S Y L L A B U S

COURSE  ANTH 410 ETHICS IN ANTHROPOLOGY
(Theory)

TIME  Spring Semester 2022

PLACE  Asynchronous online course – Laulima website

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Les Sponsel, Professor Emeritus

Email:  Sponsel@hawaii.edu

Faculty Website:

https://anthropology.manoa.hawaii.edu/leslie-sponsel/

ORIENTATION

Our advanced seminar focuses on critically exploring the ramifications of this provocative assertion:

“Yet the ethics of anthropology is clearly not just about obeying a set of guidelines; it actually goes to the heart of the discipline; the premises on which its practitioners operate, its epistemology, theory and praxis. In other words, what is anthropology for? Who is it for?” (Pat Caplan, 2003, The Ethics of Anthropology: Debates and Dilemmas, p. 3).

Furthermore, these are key questions for you to consider throughout
the course:

1. Are researchers invariably exploiting the people they study, and if so, how can this be minimized?

2. Do the subjects benefit from the research in ways that they themselves consider meaningful and fair?

3. Does the researcher adequately respect the integrity of the subjects’ culture, avoid undue interference, and minimize disturbance?

4. How are anthropologists held accountable for their behavior, research, and publications?


Late in the year 2000 the scandalous controversy surrounding investigative journalist Patrick Tierney’s book Darkness in El Dorado erupted with very serious allegations of a multitude of diverse violations of professional ethics and human rights by a few of the researchers working with the Yanomami in the Venezuelan Amazon. Several of the allegations were confirmed by independent investigations, but many others were never investigated. There were positive as well as negative results from the controversy. A positive one was a very substantial elevation in the level of awareness, information, discussion, and debate about professional ethics in anthropology. This is demonstrated, for example, by the more than ten-fold increase in the number of sessions on ethics at the annual conventions of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) since Tierney’s publication. Also, during the period from 1950 to the present, more than 75% of all periodical articles on ethics in anthropology appeared since 2000.

In recent years, however, Darkness in El Dorado was superseded by another controversy involving anthropologists embedded with military troops in the U.S. wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and beyond called the Human Terrain System (HTS). Some even criticized HTS as mercenary anthropology and the weaponization of culture. (One faculty member and several former students from this Department of Anthropology at UHM
Our seminar surveys the historical development of professional ethics in cultural anthropology. One recurrent theme is the relationship of this subject with American hot and cold wars throughout the 20th century and into the present. Drawing on that and other foundational background, a second theme is the case of the Yanomami in the Amazon and *Darkness in El Dorado* as a microcosm of ethics in anthropology, our focus in the last three weeks of the semester.

We begin the course with a docudrama film about the case of anthropologist Alfred L. Kroeber at the University of California in Berkeley and Ishi, the supposed last surviving member of the Indigenous Yahi culture. It exposes ethical dilemmas and issues in the colonial context of American anthropology many of which persist to this day.

Our emphasis this semester is on problems, issues, questions, and cases involving professional ethics in basic and applied ethnographic research including in advocacy anthropology and human rights work. The course format encompasses a few self-explanatory PowerPoint lectures, documentary films, and most of all, weekly class discussions of required reading and other course material through posts on our Laulima website.

While the American Anthropological Association and other professional organizations in the discipline established general ethical guidelines, they have yet to develop any strong sanctions for serious abuses, other than public exposure and personal embarrassment. This is unlike the medical and legal professions that can revoke an individual’s license for professional practice. Thus, ultimately the ethical conduct of an anthropologist remains mostly a matter of individual morality and conscience in following formalized professional guidelines and other values. This situation is complicated by the diversity and difficulty of many ethical concerns. Still, general agreement within the profession of anthropology is apparent on many matters, especially some that are obviously just plain unethical and sometimes even immoral and/or illegal. Yet at least in recent decades the overwhelming majority of more than 11,000 anthropologists in the world have never been exposed for any serious violations of ethical conduct. Nevertheless, every individual is regularly faced with ethical dilemmas and choices in their professional and personal life, and no one is perfect.
This course will not preach about ethical and unethical conduct. However, it will further inform and sensitize you about such matters by providing numerous and diverse examples of ethical codes, cases, problems, questions, dilemmas, issues, discussions, debates, controversies, and scandals in historical perspective through intensive reading and discussion. For non-majors the course is also relevant because it provides groundwork common to many other disciplines and professions.

