

Examiner guidelines, SOSANT 2530

About the course:

The course 'Development' provides an overview of the anthropology of development *and* development anthropology. Topics represented in the course literature include:

- The history of the development concept and anthropological critiques thereof
- Local appropriations and consequences of development projects
- Questions of power and knowledge
- Questions of indigeneity
- Participatory Rural Appraisal
- Neoliberalism and development
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- Digitalisation and its implications for development
- Climate change and development

See the course web page for details about intended learning outcomes.

Teaching comprised lectures and seminar groups. Some topics covered extensively in the lectures were the history of anthropological engagement with development and social change generally, the transition to neoliberalism and its consequences for development projects, the poststructuralist and postcolonial critiques, urbanisation and globalisation, climate and the environment. The lectures emphasised the tension between universalising ideologies and local diversity.

The lectures have generally not summarised the texts on the reading list, but has used them as a point of departure for a complex understanding of development, distinguishing between the anthropology of development and development anthropology. Students have been encouraged to find supplementary readings to cover their specific interests.

The exam conforms to the general guidelines for take-home exams. The students could choose between three questions. All questions can be answered by exclusively using texts from the syllabus, but students have been encouraged to find other sources where applicable. They should nevertheless demonstrate familiarity with the course content.

It should be noted that a substantial proportion of the students are not enrolled in the BA programme in social anthropology (many come from the BA programme in development studies), which means that deep familiarity with anthropological theory and methodology cannot be required.

In evaluating the essays, the usual criteria apply: the ability to use the sources independently in building up a convincing, consistent argument; the ability to read critically and to identify contradictions, and to integrate empirical material with theory. The general grading criteria for the BA degree apply.

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Thomas Hylland Eriksen