

**Department of Anthropology
Sikkim University**

M.Phil/PhD Coursework Syllabus

ANT-RS-C - 101 Research Methodology in Anthropology (4 Credits)

Unit I: Philosophy, Design, and Process:

Ontology, Epistemology; Positivist, Anti-positivist and Constructionist; Research Designs; Quantitative, Qualitative, and Action Research Processes; Ethnographic Method: Restudies and Reinterpretation

Unit II: Review, Hypothesis/Research Questions and Methods:

Narrative vs Metanalytic Review: Sources, Types and Characteristics of Hypothesis/Research Questions, Field Work in Different Ecological Settings, Visual Methodology, Auto-ethnography, Issues in Study One's Own Society.

Unit III: Statistical Analysis:

Diagrammatic Presentation of Data, Measures of Central Tendency, Dispersion, Sample Size and Representativeness, Concept of Probability, Bivariate Statistics: Correlation, Chi-square, t-test, F-test,. Analysis of Variance and Experimental Design, OLS and Multiple Regression, Factor Analysis, Structural Equation Modelling, Application of SPSS in Data Analysis.

Unit IV: Qualitative Analysis and Report Writing:

Coding and Categorisation, Content Analysis, Discourse Analysis, Semiotic Analysis, Writing up Quantitative and Qualitative Research.

Suggested readings:

Amit, V. 1999. *Constructing the Field*. London: Routledge.

Armitage, P., G. Berry and J.N.S. Mathews. 2002. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*. 4th edition. Massachusetts: Blackwell Science Ltd.

Bechhofer, F. and L. Paterson. 2000. *Principles of Research Design in the Social Sciences*. London: Routledge.

Beteille, A. and T. N. Madan. 1975. *Encounter and Experience*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

Burgess, R. G. 1984. *In the Field: An Introduction to Field Research*. London: Routledge.

Chernick, M.R. and R.H. Fris. 2003. *Introductory Biostatistics for the Health Sciences*. New Jersey: John Wiley & Son.

Ellen, R. F. 1984. *Ethnographic Research: A Guide to General Conduct*. London: Academic Press.

Epstein, A.L. 1978. *The Craft of Social Anthropology*. Delhi: Hindustan Publishing Corp.

Fabian, J. 2007. *Memory against Culture*. North Carolina: Duke University Press.

Foster, G. M. *et al.* 1979. *Long Term Field Research in Social Anthropology*. New York: Academic Press.

- Frelich, M. 1970. *Marginal Natives: Anthropologists at Work*. New York: Harper & Sons.
- Goode, W J and P K Hatt. 1981. *Methods in Social Research*. Singapore: McGraw-Hill Book Company.
- Herle, A. 1998. *Cambridge and the Torres Strait*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Jongmans, D.G. and P.C.W. Gutkind. 1967. *Anthropologists in the Field*. Assen: Van Gorcum & Company.
- Kothari, C.R. 2004. *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*. New Delhi: New Age International Pvt. Publishers.
- Krzanowski, C.R. 2007. *Statistical Principles and Techniques in Scientific and Social Investigations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Kumar, S. 2002. *Methods for Community Participation*. New Delhi: Vistaar.
- Levinson, D. and M Ember (eds), 1996. *Encyclopaedia of Cultural Anthropology*, Vol.2, New York: Henry, Holt & Co.
- Marczyk, G., D. Matteo and D. Festinger. 2005. *Essentials of Research Design and Methodology*. New Jersey: John Wiley & Son.
- Pelto, P. J. And G. H. Pelto. 2006. *Research Methods in Anthropology: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Walnut creek: AltaMira Press.
- Russell, B. H. 1995. *Research Methods in Anthropology: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press.
- Sarana, G. 1975. *The Methodology of Anthropology*. New York: The University of Arizona Press.
- Srinivas, M.N. 1983. *The Observer and the Observed*. Faculty Lecture 1, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Singapore.
- Stocking, G.W. 1983. *Observers Observed: Essays on Ethnographic Fieldwork*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press.
- Williams, T. R. 1967. *Field Methods in the Study of Culture*. London: Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

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(A) Advances in Social and Cultural Anthropology (4 Credits)

Unit I: Theories:

Nature of social sciences, empiricism, rationalism and positivism, post structuralism, cognitive anthropology, critical theory.

Unit II: Disadvantaged Groups and Contemporary issues in India :

Issues concerning the subaltern groups: dalits, tribal, religious and linguistic minorities, disabled, third gender.

Unit III: New Departures:

Kinship, material culture, visual and cyber anthropology, multi-culturalism, ethnicity and nationalism, migration, diaspora and borderland issues.

Unit IV: Affirmative Action and Empowerment:
Right to Information, Right to Education, Right to food security, Social Security, Human Development Index.

