



## Social and Cultural Anthropology

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen - P Social and Cultural Anthropology - 2017-2018

In de premaster Social and Cultural Anthropology worden studenten met een HBO-bachelordiploma voorbereid op deelname aan de Engelstalige Master's in Social and Cultural Anthropology. In de eerste drie vakken staat basiskennis van de antropologie centraal en oefenen studenten in het academisch schrijven in het Engels. Daarna volgt een vak over kwalitatieve onderzoeksmethoden met enige praktijkopdrachten. In de laatste twee maanden van het traject schrijven studenten een individueel academisch paper in het Engels waarin zij de verworven kennis en vaardigheden in praktijk brengen. Het aanleren van een academische werk- en denkhouding heeft tijdens het hele premasterprogramma expliciet aandacht.

[Doelstellingen en eindtermen Jaarrooster 17 - 18](#)

[Jaarrooster 18 -19](#)

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# Premasterprogramma Social and Cultural Anthropology

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
<a href="#">PM Challenges of the 21st Century</a>	Periode 4	6.0	S_PMC21C
<a href="#">PM Core Themes in Anthropology</a>	Periode 1	6.0	S_PMCTA
<a href="#">PM Ethnographic Research Methods</a>	Periode 5+6	9.0	S_PMERM
<a href="#">PM Methodology swo SCA</a>	Periode 2	6.0	S_PMMSCA
<a href="#">PM Tutorial Academic Writing SCA</a>	Periode 3	3.0	S_PMAWSCA

## PM Challenges of the 21st Century

<b>Vakcode</b>	S_PMC21C ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 4
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
<b>Coördinator</b>	prof. dr. J.T. Sunier
<b>Examinator</b>	prof. dr. J.T. Sunier
<b>Docent(en)</b>	prof. dr. J.T. Sunier
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Studiegroep, Hoorcollege

### Doel vak

The learning objectives of this course are as follows:

Knowledge and Understanding:

(1) Students obtain knowledge of and insights into how anthropological concepts can be applied in order to address, assess, and analyse contemporary societal issues (see course content). The six perennial themes in anthropology (see remarks) will be the guiding line.

Application of knowledge and understanding:

(2) Students learn how to apply these insights and how anthropologists can contribute to the explanation and possible solution of pressing societal issues.

Attitude:

(3) After having completed this course, the student demonstrates the ability to observe their own life-worlds from an anthropological perspective and learn to realize the contingencies of their own cultural routines.

### Inhoud vak

Be it the result of long-term developments, technological changes, or sudden and unprecedented events, each era is faced with societal challenges that keep politicians and the public busy. Our 21st century

is no exception. Globalization and mobility, the rapid extension of human habitats, or the destruction of habitats due to large-scale economic activity, the use of natural resources, and not least the pressing political developments in some parts the world are complex issues that pose a challenge for local, national and international governmental bodies. Behind these technical administrative challenges there is the much more fundamental question who the real victims are and who benefits from crises. The anthropological perspective on these fundamental questions learns us that there simply is no common definition of what a challenge is and that governance is a deeply political practice and thus a matter of interests. It all depends on the perspective we take in assessing urgent issues. Anthropology may be not unique in recognizing a multitude of perspectives, but it is the most outspoken discipline in this respect. Anthropology is applied science by default.

### Onderwijsvorm

Lectures and tutorials.

Please note: all courses in the premaster programme are scheduled once a week on Fridays, consisting of morning and afternoon sessions.

### Toetsvorm

Written assignments (blog) and final exam

### Literatuur

To be announced on CANVAS

### Aanbevolen voorkennis

Active participation in the preceding courses of the Premaster programm.

### Doelgroep

Premasterstudents in Social and Cultural Anthropology

### Overige informatie

Please note: This course is for Premasterstudents SCA only.

## PM Core Themes in Anthropology

<b>Vakcode</b>	S_PMCTA ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 1
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
<b>Coördinator</b>	prof. dr. J.T. Sunier
<b>Examinator</b>	dr. A.J. Salman
<b>Docent(en)</b>	dr. A.J. Salman
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Studiegroep, Hoorcollege

### Doel vak

The aim of this course is to introduce Premasterstudents in Social and Cultural Anthropology to the ways in which anthropology researches societies and communities both nearby and far away.

Learning objectives

Knowledge and Understanding. The student has acquired knowledge and understanding of:

- (1) the core subjects of anthropology;
- (2) the basic concepts in anthropology;
- (3) the main methodological approaches in anthropology;
- (4) the basic theoretical perspectives, through a tour across 6 perennial themes in anthropology.

Application. The student has acquired the competences to:

- (5) observe their own life-worlds from an anthropological perspective;
- (6) realize the contingencies of their own cultural routines.

### **Inhoud vak**

This introduction addresses the ways anthropology researches societies and communities both nearby and far away. Six transversal themes (embodying perennial themes in anthropology that will therefore return in the subsequent courses in the "Anthropology Base"-cluster) will be addressed: 1) the questions about the nature of "culture(s)"; 2) the individual and society; 3) ties that bind (on the manifold manifestations of belonging); 4) structure and agency; 5) the body; and 6) language, convictions and emic/etic categorizations. These themes are however linchpins or hubs rather than the only substance of classes. In the Introduction, also fieldwork and ethnographic methods; time and space; kinship, gender and aging; hierarchies, power and politics; economy, exchange and reciprocity; ritual; religion; ethnicity; anthropology's role in development issues; (collective) identities; and globalization, will be introduced and explained in their relation to anthropological approaches.

