ANTH 5400 – 200
ENVIRONMENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Spring 2024

GENERAL INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Karine Narahara (she/her)
Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology
Email: karine.narahara@unt.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:00 – 4:00 pm (online) or by appointment

COURSE INTRODUCTION

While the "environment" is commonly understood to be whatever is not human, ultimately all human societies emerge from, are embedded within, and shape specific environments. "Nature" and "culture" are, in the end, a false binary. Furthermore, the environmental crisis we face in the 21st century is a human crisis – one that cannot be understood unless we analyze the socio-cultural and political-economic factors that have influenced and are influenced by, our ecological contexts. As such, anthropology (the comparative and holistic study of humanity) has a great deal to tell us about the state of our environment. Environmental anthropology involves the study of humans and their multitudinous relationships to their environments, as well as the use of anthropological methods and perspectives to provide insight, and in some cases solutions, to environmental problems. It is closely related to other environmental social sciences and humanities, such as environmental sociology, geography, and environmental philosophy, and many of the concepts overlap.

In this course, we will explore anthropological approaches to the environment and how anthropology (and social science perspectives more broadly) can shed light on, and suggest remedies for, present-day environmental realities. In addition, you will conduct a research project that will provide training in the application of environmental anthropology frameworks. Ultimately, the goal of this course is to facilitate students' training as individuals capable of addressing the complex and pressing environmental crises we face.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Townsend, *Environmental Anthropology*, 3rd ed. (Waveland Press, 2018) **(T)**
2. Haenn, Wilk, and Harnish, *The Environment in Anthropology: A Reader in Ecology, Culture, and Sustainable Living*, 2nd ed. (New York University Press, 2016) **(HWH)**
3. All other readings will be made available on Canvas **(CNV)**

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Objective	Correspondent Assignment
Identify and analyze sociocultural, discursive, and political-economic factors related to human/environment interactions	Discussions; Quizzes
Identify, use, and evaluate major theoretical perspectives within environmental anthropology	Discussions; Quizzes
Utilize these anthropological perspectives to analyze real-world environmental issues	Project; Discussions

ASSIGNMENTS

Discussions: For each module, you will take part in a discussion board (through Canvas) related to the week's readings and module. You will need to post: one substantial post responding to the prompts (for 15 possible points) and at least one thoughtful peer response (for 10 possible points) for a total of 25 possible points. I encourage you to do more than this; ideally, this would replicate a face-to-face class discussion where there is an engaging back-and-forth between students. You will be graded on the overall quality of your discussion contributions to each module. **Due: Every Sunday by 11:59 P.M. (CST) unless otherwise noted.** Check the Course Schedule on Canvas.

Quizzes: There will be four timed quizzes throughout the course, one at the conclusion of each unit worth 50 possible points each. These will be due on **Sunday by 11:59 p.m.** and will contain questions over the readings, modules, and syllabus. You may use the course modules and readings as well as your personal notes but no other outside sources or persons.

Quiz 1: 02/04/2023
Quiz 2: 03/03/2023
Quiz 3: 04/07/2023
Quiz 4: 04/28/2023

Research Project Outline: As preparation for the research project, you will submit a one-page, single-spaced outline of your proposed project, with at least three applicable and academic sources cited (note: the reference page does not count as part of the one-page length requirement); worth 50 possible points. **Due: 03/10/23 by 11:59PM (CST).**

Research Project: You will develop a scholarly, professional, and/or a creative presentation of research and anthropological analysis on a *specific* environmental problem, drawing on analytical frameworks from this course; worth 300 possible points. **Due: 05/06/23 by 11:59PM (CST).**

GRADE COMPONENTS

Discussion (14 x 25 points)	350 points
Quizzes (4 x 50 points)	200 points
Research Project Outline	50 points
Research Project	300 points
Total Possible Points	**900 points**

GRADES

You can earn up to 900 points. All grades will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

810-900 Points =90-100% = A
720-809 Points =80-89% = B
630-719 Points =70-79% = C
540-629 Points =60-69% = D
0-539 Points = 59% and less = F

COURSE POLICIES

Contacting the Professor

Dr. Narahara is available during office hours on Tuesdays from 2:00 – 4:00 pm, in person and on Zoom (check on Canvas for the link or email me). I am also available by appointment. You can contact me via email at karine.narahara@unt.edu. All emails must be submitted from your UNT e-mail address. Include the course number and section (**ANTH 3200 SECTION 100**) in the subject line along with the topic of the email. Please give me 24 hours to respond before you send a follow-up email during the week, and until Monday if you send an email on the weekend.

Extra Credit

An extra 10 points will be offered if you show evidence that you did the "SPOT" evaluation for this course. Other extra credit may be made available periodically throughout the semester. Don't forget to check on Canvas for updates on this!

Withdrawing

If you are unable to complete this course, you must officially withdraw by the University—designated date (for a "W"). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure that **you** must initiate. The Professor cannot do it for you. If you simply stop attending or stop doing the assignments and do not withdraw, you will receive a final performance grade of 0 or "F".

