

Course Title: Contemporary Issues in Cultural Anthropology (當代文化人類學議題)

Course Hours: Wednesday 9-12.

Course Meeting Place: College of Humanity & Social Sciences C 303.

Course Instructor: Shu-min Huang

Course Outline

This course examines some of the most pressing issues faced by contemporary cultural anthropologists. Topics such as development, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), disasters, globalization, resilience, aging, megacities, and research ethics will be discussed during this semester. More specifically, this course will use contemporary China as the foci of discussion for these topics. Class participants are expected to read assigned readings following the syllabus, engage in class discussions, and conduct an independent research on one of the relevant topics as the semester report.

Week 1 Sept. 14: Course Outline, Assignments and Introduction.

Week 2 Sept. 21: Culture, Environment and Development (I): Changing Research Orientations.

Read: Arturo Escobar (1997) "Anthropology and Development."
International Social Science Journal. 154:497-515.

David Gow (2002) "Anthropology and Development: Evil Twin or Moral Narrative?" *Human Organization*, 61: 299-313.

Week 3 Sept. 28: 教師節停課。

Week 4 October 5: Culture, Environment and Development (II): Sustainable Agriculture and Development.

Read: David Mosse (2013) "The Anthropology of International Development." *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 42: 227-246.

Brooke Wilmsen, Michael Webber, and Duan Yuefang (2011) "Development for Whom? Rural to Urban Resettlement at the Three Gorges Dam, China." *Asian Studies Review*, 35: 21-42.

Week 5 Oct. 12: The Rise of Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in Global Affairs (I)

Read: Martin Barber and Cameron Bowie (2008) "How International NGOs Could Do Less Harm and More Good." *Development in Practice*, Vol. 18, No.

6, pp. 748-754.

Anthony J. Spires (2012) "Lessons from Abroad: Foreign Influences on China's Emerging Civil Society." *The China Journal*, 68: 125-146.

- Week 6 Oct. 19: The Rise of Non-Government Organizations in Global Affairs (II)
Read: Islah Jad (2007) "NGOs: Between Buzzwords and Social Movements." *Development in Practice*, Vol. 17, No. 4/5, pp. 622-629.
Anthony J. Spires, Lin Tao, and Kin-man Chan (2014) "Societal Support for China's Grass-Roots NGOs: Evidence from Yunnan, Guangdong and Beijing." *The China Journal*, 71: 65-86.
- Week 7 Oct. 26: Managing Disasters (I): Definition and Theoretical Constructions.
Read: Kathleen J. Tierney (1999) "Toward a Critical Sociology of Risk." *Sociological Forum*, 14: 215-242.
Oliver-Smith, Anthony (1996) "Anthropological research on hazards and disasters." *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 25:303-328.
- Week 8 Nov. 2: Managing Disasters (II): Social Dimensions of Natural Calamity.
Read:
Blaikie, Piers, Terry Cannon, Ian Davis, and Ben. Wisner (1994) *At Risk: Natural Hazards, People's Vulnerability, and Disasters*. London & New York: Routledge.
大谷順子(2010) 《災難後的重生：阪神大震災對高齡化社會的衝擊》，徐濤譯。台北：南天書局。
- Week 9 Nov. 9: Globalization and Its Implications (I): Neoliberalism and Post-Communist States.
Read: Andrew Kipnis (2008) "Audit Cultures: Neoliberal governmentality, socialist legacy or technologies of governing." *American Ethnologists*, 35: 275-289.
Stephen Wegren, David O'brien, Valeri Patsiorkovski (2002) "Winners and Losers in Russian Agrarian Reform." *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 30: 1-29.
- Week 10 Nov. 16: 全校運動大會。
- Week 11 Nov. 23: Globalization and Its Implications (II): Inequality and Health Challenges.
Read: Donald Heyneman (1984) "Presidential Address: Development and

Disease: A Dual Dilemma.” *The Journal of Parasitology*, 70: 2-17.
Jonathan A. Patz, et al (2004) “Unhealthy Landscapes: Policy
Recommendations on Land Use Change and Infectious Disease Emergence.”
Environmental Health Perspectives, 112: 1092-1098.

Week 12 Nov. 30: Resilience Research (1).

Read: Fiona Miller et al. (2010) “Resilience and Vulnerability:
Complementary or Conflicting Concepts?” *Ecology & Society*, 15.
Fikret Berkes and Helen Ross (2013) “Community Resilience: Toward an
Integrated Approach.” *Society & Natural Resources*, 26: 5-20.

Week 13 Dec. 7: Resilience Research (II)

Read: G.S. Cummings, et al (2005) “An Exploratory Framework for the
Empirical Measurement of Resilience. *Ecosystems*, 8: 975-987.
Maggie Zraly, Sarah E. Rubin and Donatilla Mukamana (2013)
“Motherhood and Resilience among Rwandan Genocide-Rape Survivors.”
Ethos, 41: 411-439.

Week 14 Dec. 14: Megacities and Problems (I): Aging and Care

Read: Krass, Frauke (2007) “Megacities and Global Change: Key Priorities.”
The Geographical Journal. Vol. 173, No. 1: 79-82.
Chen Deng, Xiangzheng Deng, Shan Xu, Yiting Wang, Jiaying Cui (2016) “An
integrated approach for assessing the urban ecosystem health of megacities in
China.” *Cities*, 53: 110-119.

Week 15 Dec. 21: Megacities and Problems (II): Water Shortage.

Read: Cecilia Tortajada and Enrique Castelan (2003) “Water Management in a
Megacity: Mexico City Metropolitan Area.” *Ambio*, Vol. 32, No.2: 124-129.
Yan Ling Jiang, et al. (2010) “Urban Resources Quota Management: The Core
Strategy for Water Demand Management in China.” *Ambio*, Vol. 39, No 7:
467-475.

Week 16 Dec. 28: Research Ethics and Future Challenges (I)

Read: “Ethical guidelines for anthropology.”

Week 17 Jan. 4: Research Ethics and Future Challenges (II)

Read: Huang Shu-min (2015) “Developing Institutional Monitoring
Protocols for Humanity and Social Science Research in Taiwan.” In N.

Steneck, M. Anderson, S. Kleinert, and T. Mayer eds. *Integrity in the Global Research Arena*. New Jersey and London: World Scientific Publishing Co. Pps. 203-08.

Week 18 Jan. 11: Student Reports.

Winter Vacation!