

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code / Title : HA3002 Political Anthropology

Pre-requisites : HA1011 & HA1012

No. of AUs. : 3

Contact Hours : 39

Course Aims

This introductory course to political anthropology aims to explore the blurred boundaries between the social, anthropology and political science, questioning rationalists, structuralists or normative explanations of states and relations between states. It will present various frameworks to conduct contemporary interpretive political analysis, alongside ethnographies and case studies which deal with informal networks and informal political action that overlap with institutional approaches of political science. By taking this course, students will be able to draw connections between politics and the subjective, affective dimensions of political struggle and commitment. This perspective will enable them to understand and analyse better real world forms of social and cultural political power such as identity and ideological politics.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe and explain various interpretive approaches used by anthropologists to analyse society and state.
2. Describe and explain the rationale, format and politics of anthropological data collection via ethnographies and case studies.
3. Analyse informal, particularistic forms of anthropological studies against concepts of social and state formation.
4. Analyse the effect of particularistic and contemporary anthropological studies in the formation of new concepts of social and state formation.
5. Synthesize knowledge of political anthropological approaches to real world case studies of social and state formation.

Course Content

Sessions	Themes
1	An Introduction to Political Anthropology
2	Ethnography and the Political
3	The Anthropology of The State
4	State as Symbol
5	State as Practice
6	The State and The Return of Religion
7	Student case study proposals: Class presentations
8	Globalisation
9	Citizenship
10	Informal Politics
11	The Power of the People: Social Movements
12	The Power of the People: Populism
13	Student case study proposals: Class presentations

Course Assessment

Class Participation	: 10%
Team Seminar Lead on weekly topics	: 20%
Journalistic Report	: 30%
Research essay	: 40%
Total	----- 100%