FORMAT

This course is primarily designed as a seminar for advanced undergraduate students and also graduate students, and most of all for majors in anthropology, especially those specializing in the cultural and/or applied subfields. Only serious students should take this course because as an advanced seminar it requires a substantial amount of faithfull regular reading and active participation in class discussion by weekly posting on the Laulima course website. Thus, this course is reading, thinking, and discussion intensive.

In this class, anyone is welcome to say anything with only three restrictions--- it is relevant, polite, and concise. This includes respecting the sensitivities of others. Although it will become obvious that I have my own perspective, ultimately there is no “party line” here. In fact, students are encouraged to disagree with me, course material, and each other whenever they wish. I learn more from individuals who disagree with me and greatly appreciate that. Ultimately, I do not really care what any student thinks; however, I do care very deeply that students think in an informed and critical manner.

OBJECTIVES

The four primary goals of this course are to:

1. provide a systematic, thorough, and in-depth survey of the development of professional ethics in American cultural anthropology and its sociopolitical contexts from its inception to the present;

2. increase information, awareness, sensitivity, and responsibility of students
regarding matters of professional ethics in anthropology and beyond;

3. familiarize students with the available resources on this indispensable subject [see the Resources on the Laulima course website]; and

4. facilitate each student in pursuing their own interests in a particular ethical case or issue in anthropology.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Students will be able to identify and discuss the main points in professional ethics in the history of American cultural, applied, and advocacy anthropology.

2. Students will be able to demonstrate the historical influence of American wars and politics in the development of professional ethics in anthropology.

3. Students will acquire information and develop skills to demonstrate improved ability to cope with ethical dilemmas and make decisions regarding appropriate ethical conduct.

4. Students will be able to demonstrate a general knowledge of the most important resources for this subject.

**GRADE**

Your final course grade will be calculated as follows:

1. your concise but substantial weekly entry in the Discussion section of our Laulima course website of your own thoughts (not summary) containing at least one full sentence about each of three key points that you identify by number from each required item of course material (lecture, reading, and/or film, depending on the week) (60%);

2. your reflective essay on the first half of the course with three pages typed single-spaced for the midterm examination due February 28 by 10 p.m. (15%); and
3. Your reflective essay on the entire course with five pages typed single-spaced for the final examination due May 14 by 10 p.m. (25%). Your final should be a revision of your midterm (only if necessary in response to the instructor’s comments), plus thoroughly consider the additional course material from the remainder of the semester.

Please see Appendix I in this syllabus for specific guidelines for the midterm and final reflective essay examinations. The specifics for grading are detailed in the Grading Rubric which is file #2 under Resources in our Laulima course website.

Beyond our Laulima Discussion, you should send any written exercises to me as email attachments with the subject clearly identified as 410. As much as possible this is a paperless course to help save trees and forests.

**EXTRA CREDIT**

Anyone can earn extra credit by writing a one-page single-spaced reaction (not summary) to a film, book chapter, PowerPoint lecture, or class discussion from any of the material covered in the syllabus or website including recommended items. Five high quality extra credit papers can improve a borderline course grade (e.g., B+ to A-). Ten such papers can elevate the course grade to the next higher level (e.g., B to A). Other alternatives for extra credit include writing a review of an extra book, or a report based on library research. Many books are listed in my article “Ethics in Anthropology” Oxford Bibliography Online, and I can recommend some items according to individual interests. Thus, in principle, with enough high quality work any student can earn an A in this course. However, ultimately, the value of the course for serious students far exceeds any grade and credits.

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

If anyone feels the need for reasonable accommodations because of a disability, then please contact the KOKUA Program in QLCSS 013 (phones 956-7511 or 956-7612), and/or send me an email marked CONFIDENTIAL. I am quite willing to collaborate with anyone and KOKUA about needs.
related to a documented disability.

**READINGS**

Every student is required to faithfully and carefully read and react to the chapters assigned in the schedule for each of these five indispensable textbooks as listed in the Schedule below. (Prices listed are from Amazon.com, but a shipping and handling fee may be added).