Due Dates: If you have a conflict with any due date or quiz date, it is your responsibility to make alternative arrangements ahead of time—not after the fact. Students may NOT take quizzes late unless there is written permission from the professor before the exam date or there has been a documented medical emergency. Allowing alternative arrangements in such instances is entirely at the discretion of the Professor.

Late Work: Unexcused submission of late assignments **will incur a 10% deduction per day**. If there is an emergency, please contact your professor ASAP; all exceptions are at the discretion of the Professor. Students may NOT take quizzes late unless there is written permission from the professor before the exam date or there has been a documented medical emergency.

Schedule Changes: The Course Schedule (including assigned readings and due dates) may be changed at the discretion of the instructor—including the potential of additional readings based on student interests this semester. Schedule changes will be properly announced. However, please be sure to also check the Syllabus and Course Schedule (found on Canvas) and your email regularly to be made aware of any changes. It is your responsibility to keep up with the current schedule.

Copyright

Some or all of the materials in this course may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Issues

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. In the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty that prevents students from completing a time-sensitive assessment activity, the Professor may extend the time windows at their discretion and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. **Students should immediately report any problems to the Professor** and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or (940) 565-2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues, but please be aware that this may take some time.

University Policy on Student Academic Integrity
([Policy and Procedures number 06.003](#))

Academic Misconduct: "Academic Misconduct," in this policy, means the intentional or unintentional action by a student to engage in behavior in the academic setting including, but not limited to: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic misconduct, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage.

A. **Cheating**: "Cheating," in this policy, means the use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to: 1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes, or other assessments; 2. use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; 3. use, without permission, of tests, notes, or other academic materials belonging to instructors, staff members, or other students of the University; 4. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor; 5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.
B. **Fabrication**: "Fabrication," in this policy, means falsifying or inventing any information, data, or research outside of a defined academic exercise.
C. **Facilitating Academic Dishonesty** (i.e. collusion): "Facilitating academic dishonesty," in this policy, means helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.
D. **Forgery**: "Forgery," in this policy, means intentionally falsifying or altering a score, grade, or official academic University record or the signature of another.
E. **Plagiarism**: "Plagiarism," in this policy, means use of another's thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student's intent, including but not limited to: 1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment or citation, or 2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.
F. **Sabotage**: "Sabotage," in this policy, means acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

Department Policy on Student Academic Integrity

The Department of Anthropology expects its students to abide by the high ethical standards of practicing professionals within the field of anthropology. The Department does not tolerate cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, or sabotage. **This includes the use of unauthorized professional writing/editing services and generative AI for assignments**. Students are expected to follow the American Anthropological Association's code of ethics: "In their capacity as researchers, anthropologists are subject to the ethical principles guiding all scientific and scholarly conduct. They must not plagiarize, nor fabricate or falsify evidence, or knowingly misrepresent information or its source" (http://ethics.americananthro.org/category/statement/).
Students are encouraged to use the UNT Writing Center. For additional resources to help with paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism and how to use citations, see the Department of Anthropology Writing Guide. For information on the University's policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Student Academic Integrity policy.

Course Policy and Procedures on Student Academic Integrity:

A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

Any student suspected of cheating in this course will receive at the very least a 0 (zero) on the assignment or up to an F in the course.

First-time student offenders who commit academic dishonesty will receive a 0 (zero) on the assignment in which academic dishonesty was found. Students suspected of multiple academic dishonesty offenses will be provided the opportunity for a hearing; a guilty finding will merit an automatic "F" in the course.

If a student is suspected of using generative IA, the burden of proof to show originally sourced material is on the student.

Students suspected of any of these will be provided the opportunity for a review; a guilty finding will merit an automatic "F" in the course. In addition, I reserve the right to pursue further disciplinary action within the UNT legal system, which may result in dismissal from the university.

A report of academic integrity violation shall be filed against the student with UNT and the student will have an opportunity to appeal the decision according to UNT's appeal process.

Important Notice for F–1 Students Taking Distance Education Course: For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to the completion of the class. An online or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no online or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experiences integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

APPENDIX 1: OTHER UNT POLICIES

ADA Policy

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to the faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member before implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:
• The work is used only once.
• The work is not used in its entirety.
• Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
• The student is not identified.
• The work is identified as student work.
If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

APPENDIX 2: ACADEMIC SUPPORT & STUDENT SERVICES

Student Support Services

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:
• Student Health and Wellness Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-andwellness-center)
• Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices)
• UNT Care Team (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
• UNT Psychiatric Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellnesscenter/services/psychiatry)
• Individual Counseling (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices/services/individual-counseling)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.
• UNT Records (https://registrar.unt.edu/transcripts-and-records/update-your-personal-information)
• UNT ID Card (https://sfs.unt.edu/idcards)
• Legal Name (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.
You can add your pronouns to your Canvas account (https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/How-do-I-select-personal-pronouns-in-my-user-account-as-a/ta-p/456) so that they follow your name.
Additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage: https://pronouns.org/what-and-why

Additional Student Support Services

• Financial Aid (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
• Student Legal Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
• Career Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
• Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices)
• UNT Food Pantry (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services

• Academic Resource Center (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
• Academic Success Center (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
• UNT Libraries (https://library.unt.edu/)
• Writing Center (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)