Are we all the same, or are we all different? What is “a society”? Are there “cultures”? What is politics in a society without political parties? What do concepts like individual, family and community mean in different contexts and why does this matter? Why should anyone worry about a kinship chart? These are among the questions we will address in this class through lectures, films, tutorials, and readings as we examine the core concepts of social and cultural anthropology.

Required Texts:


Land’s End: Wealth and Poverty on an Indonesian Frontier by Tania Murray Li, book manuscript, available from Prof Li after class :)

The first is a textbook that sets out core concepts and introduces important debates using a range of examples from different parts of the world. The second is an ethnography about a particular place in Indonesia which will serve as a vehicle for testing out ideas and seeing how identity, kinship, gender, exchange, production, power, and belief all work together. It is a book I have just finished writing so you will be the first readers and critics. You will need to do a small amount of additional reading, selected by you, for your essay. The total reading load is 35-60 pages per week. You will be responsible for all material covered in readings, lectures, films and tutorials so keep up, attend, and take notes.

All the standard introductory texts to social and cultural anthropology cover similar ground and overlap with the text I have chosen to some degree. So if you like to have more than one source or read authors with different ways of explaining things, you can pick up one of these texts 2nd hand, eg Schultz and Lavenda, Cultural Anthropology, or Bailey and Peebles Essentials of Cultural Anthropology, or one the library has online, Anthropology: the Basics by Peter Metcalf, [http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/132011](http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/132011) and several others listed in the Robarts catalogue (select the more recent ones, eg published after about 1995). If you are ready for a bigger challenge, try Key Debates in Anthropology, [http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/167055](http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/167055). The library has also subscribed to a several on-line anthropology dictionaries and encyclopedia listed on the Anthro 100 website with easy links. You might find these useful for reference. But all you need to read is the core text book and the assigned ethnography: that is the material on which you will be examined.

Keep in mind that anthropology is first and foremost a form of critical inquiry, guided by a "desire to seek, a patience to doubt, fondness to meditate, slowness to assert, readiness to consider, carefulness to dispose and set in order, and hatred for every kind of imposture" [Francis Bacon, 1605]. There are many questions that don't have yes/no answers, and concepts that are under debate because our subject matter - people in their social relations - can be approached in more than one way. So be ready to think, debate, and take positions. Debates in anthropology are not "just academic": they have consequences we will explore.
Course Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term in-class test</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay (1200-1500 words)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance at 5 tutorials and completion of small assignments linked to tutorials</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal final exam in exam period</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The essay will mainly focus on class reading materials, with only a small amount of additional research (max 2 well chosen sources). The objective is to practice taking a position on a complex issue and arguing it through using appropriate examples. The mid-term and final exam will include a mix of definitions, short answers, long answers and essays, all designed to evaluate your understanding of “core concepts” and how to apply them.

Some Rules and Advice

1. **2 points per day, including weekends, will be deducted if your essay is late, starting from 4pm on the due date. The essay is to be submitted in hard copy at the start of class.**

2. Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

3. **10 percentage points of your total grade is for attendance and participation in 5 tutorials and completion of small assignments.** The tutorials are an integral part of the class. Each will involve discussion of core concepts and preparation of questions you would like the prof to address or clarify (10 minutes). The rest of the hour will focus on a particular skill that you will need to succeed in this class, and that has general relevance to your studies and future career. There will be small assignments to complete before each tutorial session, and submit to the TA at the start of the session. These small assignments will not be graded individually but will make up a portfolio the TA will use to assign your grade for this 10%. Attendance and compliance with all requirements gets you 6/10. A good standard gets you 7-8/10, and excellence 9-10/10. You may not change your assigned tutorial group or time unless you have a documented conflict with another class or with your job. The tutorials run on a 2-week block (a or b), so you will attend in alternate weeks (we do this to keep the group size down to 15, and give you the opportunity for a real discussion). Keep to the schedule!

