**American University of Central Asia**

**Anthropology Department**

**History of Anthropological Theories I**

**Fall 2018**

**Lecturers: Rahimov Ruslan, PhD**

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**Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday 15:25-16:30**

**Tuesday:**

**17.00-18.15 (room 211)**

**18.25-19.40 (room 211)**

**ID and Code: 4366 ANTH - 500.1,**

**Description of the course**

**This course is one of the core fields for the curriculum. As any discipline, social anthropology has been developing in connecting with the history and social circumstances. The course seeks to explore the appearance and development of the essential anthropological currents and concepts. We will make an attempt to discuss the evolution of anthropological theories also in terms of national traditions: English, American, French, German and Soviet.**

**At the end of the course the students will learn precursors of anthropology; evolutionism in all its guises; diffusions and culture area theories, functionalism and structural-functionalism; action-centered theories; processual and Marxist perspectives. This course aims to develop of critical and writing skills, as well as improve reading capacities.**

**Key readings**

* **Alan Barnard, “History and theory in anthropology», Cambridge University Press 2000,**
* **Barth F., Parkin R., Gingrich A., Silverman S. “One Discipline, Four Ways”**
* **Paul Erickson and Liam Murphy, “A History of anthropological theory”**

**Assignments:**

**Oral Participation: 30 %**

**2 Short Papers (2-3 pp): 20 %**

**Presentation: 15 %**

**Final paper and presentation (5-6 pp): 35 %**

**Attendance**

**Attendance is required. Attendance will be checked in the beginning of each class period. If you are late you will not be allowed to the class. Or, you can be allowed to the class but will get an absence in the attendance list.**

**If you got sick, you have to notify an instructor or the office manager in advance, and later submit an official document (spravka) from a physician, especially if you are scheduled to make a class presentation. Four unexcused absences will result in “X” for the whole course. Participation will be graded based on active participation, which 1) demonstrates awareness of the subject; 2) shows knowledge of the reading; 3) shows ability to criticize the topic.**

**Oral participation and Readings**

**Reading is the main platform for our course, therefore reading is a mandatory to the class, and should be read before class. Bring your text to the class. I will often refer to specific passages from the text and expect to do the same. Comprehension and critical skills will be exercised through in-class writing. So, please always have a pen and notebook.**

**Moodle system: Most of readings, texts and presentation can be found on the e-course. Students are expected to participate in the forums as well as uploading different texts. This participation will be also one of the evaluation criteria’s.**

**2 Short papers**

***Short reflection paper will be mainly based on reading critique of one of the articles, which will be provided in advance. Student has to discuss author’s arguments. Samples will be posted on the Moodle course site. Papers should be submitted on e-course.***

**Presentation**

**Each student should make a presentation on any book/article of authors within the course program or beyond. You should outline main points of this source (basically from economic anthropology literature), analyze scholar’s argument and underline its importance for the course.**

**Mid Term exam**

**Exam will be in-class writing and will be based on 4 questions based on class topics, student should select two of them.**

**Final paper and presentation**

**Each student is expected to choose one concept based on class readings (e.g.: cultural evolutionism, relativism, cultural area, practice etc.) and write a paper (7-8 pages, 12, double-spaced) which will be presented in class. It should be an analysis with evaluation, critique of the selected concept, outlining its genesis, meaning, advantages, limitations and your understanding of its importance for contemporary anthropology. Presentation may be limited to: 1) an overview of your analysis, 2) a reflection on the impact of the term on your understanding.**

**Deadlines**

**Papers and assignments submitted beyond the deadline will not be accepted or graded. Deadlines can only be extended upon prior permission request and for medical reasons. Only those late papers with valid or legitimate excuse will be accepted but penalized that will affect the final grade for the assignment. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade (i. E. A- to B+).**

WEEK 1 **Introduction, Syllabus discussion**

* Historical factors: discoveries, renaissance and enlightenment.

WEEK 2 **Emile Durkheim and the Collective Conscience**

* Emile Durkheim, The Division of Labor
* Emile Durkheim, Rules of Sociological Method
* Emile Durkheim, Suicide
* Emile Durkheim, Social fact

WEEK 3 **Marx, History, and Materialism: Political Economy**

* The German Ideology, Part I. (up to "The Real Basis of Ideology", (pp. 146-176)
* Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, The Communist Manifesto
* Selections from Capital, Volume 1, especially
* 1.1. "The two factors of the commodity"
* 1.2. "The dual character of labor embodied in commodities"
* 1.4. "The fetishism of the commodity and its secret"
* 2. "The process of exchange"
* 4. "The general formula for capital"
* 26. "The secret of primitive accumulation"

WEEK 4 **Weber, Rationalization and Modernity**

* Weber, Max. "The fundamental concepts of sociology, " from The Theory of Social and Economic Organization.
* "The Protestant Sects and the Spirit of Capitalism." Excerpts on rationalization.
* Ritzer, Macdonalization of the World.

WEEK 5 **Historical particularism, relativism and methods of ethnology**

* Boas, Ruth, Mead, Sapir, Kroeber

WEEK 6 **Functionalism and Structural-functionalism**

* MALINOWSKI Bronislaw, The subject, method and scope of this inquiry (Argonauts of the Western Pacific), The essentials of Kula
* RADCLIFFE BROWN Alfred, Social Structure
* EVANS PRITCHARD ( The nuer)

WEEK 7 **Structuralism in Anthropology**

* Ferdinand de Saussure
* Levi-Strauss, Claude. The Elementary Structures of Kinship

WEEK 8 **The Foucauldian Subject of Power and Discourse**

* Foucault, Michel. The History of Sexuality. some parts of reading of Volume 1.
* Discipline and Punish, excerpts. "Two Lectures" "Truth and Power"

WEEK 9 **Categorization**

* Durkheim and Mauss, Primitive Classification
* Levi Brule on Primitive Mind
* Douglas, Mary. Purity and Danger

WEEK 10 **Negotiating Agency and Structure in Practice**

* Bourdieu, Pierre. "The social space and the genesis of groups" "Time Perspectives of the Kabyle" An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology, some parts of reading
* Pierre Bourdieu. 1977. “Structures, Habitus, Power.” In Outline of a Theory of Practice

WEEK 11 **Representation in Anthropology**

* Clifford, James and George Marcus. Writing Culture
* Marcus, George and Michael Fischer. Anthropology as Cultural Critique, excerpts.
* Ortner, Sherry, "Theory in Anthropology Since the Sixties."
* Rosaldo. "Subjectivity in Social Analysis"

WEEK 12 **Soviet and Post-Soviet anthropology**

* Bromley Julian
* Tishkov, Crisis in Soviet Ethnography
* Tishkov, U.S. and Russian Anthropology: Unequal Dialogue in a Time of Transition
* Abashin S.