immediate help using a specific tool while you are in Canvas, you can access the help guide The instructions provided in this context-sensitive help are clear and useful .

Student Success
The UNT Academic Success Center provides academic support services for all UNT students. These services programs such as: The Writing Center and Office of Disability Access.

The UNT Student Resources website also has additional information to help you succeed at UNT.

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

·   Student Health and Wellness Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)

·   Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)

· UNT Care Team (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)

· UNT Psychiatric Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)

· Individual Counseling (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

Other Help
The anthropology department's graduate program coordinator is Lauren McGregor. If you have any problems or questions, please email her at: Lauren. Mcgregor@unt.edu

Note: The instructor reserves the right to add, delete, or revise segments of this course or syllabus.

Course Outline

Act   Look

Think
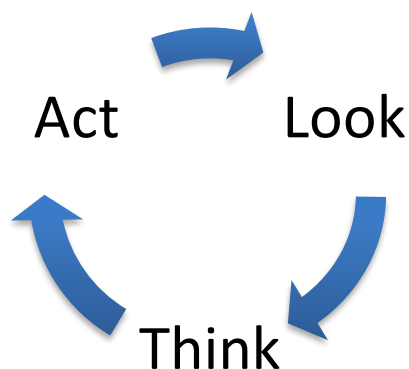
Date	Topic	Assignment
Week 1 1/13	Welcome	- Attend weekly zoom meeting - Look at Canvas module: Start Here
Week 2 1/20	Introduction	- Look at Canvas module: Introduction - Attend weekly zoom meeting - Read: Introduction and Chapter 1 in AR

		textbook and Henry et al. (in Canvas) ● Complete reading journal and activities report
Week 3 1/27	Introduction	● Attend weekly Zoom meeting ● Begin meeting with Denton ISD student orgs and begin to develop survey
Week 4 2/3	Theories and principles of action research	● Look at Canvas module: Theories and Principles of Action Research ● Read Ch 2 in AR textbook ● Complete reading journal and activities report ● Attend weekly Zoom meeting
Week 5 2/10	Planning and Identifying and creating tools of data collection	● Look at Canvas module: Planning and Identifying ● Read Section II, Ch 3, and Ch 9 in AR textbook ● Complete reading journal and activities report ● Attend weekly Zoom meeting
Week 6 2/17	Looking for data	● Look at Canvas module: Looking for data ● Read Ch 4 in AR textbook ● Complete reading journal and activities report

		• Attend weekly Zoom meeting
Week 7 2/24	Looking for data	• Attend weekly Zoom meeting • Project plan due
Week 8 3/3	Looking for data	• Attend weekly Zoom meeting
Week 9 3/10	Thinking about the data	• Look at Canvas module: Thinking about the data • Read Ch 5 in AR textbook • Complete reading journal and activities report • Attend weekly Zoom meeting
Week 10 3/17	Thinking about the data	• Attend weekly Zoom meeting • Begin Implementing/schedule existing program, develop materials and workshops
Week 11 3/24	Act	• Look at Canvas module: Act • Read Ch 6 in AR textbook • Complete reading journal and activities report • Attend weekly Zoom meeting
Week 12 3/31	Act	• Attend weekly Zoom meeting • Continue implementing/schedule existing program, develop materials and workshops
Week 13 4/7	Reporting	• Look at Canvas module: Reporting

		- Read Section III and Ch 7 in AR textbook - Complete reading journal and activities report - Attend weekly Zoom meeting
Week 14 4/14	Reporting	Attend weekly zoom meeting
Week 15 4/21	Reporting	- Attend weekly zoom meeting - Final report due 4/25

*syllabus is subject to changes and revisions