4. **I seldom use power point for lectures. You need to be alert, listen, and take notes. Do not ask me for my lecture notes.** I may occasionally post some notes to Blackboard but this will not be routine. I suggest you get to know one or two people in the class and agree to exchange notes should one of you miss class.

5. **Use your college registrar if you need to;** that person is there to advocate for you if you are having problems. For example, if you have been seriously ill and need an extension on a paper, your best strategy is to bring your doctor’s note to your college registrar, explain the situation to him or her, and have him or her contact all your professors asking for consideration. That way you do not have to go to your professors individually and you do not have to confide personal information to your professor if you do not want to.

6. **Please make an appointment for a block of time during my office hours if you need to see me by using the sign-up sheet outside my office door.** My office hours fill up very quickly, and it is not likely that I will be able to meet with you if you show up without an appointment.

7. **If you send me an email, always write ANT207 in the subject line and include your name, your student number, and your TA’s name.** I will normally respond with 48 hours Monday - Friday.

8. **Your TAs are there to help you** to understand course content, learn important academic skills, and to do a great job of the assignments. Esther Kuhn is the head TA. She will hold regular office hours to help
you understand any aspect of the course you are finding tough. She will also be responsible for handling missed tests and late assignments. Use the assistance we have provided - there is no need to be lost or confused in this class. If you are feeling this way take action, starting with a visit to see Esther.

(9) I will post the syllabus, essay topics and instructions and other announcements on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard. Please register properly on Blackboard with your utoronto email address in case I need to contact you or send you an urgent message by email.

(10) Learning how to write an excellent academic essay is one of the goals of the course. You will be writing one essay at home and at least one essay on the final exam. Please check out the resources available at http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/ especially in the “advice” section.

(11) The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. Academic integrity is a fundamental value of learning and scholarship at the UofT. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the UofT degree that you earn will be valued and respected as a true signifier of your individual academic achievement. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic misconduct, the processes for addressing academic offences, and the penalties that may be imposed. You are expected to be familiar with the contents of this document. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:
- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment (this includes working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work).

On tests and exams:
- Using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone.
- Looking at someone else's answers.
- Letting someone else look at your answers.
- Misrepresenting your identity.
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading.

Misrepresentation:
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes. Falsifying institutional documents or grades. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you have questions about appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information from me or other available campus resources like the College Writing Centers the Academic Success Centre, or the U of T Writing Website.
Introducing Core Concepts, and why we will study them.
Why we’re off to Sulawesi and what we’ll find there.

Anthropological theories, practices and ethics.
Read: SPLI pages 1-43; LE introduction.
Film: Advertising Missionaries
Tutorial: 1a Dealing with complex issues

What is society and how is it organized?
Read: SLPI pages 44-78; LE chapter 1.
Tutorial: 1b Dealing with complex issues

Individuals and groups: getting more specific.
Read: SLPI pages 79-115; LE chapter 2.
Tutorial: 2a Critical reading skills

Intimate relations: why do we need to know?
Read: SLPI pages 116-149 (less new reading - do consolidation, exam prep).
Tutorial: 2b Critical reading skills

Midterm exam, in class; marks on Blackboard Nov 01.
Tutorial: 3a Essay step 1) Contentious arguments and relevant sources

What is power and how does it work?
Read: SLPI 150-183; LE chapter 3
Film: Ongka's Big Moka
Tutorial: 3b Essay step 1) Contentious arguments and relevant sources

Approaching “the economy”
Read: SLPI 184-219; LE chapter 4
Tutorial: 4a Essay step 2) The essay outline

Mid term break, no class
Tutorial: 4b Essay step 2) The essay outline

All about symbols
Read: SLPI 220-256
Essays due: hand in hard copy at start of class. Late penalty starts 4pm.

Us and them
Read: SLPI 257-306
Tutorial: 5a Revisiting complex issues

Globalization: what does this mean?
Read: SLPI 306-329; read LE chapter 5, conclusion.
Tutorial: 5b Revisiting complex issues

Review class. Essays returned.