

**The Practice of Anthropology (A)**

Sociology and Anthropology 402

Section: D100

Term: 2003 Summer

Instructor: Dr. John Bogardus

Email: bogardus@sfu.ca

Office: AQ 5078

Discussion Topics: "We need to be bolder about expanding and asserting anthropology's capacity for the analysis

of power, and bring it to bear on both the theoretical issues and societal challenges before us" (Eric Wolf).

This course will attempt to take up Wolf's call. Drawing lessons from a brief review of the context of anthropology's past, we will examine the ongoing role of power in the practice of today's anthropologist. Rapidly changing employment opportunities within academia and shifting fieldwork conditions will be investigated to assess their potential impact on the conception and practice of anthropology. In particular, we will consider the recent push for a proactive, community-centred critical focus, a response arguably fuelled as much by shifting economic circumstances as by the desire to address the discipline's ongoing "crisis of representation."

At the heart of our explorations will be contending tensions in anthropology: the appreciation of cultural diversity and the critique of social and representational inequality. An important moment in this project will be a self-reflexive critique of our social positioning as individuals. The conclusion of the course will find each of us better equipped to evaluate the potential for the equitable use of power both in our individual projects and within the practice of anthropology as a whole. And anthropology's recognized attention to this issue suggests our study will have much to offer students from other disciplines as well.

Grading: Article Annotation 10%

Auto-ethnography 25%

Workshop 25%

Individual Project 40%

All the assignments in this course must be completed for a final grade to be assigned.

**The Practice of Anthropology (A)**

Required Texts: Connolly, D. (2000). Homeless Mothers: Face to Face with Women and Poverty. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

George, G. R. (2000). The Rock Where We Stand: An Ethnography of Women's Activism in Newfoundland.

Recommended Texts: None

Materials/Supplies: None

Prerequisite/Corequisite: SA 101 and one of SA 201, 263, 286 or 293. Recommended: at least two upper division courses in anthropology.

Notes: The course instructor reserves the right to check for plagiarism using software provided by the SFU administration for this purpose.

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.