

Comparative Research

Code: 43149
ECTS Credits: 12

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313769 Anthropology: Advanced Research and Social Intervention	OT	0	A

Contact

Name: Jorge Grau Rebollo

Email: Jordi.Grau@uab.cat

Teachers

Aurora González Echevarria

Anna Maria Piella Vila

Montserrat Ventura Oller

José Luis Molina González

Maria Montserrat Clua Fainé

Virginia Fons Renaudón

Josep Lluís Mateo Dieste

Use of Languages

Principal working language: spanish (spa)

Prerequisites

There are no previous requirements.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This module is part of the specialization E1 "Ethnographic and Transcultural Research" and it comprises both semesters.

Goals:

- To understand the dialectics between particularism and comparison that reflects the development of the history of Anthropology
- To identify the most relevant theoretical debates concerning the concepts of personhood, body and identity, both from the perspective of a group (collective ethnic identities) as from the person's viewpoint, in order to apply them to specific ethnographic studies and delimited comparisons.
- To be familiar with the classical theories of kinship, as well as the proposed alternatives, both particularist and comparative.
- To understand how to apply ethnographic research in different research areas.
- To critically and historically analyze the concept of identity in relation to national belonging within contemporary nation-states.
- To get relevant knowledge about the field of multi-disciplined ethnography in transnational fields.

Competences

- Carry out ground-breaking, flexible research in anthropology by applying theories and methodologies and using appropriate data collection and analysis techniques.
- Communicate and justify conclusions clearly and unambiguously to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Defend arguments clearly, precisely and appropriately within the context, and at the same time value the contributions made by other people.
- Integrate knowledge and use it to make judgements in complex situations, with incomplete information, while keeping in mind social and ethical responsibilities.
- Make cross-cultural comparisons using the various procedures in anthropology.
- Solve problems in new or little-known situations within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to the field of study.
- Systematically link up concepts, and theories within the discipline so as to analyse specific ethnographic contexts.
- Use information and communication technologies efficiently to acquire, create and spread knowledge.

Learning Outcomes

1. Apply the knowledge acquired to problem-solving in particular ethnographic contexts.
2. Choose comparable units of analysis in cross-cultural research.
3. Choose the most appropriate form of comparison for the investigation of a social and cultural problem.
4. Defend arguments clearly, precisely and appropriately within the context, and at the same time value the contributions made by other people.
5. Identify important elements in institutional documents and/or scientific texts that help to formulate judgments and reflect on social and ethical responsibilities in anthropology.
6. Identify the forms of cross-cultural comparison used in the formulation and development of anthropological theories.
7. Integrate primary and secondary ethnographic data from varying sources.
8. Present conclusions and intervention proposals in the context of research
9. Show mastery of the dialectic between particularity and universality in the themata that appear in different societies in relation to the concepts of body, person and identity.
10. Systematically link up concepts, and theories within the discipline that fit in with the specific ethnographic research context.
11. Understand and use information and communication technologies in accordance with the ethnographic context chosen for study and/or intervention.

Content

The module is divided into 5 blocks.

1. Identity, personhood and group in Africa, America and Australia.
[Dr. Anna Piella, Dr. Virginia Fons and Dr. Montserrat Ventura] (18 hours)

1.1. General theory about the notion of person / corporality. The notion of person and group in Central Africa. The Ndowe case.

1.2. Personhood and individual being in Tropical America. Person hood in the tsachila case. Ethnic identity: a general overview and the tsachila case.

1.3. Identity, person and group in Australia Aboriginal. The Djirbal case.

2. Kinship and ethnographic research.
[Coordinator: Dr. Anna Piella] (18 hours)

2.1. The radical criticisms of the Anthropology of Kinship.

2.2. Parenthood and parenting.

2.3. The ndowe of Equatorial Guinea.

2.4. Maternal and child health and corporality: the case of the movement for the humanization of birth in Barcelona.

- 2.5. Kinship and identity in Norway.
- 2.6. Adoption and circulation of children.
- 2.7. Infertility, kinship and parenting.

3. Multisited ethnographies in transnational fields.
[Dr. José Luis Molina] (12 hours)

- 3.1. What do we understand by ethnography in the 21st century?
- 3.2. Multisite ethnography: concept and examples.
- 3.3. Multisite ethnography in the field of migration.
- 3.4. Towards a multi-situational ethnography in transnational fields.