Suggested readings:

- Anderson, B. 2006 [1983]. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso.
- Appadurai, A. 1988. *The Social Life of Things: Commodities in Cultural Perspective*. London: Hurst & Co.
- Banks, M. 1996. *Ethnicity: Anthropological Constructions*. London: Routledge.
- Banks, M. and H. Morphy. 1997. *Rethinking Visual Anthropology*. New Haven: Yale University Press
- Barth, F. (Ed), *Ethnic Groups and Boundaries, The Social Organization of Culture Difference*, London, George Allen & Unwin, 1969.
- Baumann, G. 1996. *Contesting Culture: Discourse of Identity in Multi-Ethnic London*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Brah, A. 1996. *Cartographies of Diaspora: Contesting Identities*. London: Routledge.
- Carsten, J. 2000. *Cultures of Relatedness - New Approaches to the Study of Kinship*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Carsten, J. and S. Hugh-Jones (eds) 1995. *About the House: Levi-Strauss and beyond*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Clarke, M. 2009. *Islam and New Kinship: Reproductive Technology, Anthropology and the Shari'ah in Lebanon*. Oxford: Berghahn.
- D'Andrade, R. G. 1995. *The Development of Cognitive Anthropology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Eriksen, T.H. 2010. *Ethnicity and Nationalism: Anthropological Perspectives*. London: Pluto.
- Foucault, M. 2007. *Archaeology of Knowledge*. London: Taylor and Francis.
- Gellner, D. (ed.) 2013. *Borderland Lives in Northern South Asia*. Durham: Duke University Press.
- Gellner, E. 2006. *Nations and Nationalism*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.
- Hobsbawn, E. and T. Ranger (eds). 1983 *The invention of tradition*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Hollis, M. 1994. *The Philosophy of Social Science: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Karlsson, B.G. 2011. *Unruly Hills: a Political Ecology of India's Northeast*. Oxford: Berghahn books.
- Loizos, P. 1993. *Innovation in Ethnographic Film: From Innocence to Self Consciousness 1955 – 1985*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Pink, S. (2001) 2007. *Doing Visual Ethnography: Images, Media and Representation in Research*. London: Sage Publications.

- Rose, G. (2001) 2005. *Visual Methodologies*. London: Sage Publications.
- Sen, A. 1999. *Commodities and Capabilities*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Sen, A. 2001. *Development as Freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Shah, A. 2010. *In the Shadows of the State: Indigenous Politics, Environmentalism, and Insurgency in Jharkhand, India*. Durham and London: Duke University Press.
- Van Schendel, W. 2005. *The Bengal Borderland: Beyond State and Nation in South Asia*. London: Anthem Press

(B) Advances in Biological Anthropology (4 Credits)

Unit I: Aim and scope of biological anthropological research:

Human evolution and variation, historical development of biological anthropological research. New physical anthropology as synthesised by Washburn. Impact of genetic and medical sciences on biological Anthropology.

Unit II: Anthropological Genetics:

Foundations of anthropological genetics, historical perspective. Human genome project, methods for genetic study: pedigree analysis, chromosomal analysis, biochemical analysis, molecular genetic markers, distribution of genetic diseases in human populations.

Unit III: Physiology and body composition:

Age, sex and ethnic differences in blood pressure, heart rate, pulse rate and respiratory functions, effects of environmental and socio-cultural factors on cardiovascular, respiratory functions, body composition and nutritional status: methods of assessment, biological and environment factors, evolutionary perspective on obesity and co-morbidities.

Unit IV: Human Adaptability programme:

Bio-cultural approach in the study of human growth and development, nutritional anthropology, reproductive health, Anthropological Demography. Dental Anthropology.

Suggested readings:

- Bhasin, V, and M.M. Bhasin. 2007. *Anthropology Today in Trends, Scopes and Applications*. New Delhi: Kamla Raj Enterprises.
- Brewis, A. A. 2011. *Obesity: Cultural and Biocultural Perspectives*. New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.
- Crawford, M.H. (Ed). 2006. *Anthropological Genetics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Dasgupta, P. and R. Hauspie. (ed.). 2001. *Perspective in Human Growth, Development and Maturation*. New Delhi: Springer.
- Denvor, E.J. 2005. *Molecular Application in Biological Anthropology (Cambridge Studies in Biological and Evolutionary Anthropology)*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Forbes, G.B. 1987. *Human Body Composition, Growth, Aging, Nutrition and Activity*. New York: Springer-Verlag.
- Gisli, P. 2007. *Anthropology and New Genetics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Hartwell, L.H. 2011. *Genetics: From Genes to Genomes*, 4th Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Heyward, V. H. and D.R. Wagner. 2004. *Applied Body Composition Assessment*. Illinois: Champaign.
- Hillson, S. 2002. *Dental Anthropology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Pasternak, J. J. 2005. *An Introduction to Human Molecular Biology*. New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons.
- Reddy, B.M. (ed.). 2008. *Trends in Molecular Anthropology*. Delhi: Kamla-Raj Enterprises.
- Scott, G.R. and C.G. Turner. 1997. *Anthropology of Modern Human Teeth*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Shephard, R. J. 2005. *Body Composition in Biological Anthropology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

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Preparation of Research Proposal and Seminar Presentation

(4 Credits)

This is a non-lecture based paper in which each student admitted to MPhil/PhD course is constantly in touch with the supervisor allotted to him/her soon after admission and he/she, in consultation with his/her supervisor, shall review literature in an area allotted to him/her. At the end of the semester, each student shall give a seminar presentation in the department, which will be evaluated against 1 credit. Each student shall also submit a detailed review of literature by the end of the semester and the same shall be evaluated by a committee of experts, which may include an external examiner against 3 credits.