

ANTH4010 Regular Home Exam – Autumn 2023

Instructions:

- Please read the exam regulations before you start writing your exam paper.
- Use standard font and format, such as Times New Roman.
- Don't forget to include a bibliography.
- You can use **APA** or similar reference systems that relies on **citation within the text** and footnotes.
- Draw on **at least eight of the assigned course readings**. Make it clear how they help answer the question and how the readings relate to each other.

“Assigned course readings” are all readings listed on the pensum.

Note: **Dal Col et al (2017)** – the preface and the six shortcuts – **counts only as one course reading**. No matter if you cite one or five individual shortcuts, together they count as one “course reading”.

- You can use non-course readings but remember that you will be **assessed on your engagement with the course literature**.
- Avoid **very long quotes**. If you quote directly, please indicate the quoted text with quotation marks (“”) and cite the page number. For example: ‘Sherry Ortner (p. 136) describes “the mutually defining nature of culture, power, and history.”’
- **The case of self-citation & self-plagiarism:** Your answer must be written for the purpose of this exam. You may draw on reflection essays you have produced for this course, but note that plagiarism rules also apply to citing your own earlier work. If you reuse verbatim text from earlier work, this must be indicated in a footnote or with an in-text reference.

Exam questions:

Answer **one** of the four questions below: Question 1, 2, 3, or 4.

1. What is anthropological theory? How have different anthropologists conceptualized “theory” and how have they deployed it in their research and analysis? To answer these questions, choose two key themes that have oriented anthropological scholarship in the past 100+ years and analyze the different ways in which different anthropologists have “theorized” these themes in their research. Questions you may consider exploring in your analysis: Is theory an approach, a mode of explanation, something else, or a mixture of all these for the anthropological texts you have chosen to examine? What theoretical presumptions and/or analytical concepts do they, or do they not, share? What ultimately makes a theory or mode of theorization anthropological?
2. Is an anthropology of gender relations intrinsically an anthropology of power relations? Ground your response to this question in an analysis of our course readings.
3. Is anthropological theory a product of its historical context? Ground your response to this question in an analysis of the relation between theoretical shifts within the discipline and developments such as globalisation, colonialism, and perhaps decolonisation.
4. On October 26, 2023, The New York Times reported on a Danish government program that seeks to fight urban deprivation and segregation through the forced integration of certain low-income neighborhoods with majority immigrant populations. A key component of this program is the relocation of large numbers of residents with immigrant backgrounds from the neighborhoods to other neighborhoods and the conversion of public housing in these neighborhoods to private housing. You can find the full report in Inspira.

You have been asked to provide your expert opinion *as an anthropologist* on the policy. Will it help avoid further segregation and the social and political problems that segregation is thought to produce in Denmark? If yes, explain how? If no, explain why not? If the policy or parts of it are implemented, how should this be done in practice to achieve the best outcomes? If you think the policy cannot resolve the problems it sets out to resolve, what kind of policy would?

Your expert opinion should take the form of an essay that draws on our course readings. As you think through your analysis, pay attention to the ways in which the problems that the policy seeks to resolve are conceptualized. Note that you can be for or against the policy, or you can choose to take a more neutral stance offering arguments both for and against it, but irrespective of the stance you choose to argue, you should ground your argument in our course readings.