4. Identities, nationality and citizenship rights.
[Coordinator: Dr. Montserrat Clua] (12 hours)

- 4.1. Identity - nationality - citizenship: the confusion of concepts.
- 4.2. Identities in Western modernity
- 4.3. Nation, nationalism and the delimitation of belonging to the modern nation-state
- 4.4. Forms of exclusion of citizenship rights: biology, race and racism
- 4.5. Forms of exclusion of citizenship rights: culture, ethnicity and xenophobia

5. Moroccan migrations in Europe: between two shores.
[Coordinator: Dr. Josep Lluís Mateo] (12 hours)

- 5.1. Rethinking the migratory history: from colonialism to *gast-arbeiters*
- 5.2. Sung emigration: songs as a source of analysis
- 5.3. Living in Europe, getting married in Morocco
- 5.4. Beards, veils and cultural reconstruction
- 5.5. The transnational body: demons on both sides of the Strait
- 5.6. Conclusions and debates (open discussion and / or oral presentations)

Methodology

- Lectures and master classes
- Reading and analysis of academic articles / reports.
- Analysis of ethnographic and audiovisual documentation.
- Presentation / oral expositions
- Personal study
- Tutoring
- Essay preparation and writing.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Analysis of ethnographic and audiovisual documentation.	7	0.28	6, 11
Lectures and master classes	68	2.72	3, 6, 10
Personal study	60	2.4	6, 7
Type: Supervised			
Analysis of academic articles / reports.	36	1.44	1

Presentation / oral expositions	15	0.6	4, 7
Tutoring	24	0.96	5
Type: Autonomous			
Essay preparation and writing	40	1.6	1, 7
Reading and analysis of academic articles / reports	50	2	3, 6, 2

Assessment

This section of the Study Guide contains all information related to the process of evaluation of the module.

Assessment of the module:

In order to pass the module, the following aspects must be considered:

- Regular assistance and participation: First, to ensure that the expected learning results are obtained, we consider it fundamental that students regularly attend lectures and participate actively in them. For this reason, students are required to assist at least 80% of each course ("block"). Furthermore, the extent to which they participate in presentations, discussions, training sessions is evaluated. This participation is considered in the final grade for each course.
- Continued assessment of the blocks: Second, each course or block proposes one or multiple activities that allow a continued assessment of the learning process. The activities can vary from a written test to a presentation in class, computer lab assignments, a review of a few articles or chapters, or a short essay, among others. Jointly, the evaluations for the different courses that make up the module (30%) and the participation in these courses (20%) constitute 50% of the final grade of the module. The deadlines for these activities are indicated by the lecturers.
- Evaluation of the final paper for the module: Last, the grade obtained on a final paper constitutes the remaining 50% of the final grade for the module. In the case of the modules that make up the specializations (in particular, E1.1, E1.2, E2.1, E2.2 and E3.1), each student selects the course that is of major interest for his or her master thesis, from the set of courses that make up the module. The evaluation will be based on this course. The evaluation can consist of a larger essay of approximately 3,000 / 4,000 words, possibly in the format of an article, a review of a state of the art of a specific theme, or a paper that addresses a specific issue in the discipline on the basis of readings recommended by the lecturer of the course that the student has chosen for evaluation. The deadline for the submission of the final paper is the 27 April 2020.

It is essential to respect the deadlines.

Each lecturer determines the way in which papers are to be submitted (through the *Campus Virtual*, by e-mail or in printed form, in the mailbox of the lecturer). The lecturers communicate the results of the evaluation through the established ways and establish a period of consultation before they communicate the grades to the coordinator of the module. The student can request a tutorial with their lecturers throughout the course if they wish to clarify some point of the contents of the course.

In general, not submitting the documents that are to be evaluated results in the qualification "Not assessable". In exceptional, well justified cases, the Committee of the Master Program may propose an alternative procedure for the evaluation.

General criteria

Assessment is understood as a continued process throughout the term.

The qualifications are made on a scale from 0-10 with one decimal. To pass the subject, a minimum final grade of 5.0 is needed, as a result of the assessment procedure explained above. Once the subject is passed, it cannot be subjected to a new evaluation.

The programming of assessment activities cannot be modified unless an exceptional and well justified reason exists for this, in which case a new program is proposed during the term.

When a student performs an irregularity that can lead to a significant variation of the qualification of an assessable activity, the activity will be qualified with a 0, independently of the disciplinary process that might follow. In the case that various irregularities in the assessable activities are found within the same module, the qualification of the module will be 0.

The qualification "not assessable" in the final records of evaluation implies the exhaustion of rights inherent in the enrolment to the module, although the "not assessable" module will not figure in the academic transcript.

The copying or plagiarism of material, both in the case of papers as in the case of exams, constitutes an offence that will be sanctioned with the qualification 0 on the activities, the loss of the right of reevaluation, and being suspended from the module. "Copying" a paper refers to a student reproducing the whole or part of a paper of another student. Plagiarism is presenting the whole or a part of the text of another author as if it were the student's own, without citing the references, on paper or digitally. Please see the documentation of the UAB about plagiarism on: http://wuster.uab.es/web_argumenta_obert/unit_20/sot_2_01.html

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Attendance and active participation in the classroom	20%	0	0	9, 3, 6
Essay writing	50%	0	0	1, 8, 7, 11, 2
Submission of reports / short essays	30%	0	0	1, 4, 5, 7, 10

Bibliography

Broad listy of references. Detailed blog listings will be available at the module's Moodle.

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