For UHM Bookstore see: [https://hawaii-manoa.verbacompare.com/comparison?id=88814](https://hawaii-manoa.verbacompare.com/comparison?id=88814).


Sponsel, Leslie E., 2022, *Yanomami in the Amazon: Toward a More Ethical Anthropology beyond Othering* [free, assigned chapters will be available on the Laulima course website in the Resources section following the course Schedule].

available for one day loan from Hamilton Library Circulation Desk].

Each week there is in addition one required brief reading. This is an attachment to my Sunday email memo which contains my comments on the previous week’s posts and course material. It serves as a lecture. Reading my comments is very important because they provide context, amplifications, explanations, and continuity throughout the semester.

Although this seminar focuses on cultural anthropology, especially ethnography, many basic principles also apply to other subfields and specializations. Here are a few recommended but optional resources:


[These are available through a search on the website of Hamilton Library].

SCHEDULE

Note: All items are required, unless listed as recommended which means they are optional.

Week January 9 – ORIENTATION
What are ethics? What is particular about ethics in anthropology?
What ethical issues are apparent in the film about Ishi and Kroeber?
Fluehr-Lobban - Ch. 1 Introduction
Plemmons and Barker - Preface
LeCompte and Schensul – Introduction to Book 6, pp. xvi-xviii
Whiteford and Trotter – Preface and The Complex Nature of Ethics

Films (view in order listed):

PHILO-notes - What is Ethics? (Ethics Defined, Ethics Meaning)[2018, 10 minutes]  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rr7U49RPPTs

Dianna M. Georgina - Ethics in Anthropology [2014, 8 minutes]  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ex51uXKgGU

The Last of His Tribe [1992, 90 minutes]  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IqVArigvh_Q

Recommended Reading:


Recommended Films:

*Marshall Sahlins – Anthropology* [2014, 58 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOS0jN1wb3Q

*Paige West - Foundations and Debates in Anthropology* [2016, 37 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WH-q7uvGHlo

*Ishi: The Last of His Kind – Documentary* [2020, 42 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDy_w-bWD50

Week January 16 - MORALITY AND ETHICS IN RESEARCH
What are the differences between ethics, values, morality, and law?
Fluehr-Lobban – Ch. 5 Moral and Ethical Anthropology
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 1 Introduction: Ethics, Work and Life…
LeCompte and Schensul – Ch. 1 Ethics and Ethnography
Sponsel – Ch. 6 Professional Ethics: Essential Pivotal Centrality

Film: The Ethics Centre - *What is the difference between Ethics, Morality and the Law?* [2020, 5 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xki2fRA0bY8

Recommended Reading:


Mattingly, Cheryl, and Jason Throop, “The Anthropology of Ethics and Morality,” *Annual Review of Anthropology* 47:475-492 [available in Resources section of Laulima course website]


Recommended Films:

*Talal Asad* - *Conversations with History* [2008, 57 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfAGnxKfwOg

*Michael Asch* - *The History of Anthropology and the Ethics of Doing Fieldwork* [2019, 25 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6zDZjb8bGlg

*Philip Jones* - *Anthropology, Colonialism, and the Exploration of Indigenous Australia*, Harvard University, Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology [2019, 44 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KxeX7QGIghc

*Mark Allen Peterson* - *Anthropological Ethics* [2014, 27 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-FtcmbqWUY
PHILO-notes Cultural Relativism vs, Ethnocentrism [2021, 2 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=3FDbyAKPBGs

Joel Robbins - The Problem with Moral Relativism [2019, 7 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7ptGzZZVO4

Relativism, Absolutism, and Universalism [2018, 3 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6XJTWEJ_nQ

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Week January 23 - HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ETHICS
What are the most important developments in the history of professional ethics in American anthropology?
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 2 A Short History of American Anthropological Ethics
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 3 Background and Context of Current Revisions

PowerPoint Lecture: Historical Overview of Ethics in Anthropology

Recommended Reading:


Mandler, Peter, 2013, Return from the Natives: How Margaret Mead Won WW II and Lost the Cold War, New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.


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**Week January 30 - FORMALIZATION OF ETHICS**

When, why, and how were ethics formalized in anthropology?

