

Syllabus
Course description

Course title	Cultural Anthropology
Course code	97133
Scientific sector	SDEA-01/A (ex M-DEA/01)
Degree	Bachelor in Design and Art (L-4)
Semester	Summer semester 2024/25
Year	2 nd , 3 rd
Credits	8
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	30
Total hours of self-study and/ or other individual educational activities	about 170
Attendance	not compulsory but recommended
Prerequisites	none
Maximum number of students per class	

Course description	<p><i>The course belongs to the class "caratterizzante" in both major in Design and in Art.</i></p> <p>"Anthropology allows you to be curious about everything, from poetry to history to climate change models. It's a difficult discipline, but we can give answers to problems in a way other disciplines don't." (Andrew Mathews). This course provides an introduction to anthropological theory and method and demonstrates its relevance to a range of questions about art, design and more: Anthropology is the discipline par excellence that addresses questions of relationships, practices, knowledge and perceptions of meaning in different cultural contexts. The study and analysis of practices through ethnography is at the center of its interest. In the course we will contextualise cultural plurality and diversity in art and design by addressing urgent issues of our present. The course provides students with analytical and methodological tools and concepts for ethnographic research into the perspectives and experiences of other people and more than human beings.</p>
Specific educational objectives	<p>Knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have acquired a solid cultural heritage in which technical and media skills are combined with theoretical reflection, a necessary prerequisite for approaching the complex phenomena of today's

	<p>society with awareness and being prepared to act as active participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have acquired the ability to grasp and analyse contemporary cultural and social phenomena that characterise design and art. - The course aim is to integrate anthropological perspectives into perception and analysis of cultural crafts and artistic expressions. Additionally, the course will prepare students for a critical engagement with scientific texts and help them develop appropriate academic writing skills. The critical reflection on concepts such as human relationship with nature (ecology), the question of 'beauty' and will lead to new understanding of bottom-up approaches and grounded empirics.
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Lecturer	<p>Prof. Elisabeth Tauber E-mail: elisabeth.tauber@unibz.it webpage: https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/10555-elisabeth-tauber</p>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	SDEA-01/A (ex M-DEA/01)
Teaching language	English
Office hours	Friday 2pm – 4pm
List of topics covered	Culture, cultural relativism, ethnography and ethnographic method
Teaching format	Frontal lectures, seminar with presentations, discussion groups, community learning

Expected learning outcomes	<p>Disciplinary competence</p> <p><i>Knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have acquired the basic knowledge to be able to turn a critical eye to their own work and to deal with contemporary complexity - have acquired the basic knowledge necessary for further Master's studies in all components of project culture as well as in scientific and theoretical subjects. - Knowledge of basic concepts in the anthropological study of culture. - Acquisition of appropriate scientific languages for the description and analysis of social cultural phenomena. <p><i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognise the main phenomena of contemporary society, to observe them critically, also from an ethical and social point of view, and to elaborate appropriate
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solutions at the level of a design proposal/response.

- make use of the skills acquired during the course of study in the event of continuing studies in a Master's degree programme in the field of design and to develop them further.
- Ability to apply anthropological approaches and concepts to the analysis of concrete socio-cultural-ecological contexts
- Ability to apply anthropological approaches and concepts in engaging scientific and cultural products.

Transversal competence and soft skills

Making judgements

- Be able to make independent judgements, both in the critical evaluation of their own work and in their ability to use the right interpretative tools in those contexts in which they will work professionally in design and/or continue their studies, also considering ethical and social aspects.
- Development of critical and independent thinking regarding social-cultural dynamics in the relationship between people and design.
- Development of reflexive self-awareness in design settings.

Communication skills

- to professionally communicate and substantiate their own decisions and justify them from a theoretical point of view.
- Ability to recognize the fundamental elements of scientific writing.
- Ability to develop a correctly structured short paper.
- Ability to participate in scientifically grounded discussions and express an informed opinion.
- Ability to communicate with appropriate sensitivity in intercultural contexts.

Learning skills

- have acquired basic knowledge in theoretical subjects as well as a study methodology suitable for continuing studies with a Master's degree programme.
- Ability to autonomously extend the knowledge acquired during the course in dealing with various types of cultural products (scientific, journalistic, film, music, literary).
- Ability to acquire new concepts and information consistent with the analysis of changing social-cultural

	<p>dynamics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ability of actively listening to local people and make use of local voices for design purposes.
Assessment	<p>Assessment is based on a presentation in class, written minutes on two main texts and on an ethnographic exercise. The final oral exam will be used to verify the capacity to apply anthropological concepts and instruments relevant to art and design.</p> <p>Non - attending students will write a critical paper about an ethnographic film and a paper based on main texts discussed during lecture.</p>
Assessment language	The same as the teaching language
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	<p>Criteria for the evaluation of the final paper and exercises will consider the ability to accurately apply course concepts and methods, the attempt to express original opinions and analyses, and the logical structure of exposition and argumentation.</p>
Required readings	<p>Bunn, Stephanie 2018 Anthropology and Beauty. From Aesthetics to Creativity. Routledge.</p> <p>Escobar, Arturo 2018 Designs for the Pluriverse. Radical Interdependence, Autonomy, and the Making of Worlds. Duke University Press.</p>
Supplementary readings	Will be announced in class (on Teams).