

**Urban Anthropology: Anthropology of Cities, City Anthropology**  
**ANTH 311**  
**Fall 2004**

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am – 11:30am or by appointment

**Course Description:**

Cultural Anthropology is the comparative study of society, culture, and human diversity. The discipline focuses on the various ways that peoples' lives are shaped by social relations, history, political economy, and cultural images such as the media. In this course we will rely on the intellectual contributions and methodological tools of anthropology to explore the "city."

**Requirements and Grading:**

Students will be required to have the completed the required readings by their assigned date and be ready to discuss them in the class session. Students should endeavor to critically engage the readings for class discussion, papers, and exams.

-- Class participation:	10%
-- Short Paper (due Oct. 7)	15%
-- Midterm Exam (due Oct. 28)	25%
-- Short Paper (due Nov. 23)	15%
-- Final Exam (due Dec. 9)	35%

**Academic Integrity Statement:**

From the UMBC Website (<http://www.umbc.edu/integrity/faculty.html>, accessed August 25, 2004:

*"By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult the UMBC Student Handbook, the Faculty Handbook, or the UMBC Policies section of the UMBC."*

**Course Materials**

Assigned articles and book chapters will be placed on reserve and can also be downloaded using the Albin O. Kuhn library electronic reserve. The following books will be available for purchase at the university bookstore, and will be on reserve at Albin O. Kuhn library.

Gmelch, George and Walter P. Zenner. 2001. *Urban Life: Readings in the Anthropology of the City*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press.

Low, Setha. 2003. *Behind the Gates: Life, Security, and the Pursuit of Happiness in Fortress America*. New York: Routledge.

Lutz, Catherine A. 2002. *Home Front: A Military City and the American Twentieth Century*. Boston: Beacon Books.

Wilson, Ara. 2004. *Intimate Economies of Bangkok: Tomboys, Tycoons, and Avon Ladies in the Global City*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Goldstein, Donna. 2003. *Laughter out of Place: Race, Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Brazilian Shantytown*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Week One

Thursday September 2, 2004

**Introduction**

Urban Anthropology vs. Anthropology of Cities

Week Two

Tuesday September 7, 2004; Thursday September 9, 2004

**Conceptualizations of Cities and City Life**

Wirth, Louis. "Urbanism as a way of life." In G&Z, pp: 65 – 82

Simmel, Georg. "Metropolis and Mental Life." On Reserve

Rotenberg, Robert. "Metropolis and Everyday Life." In G&Z, pp: 93 – 106

Week Three

Tuesday September 14, 2004; Thursday September 16, 2004

**CLASS CANCELLED**

Week Four

Tuesday September 21, 2004; Thursday September 23, 2004

**Anthropologists in Cities**

Phillip Bourgois. 1995 "Introduction" *In Search of Respect*. pp: 1 – 18. On Reserve

Bestor, Theodore C. "Networks, Neighborhoods, and Markets..." In G&Z, pp: 146 – 161

Low, Setha. 1999. "Spatializing Culture: The Social Production and Social Construction of Public Space in Costa Rica." *Theorizing the City: The New Urban Anthropology Reader*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. ON RESERVE

Week Five

Tuesday September 28, 2004; Thursday September 30, 2004

**The Security City**

Davis, Mike. 1992. "Fortress L.A." *City of Quartz*. pp: 221 – 263 On Reserve

Low, Setha. 2003. *Behind the Gates:...* Chps: 1 – 5

Week Six

Tuesday October 5, 2004; Thursday October 7, 2004

PAPER ONE DUE OCTOBER 7, 2004

**The Security City**

Low, Setha. 2003. *Behind the Gates:...* Chps: 6 – 11

Caldeira, Teresa P. R. 1996. "Fortified Enclaves..." *Public Culture* 8: 303 – 328 ON RESERVE

Week Seven

Tuesday October 12, 2004; Thursday October 14, 2004

**The Military City**

Lutz, Catherine. 2001. *Homefront* Chps: Introduction – 3 (pp: 1 – 131)

Gusterson, Hugh. 2003. "Anthropology and the Military..." *Anthropology Today*. Vol 19. No. 3. pp: 25 – 26. ON RESERVE

Week Eight

Tuesday October 19, 2004; Thursday October 21, 2004

**The Military City cont'd**

Lutz, Catherine. 2001. *Homefront* Chps: 4 – Epilogue (pp: 131 – 259)

Inoue, Masamichi. 2004. "We are Okinawans But of a Different Kind." *Current Anthropology*. V. 45. No. 1. pp: 85 – 104. ON RESERVE

Week Nine

Tuesday October 26, 2004; Thursday October 28, 2004

MIDTERM DUE OCTOBER 28, 2004

**Globalization**

Gmelch, George. "West Indian Life in Britain." In G&Z, pp: 205 – 221

Wilson, Ara. 2004. *Intimate Economies...* Chps: Introduction – 2 (pp: 1 – 101)

Brennan, Denise. "Globalization, Women's Labor..." In G&Z, pp: 357 – 371

Week Ten

Tuesday November 2, 2004; Thursday November 4, 2004

**Globalization**

Wilson, Ara. 2004. *Intimate Economies...* Chps: 3 – Conclusion (pp: 102 – 197)

Condry, Ian. "Japanese Hip-Hop and the..." In G&Z, pp: 372 – 389

Week Eleven

Tuesday November 9, 2004; Thursday November 11, 2004

**The Gendered City**

Goldstein, Donna M. 2003. *Laughter Out of Place*. Chps: Introduction – 2

Low, Setha M. 1997. "Theorizing the City: Ethnicity, Gender and Globalization." In: *Critique of Anthropology*. v. 17, no. 4, 1997. pp. 403-409. ON RESERVE

Week Twelve

Tuesday November 16, 2004; Thursday November 18, 2004

Thursday Class Cancelled

AAA Meetings, San Francisco, CA

**The Gendered City**

Goldstein, Donna M. 2003. *Laughter Out of Place*. Chps: 3 – pp. 197

Week Thirteen

Tuesday November 23, 2004

PAPER TWO DUE

**The Gendered City**

Goldstein, Donna M. 2003. *Laughter Out of Place*. Chps: pp. 197 – Chp. 7

Engle, Sally Merry. 2001. "Spatial Governmentality and the New Urban Social Order: Controlling Gender Violence through *American Anthropologist* v. 103, no. 1, 2001. pp. 16-29 ON RESERVE

Week Fourteen

Tuesday November 30, 2004; Thursday December 2, 2004

**Urban Menace**

Merry, Sally Engle. "Urban Danger:..." In G&Z, pp: 115 – 126

Bourgois, P. "Office Workers and the Crack Alternative" In G&Z, pp: 306 – 320

Week Fifteen

Tuesday December 7, 2004; Thursday December 9, 2004

**Conclusion and Review**

FINAL EXAM

READINGS TBA