LeCompte and Schensul - Ch. 2 The Evolution of Formal Concerns…

LeCompte and Schensul – Ch. 3 Formal and Semiformal Responsibilities

Whiteford and Trotter – Ch. 2 Legal Codes and Ethical Guidelines

American Anthropological Association Code of Ethics, 2012

https://www.americananthro.org/ethics-and-methods

https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869

Recommended Reading:

AAA Ethics Forum  http://ethics.americananthro.org/

American Association of Biological Anthropologists, 2003

https://physanth.org/about/committees/ethics/


Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK, 2020,

https://www.theasa.org/ethics/,


Iphofen, Ron, Research Ethics in Ethnography/Anthropology, European Commission, 2020


Linguistic Society of America, 2009
Week February 6 - INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARDS
What are institutional review boards? How do they operate? Why do they exist?
Fluehr-Lobban – Ch. 6 Institutional Review Boards, Anthropology, and Ethics
Plemmons and Barker – Afterword – Ethics as Institutional Process

AAA Statement on Ethnography and Institutional Review Boards
https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=1652&RDtoken=2319&userID=6944

Recommended Reading:
UHM Office of Research Compliance
https://research.hawaii.edu/orc/programs/human-studies/institutional-review-board-irb/

Recommended Films:
The Nuremberg Trials [DVD 9866, 60 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1s00-Dlpwb4

Heart of the Matter: The Legacy of Nuremberg [VHS 16786, 50 minutes]

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Week February 13 - INFORMAL ETHICS
What is the difference between informal and formal ethics?
LeCompte and Schensul – Ch. 4 Informal Ethics: The Implications of Researchers Roles
LeCompte and Schensul – Ch. 5 Informal Ethics: Long-Term Relationships and Reasonable Responsibilities
Whiteford and Trotter – Ch. 3 Principles for Ethical Research

Recommended Films:

Armchair Academics - Ethics in Social Science Research: Three Case Studies: Outlander Ethnography 3 [2021, 22 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvLYa2s9Z9Q

Research Methods for the Social Sciences [VHS 19240, 33 minutes], or:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJQVH92QHe8

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Week February 20 - DO NO HARM
What is the meaning and significance of the ethical principle of do no harm? How is that principle related to advocacy anthropology?
Fluehr-Lobban – Ch. 2 What Does It Mean to “Do No Harm”?
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 4 Do No Harm
Whiteford and Trotter – Ch. 5 Minimizing Harm and Maximizing Justice

Sponsel – Ch. 11 Advocacy Anthropology: Moral Obligation and Social Relevance

AAA Do No Harm
https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber
Recommended Films:

*The Belmont Report* [VHS 5118, 29 minutes]

Kari Lerum – *Belmont Report* [2014, 3 minutes]
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mheEsDHXdQ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mheEsDHXdQ8)

Lectures by Robert Borofsky of Hawai`i Pacific University from his Public Anthropology website: *Ethics 1* [13 minutes], *Ethics 2* [17 minutes]
[https://www.publicanthropology.org/anthropology-videos/](https://www.publicanthropology.org/anthropology-videos/)

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**Week February 27 – TRANSPARENCY**
Why are transparency and accountability indispensable in ethical matters?
Fluehr-Lobban – Ch. 4 Transparency and Deception in Anthropological Ethics
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 5 Be Open and Honest Regarding Your Work
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 6 Make Your Results Accessible

AAA Be Open and Honest Regarding Your Work
[https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#openandhonest](https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#openandhonest)

AAA Make Your Results Accessible
[https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#accessibleresults](https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#accessibleresults)

Midterm Reflective Essay Examination due February 28 by 10 p.m.

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**Week March 6 - INFORMED CONSENT**
What is informed consent? Why is it indispensable? How is it obtained?
Fluehr-Lobban – Ch. 3 What Does It Mean to Obtain Informed Consent?
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 7 Obtain Informed Consent and Necessary Permissions
Whiteford and Trotter – Ch. 4 Respect for Persons

AAA Obtain Informed Consent and Necessary Permissions
https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#obtainconsent

Recommended Reading:

AAA Briefing Paper on Informed Consent
https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=13144&RDtoken=13233&userID=

Recommended Films:

Lectures by Robert Borofsky of Hawai`i Pacific University from his Public Anthropology website: Informants 1 [18 minutes], Informants 2 [15 minutes]
https://www.publicanthropology.org/anthropology-videos/

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Week March 13 - SPRING RECESS

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Week March 20 - OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
What are competing ethical obligations? Why are respectful professional relations a component of ethics?
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 8 Weigh Competing Ethical Obligations
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 9 Protect and Preserve Your Records
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 10 Maintain Respectful and Ethical
Professional Relationships
Plemmons and Barker - Ch. 11 What’s Different?