### **Onderwijsvorm**

Lectures, guest lectures, documentaries and other audio-visual illustrations, text analysis, class debates. Students will have access to video-recordings of classes that were given earlier in the week.

### **Toetsvorm**

- Mid-term exam, open questions (25% of final grade)
- final exam, open questions (75% of final grade)

### **Literatuur**

- Eriksen, Thomas Hylland, 2010, Small Places, Large Issues. An Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology (4th edition), London: Pluto Press (approx.. 25 euro).
- Additional literature to be announced

### **Doelgroep**

Premaster students in Social and Cultural Anthropology.

### **Overige informatie**

Please note: This is the Premaster-version of "Core Themes in Anthropology", and is open to Premaster students in Social and Cultural Anthropology only.

## **PM Ethnographic Research Methods**

<b>Vakcode</b>	S_PMERM ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 5+6
<b>Credits</b>	9.0

<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
<b>Coördinator</b>	dr. M.E.M. de Theije
<b>Examinator</b>	dr. M.E.M. de Theije
<b>Docent(en)</b>	dr. L.A. Brouwer, dr. M.E.M. de Theije
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Practicum, Hoorcollege, Deeltoets extra zaalcapaciteit

### Doel vak

This course aims to introduce premaster students to the basics of ethnography.

### Learning objectives

Knowledge and Understanding. The student has acquired knowledge and understanding of:

- (1) the idea of ethnography;
- (2) the various ethnographic research methods, and the way they can be used.

Application. The student has acquired the competences to:

- (3) recognize and differentiate between different methods of ethnographic knowledge generation.

Attitude. The student demonstrates:

- (4) sensitivity to the expression of cultural knowledge in everyday life.

### Onderwijsvorm

Lectures and tutorials.

### Toetsvorm

Written assignments and final exam.

### Literatuur

Ehn, Billy, Orvar Löfgren and Richard Wilk (2016). Exploring Everyday Life. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield.

Additional literature will be announced in the course manual (see CANVAS).

### Aanbevolen voorkennis

Active participation in the preceding courses of the Premaster programm.

### Doelgroep

Premaster students in Social and Cultural Anthropology.

### Overige informatie

Please note: This course is open to Premaster students in Social and Cultural Anthropology only.

## PM Methodology swo SCA

<b>Vakcode</b>	S_PMMSCA ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 2
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels

<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
<b>Coördinator</b>	dr. P.G.A. Versteeg
<b>Examinator</b>	dr. J.C. Muis
<b>Docent(en)</b>	dr. P.G.A. Versteeg, dr. J.C. Muis
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Studiegroep, Hoorcollege, Deeltoets extra zaalcapaciteit

### Doel vak

Students are able to describe the range of theoretical and methodological perspectives in social and cultural anthropology, their historical development, their philosophical grounding and their relevance for contemporary theory. Students also get a better understanding of the dynamics of paradigmatic change.

### Inhoud vak

(The afternoon programme of this course is the class History and Theory)

The course presents an overview of the main theoretical developments in the discipline of anthropology. Attention will be paid to the epistemological groundings of anthropological statements.

Anthropological knowledge is always a product of a certain era and a certain historical situation. Theory development might be inductive or deductive in nature depending the perspective and research of the anthropologist. Students will read seminal texts of famous anthropologists (Tylor, Mauss, Malinowski, Mead, Geertz, and others), which were often highly controversial at the time they were first published, and nowadays constitute the anthropological canon. By studying these texts in the context of their respective times, students will learn about the intentions, assumptions and styles of the authors and not least about the characteristics of the era.

### Toetsvorm

A written exam and assignments

### Literatuur

A handbook and additional literature (tba)

### Doelgroep

Premaster students

### Overige informatie

Please note: This course is open to Premaster students in Social and Cultural Anthropology only.

## PM Tutorial Academic Writing SCA

<b>Vakcode</b>	S_PMAWSCA ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 3
<b>Credits</b>	3.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
<b>Coördinator</b>	dr. M.C. de Regt
<b>Examinator</b>	dr. M.C. de Regt
<b>Docent(en)</b>	dr. M.C. de Regt
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Practicum, Hoorcollege



**Doel vak**

The aim of this course is to learn Premaster students to build a scientific argument, and help to improve their academic English.

**Inhoud vak**

The practice of academic writing will be introduced in a number of lectures. In subsequent study groups students will practice in a number of small assignments, using available video clips and (digital) academic writing guides. Peer review and discussion on these writing is core, and takes place under supervision of a qualified teacher. Students write a final review of a scientific work in their field of interest.

**Onderwijsvorm**

Lectures, study group meetings and working in peer groups.

Please note: all courses in the premaster programme are scheduled once a week on Fridays, consisting of morning and afternoon sessions.

**Toetsvorm**

Written assignments.

**Literatuur**

To be announced in the course manual (see CANVAS).

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**

Active participation in the preceding courses.

**Doelgroep**

Premaster students in Social and Cultural Anthropology.

**Overige informatie**

Please note: This course is open to Premaster students in Social and Cultural Anthropology only.