AAA Weigh Competing Ethical Obligations Due Collaborators and Affected Parties
https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#weighcompetingobligations

AAA Protect and Preserve Your Records
https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#protectandpreserve

AAA Maintain Respectful and Ethical Professional Relationships
https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869#respectfulrelationships

Required Film: Human Terrain [2011, 90 minutes] [link will be sent in memo]

Recommended PowerPoint Lecture:

Human Terrain System [see file in Resources section of Laulima course website]

Recommended Film:

Vanessa Gezari "The Tender Soldier" [2013, 40 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xeb4gCE_ehY

Recommended Reading:


AAA Commission on the Engagement of Anthropology with the US
Week March 27 - FUTURE I
What might be some of the most serious challenges for professional ethics in anthropology in the future? What are the most critical ethical issues relating to vulnerable populations? What about uncontacted isolated populations?

Fluehr-Lobban – Ch. 7 Framing Future Debates: Collaborative Anthropology
LeCompte and Schensul – Ch. 6 Ethical Issues in Ethnographic Teamwork and Community-Based Research
Plemmons and Barker – Ch. 12 – On Professional Diversity and the Future of Anthropology
Whiteford and Trotter – Ch. 6 Vulnerable Populations

Recommended Films:

*Xingu: 3 Brothers, 2 Worlds, 1 Mission* [search Amazon Prime]

*Shock of The Other - Millennium - David Maybury-Lewis* [Mascho-Piro, Peruvian Amazon] (2015, 57 minutes)
*https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTy5G_A097k*
The Tribe That Hides from Man [2016, 48 minutes] 
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XYbR6eYrVbQ

Why Hundreds of Uncontacted Tribes Still Exist in South America [2018, 6 minutes]  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKB6Olsn_5o

Recommended Reading:

Corry, Stephen, 2015 (July 4), “Uncontacted Tribes Don’t Need the “Protection” from Western Anthropologists,” Truthout/OpEd  
https://truthout.org/articles/uncontacted-tribes-don-t-need-the-protection-of-western-anthropologists/

Explore the website of Survival International for posts on isolated and uncontacted tribes: 
https://survivalinternational.org/artikel?page=16,  
https://survivalinternational.org/articles/3109-questions-and-answers-uncontacted-tribes,  
https://www.survivalinternational.org/uncontactedtribes

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Week April 3 - FUTURE II
What is reflectivity? What is its role in ethics?
LeCompte and Schensul – Ch. 7 Going Beyond Belmont: New Issues and Challenges
LeCompte and Schensul – Ch. 8 The Role of Reflection in Ethnographic Research
Whiteford and Trotter – Ch. 7 Anthropological Ethics Problem-Solving Guide
Whiteford and Trotter – Epilogue

Recommended Films:

Center for Global Ethnography - Doing Ethnography Remotely: Question-and-Answer Webinar [2020, 95 minutes] 
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_dgTbP0gH6Y

Sarah Pink - Futures Ethnography: practice, responsibility and ethics in


encountering the unknown [2020, 32 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RG2xTKn_WY8

Sarah Pink – Digital Ethnography [2018, 47 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ugtGbkVRFM.

Royal Anthropological Institute Research Webinar: Anthropology and/of the Future [2021, 114 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkJPkbPeJrE

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Week April 10 – YANOMAMI
Who are the people called the Yanomami? Why are they significant?
How are they a microcosm of anthropology?
Sponsel – Ch. 1 Yanomami: Realities and Stereotypes
Sponsel – Ch. 2 Yanomami Holocaust: Wrongs and Rights
Sponsel – Appendix 6 Human Nature and Nature versus Nurture

Film: Warriors of the Amazon [1996, 56 minutes][link sent in memo]

PowerPoint Lecture: Yanomami in the Amazon: Toward a More Ethical Anthropology beyond Othering

Recommended Films:

Contact: The Yanomami Indians of Brazil [VHS 4962, 28 minutes]

Curator Tour - Claudia Andujar: The Yanomami Struggle with Thyago Nogueira [2021, 7 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVbyf51Nfzs

Mark Owen - Brazil’s Yanomami People Victims of Illegal Gold Rush in Amazon Rainforest [2020, 30 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8neJdVijU6w

Yanomami: Straddling Two Worlds [2001, 18 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3WB5o6XHhKY
Yanomami: From Machetes to Mobile Phones [2012, 57 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4ZlTvRiBxk

Recommended Reading:


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Week April 17 – NAPOLEON A. CHAGNON’S RESEARCH

Who was Napoleon A. Chagnon? What were his professional achievements? How did he pursue ethnographic field research?

Sponsel – Appendix 7 Some Key Points

Films:

A Man Called Bee: Studying the Yanomamö [1974, 40 minutes][search Hamilton Library for VHS 5836 or DVD 13770], or
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWxb1PA2unE
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qBBQ8y3aE-0

The Yanomama: A Multidisciplinary Study [1971, 45 minutes] [view online streaming video via Hamilton Library]

Recommended Reading:
AAA Briefing Paper on Remuneration to Subject Populations and Individuals
https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=13141

AAA Briefing Paper on The Impact of Material Assistance to Study Population
https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=13142&RDtoken=48774&userID=

AAA Briefing Paper on Determining What Constitutes a Health Emergency and How to Respond in the Course of Anthropological Research with Human Subjects
https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=13140

AAA Briefing Paper on Consideration of the Potentially Negative Impact of the Publication of Factual Data about a Study Population on Such Population
https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=13143&RDtoken=57837&userID=


Sponsel – Chapter 4 Yanomami Aggression: Ten Problems Exposed
Sponsel – Chapter 5 Yanomami Canonical Ethnography: Critical Analysis

Survival International, 2013 (February 26), “Statement” [signed by 18 anthropologists who live and study with the Yanomami]

Recommended Film:

Chagnon, Napoleon A., 2013 (June 6), “Blood Is Their Argument,” *Edge Special Event*
http://www.edge.org/conversation/napoleon-chagnon-blood-is-their-argument.
Princeton Philosopher Harry G. Frankfurt on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart on Comedy Central [March 13, 2005, 5 minutes]

A conversation with Harry G. Frankfurt [2007, 6 minutes]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1RO93OS0Sk


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Week April 24 – SECRETS OF THE TRIBE
What is the Darkness in El Dorado controversy? What are the “Secrets of the Tribe”? What are the main ethical issues debated? What is the role of this controversy in the history of anthropology and in the development of professional ethics?

Sponsel – Ch. 7 Light in the Darkness: 20 Years Later
Sponsel – Ch. 9 Patrick Tierney’s Allegations: Many Remain Unresolved
Sponsel – Ch. 10 Secrets of the Tribe: Anthropology Public Embarrassed Again

Film: Secrets of the Tribe [2010, 98 minutes] [link sent in memo], or
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndoAGiyhLuo,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGwDjwxUAqc,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zd7SXbsn0hU

Recommended Film: Can’t Go Native
https://archive.org/details/CantGoNative2010

Recommended Reading:

AAA, Briefing Paper for Consideration of the Ethical Implications of Sexual Relationships between Anthropologists and Members of a Study Population
https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?Ite


Sponsel - Appendix 2: Author’s Background with the Yanomami and Controversy.


Recommended Films:

*Half-Life: A Parable for the Nuclear Age* [1985, 81 minutes][stream video UHM Hamilton Library]

*Yanomami Homecoming* [VHS 9860, VHS 17918, 36 minutes]

*Good, Kenneth, Dispelling Myths: Yanomamo* [2014, 28 minutes]
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zu_MZD2EIG4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zu_MZD2EIG4)

*Good, David, Yanomami Marriage and Kin: Trying to Manage My Intercultural Dilemma* [2020, 16 minutes]
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09AsNu2TRdY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09AsNu2TRdY)

*Good, David, From the Amazon to Pennsylvania: Sharing a Few Moments of Yarima's Return to the United States* [2020, 9 minutes]
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQdSuqXVyTw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQdSuqXVyTw)

*Good, David, From Amazon to Garden State* [2014, 7 minutes]
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ll0-gyJdi6U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ll0-gyJdi6U)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgldRTwN9jE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgldRTwN9jE).

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**Week May 1 – RESEARCH AND OTHERNESS**
What are the Other, Otherness, and Othering? Why are these morally and ethically problematic? 
Sponsel – Ch. 3 Yanomami Research: Past, Present, and Future
Sponsel – Ch. 13 Conclusions: The Other, Otherness, and Othering

Recommended Reading:

Sponsel – Appendix 9 Yanomami in the Brazilian Amazon 2020-2021

Pandian, Jacob, 1985, Anthropology and the Western Tradition: Toward an Authentic Anthropology, Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press.


Recommended Films:

Barbara Rose Johnston - Marshall Islands Nuclear Legacies [2017, 33 minutes] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LewmoMFh3l8

Human Zoos: America’s Forgotten History of Scientific Racism [2018, 55 minutes] https://humanzoos.org/. [Note: This appears to be propaganda for Intelligent Design or Creation Science, but still has many valid and useful historical points].

The Last Tasmanians: Extinction [VHS 425, 62 minutes]

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Final Reflective Essay Examination due May 14 by 10 p.m.

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APPENDIX I. GUIDELINES FOR ESSAY EXAMINATIONS

One or more letter grades will be subtracted from the examination grade for failure to adhere to the following guidelines.

This should be the primary focus of your final essay:

“Yet the ethics of anthropology is clearly not just about obeying a set of guidelines; it actually goes to the heart of the discipline; the premises on which its practitioners operate, its epistemology, theory and praxis. In other words, what is anthropology for? Who is it for?” (Pat Caplan, 2003, The Ethics of Anthropology: Debates and Dilemmas, p. 3).

The secondary focus should also consider these questions, as appropriate, from Glazer’s previously mentioned article:

1. Are researchers invariably exploiting the people they study, and if so, how can this be minimized?

2. Do the subjects benefit from the research in ways that they themselves consider meaningful and fair?

3. Does the researcher adequately respect the integrity of the subjects’ culture, avoid undue interference, and minimize disturbance?

4. How are anthropologists held accountable for their behavior, research, and publications?

Your midterm and final reflective essay examinations should reflect on all of the course covered up to the day due including lectures, readings, and films.

Your essay should be clear and concise, but substantial and penetrating. Go beyond generalizations to specifics including particular examples. Your midterm essay should be at least three pages typed single-
spaced, your final essay a total of five pages typed single-spaced. Your final essay should respond to my comments on your midterm essay if necessary by making appropriate revisions.

Include introductory and concluding paragraphs. Instead of quotes use paraphrases, don’t waste space. Use the spelling and grammar check on your computer to try to catch any errors in your essay, although the grade will be based solely on the quality and relevance of the content.

Ultimately your essays must be the product of your own individual scholarship and creativity. However, you are most welcome to consult with any individual as well as any print and internet resources, although covering the required readings for the course is by far the most important of all. Just be careful to properly acknowledge any source for specific information, ideas, and the like. Also, be sure to include your own insights, comments, reactions, criticisms, and questions. Your own thoughts about course material are far more important than simply summarizing it.

Be careful to cite lectures, readings, and films. In each reading citation include the author and page (e.g., author’s last name, p. 60, or pp. 65-70). Other kinds of sources can be documented as follows: (lecture Jan. 23), (film title), or (personal communication with full name and date).

It is not necessary to append a bibliography with the full citation of sources, if they are already in the course syllabus or on our Laulima course website.

The purposes of the essays are to: (1) convincingly demonstrate your familiarity with the course material; (2) present your critical analysis of it; and (3) discuss your own reactions to it. Your grade will be based on achieving this, plus satisfying the above guidelines, grading criteria, course objectives, and learning outcomes listed earlier in the syllabus.

For the grading rubric see file #2 in the Resources section of our Laulima course website.

The midterm is due February 28 by 10 p.m., and the final examination by May 17 by 10 p.m. Please send your examination as an email attachment to me with the subject identified as 410 Exam (Midterm or Final) to sponsel@hawaii.edu. One letter grade will be subtracted for each day late to
be fair to those who submit on time.