

COURSE DETAIL

CONSUMPTION, EXCHANGE, TECHNOLOGY

Country

United Kingdom - Scotland

Host Institution

University of Edinburgh

Program(s)

Scottish Universities, University of Edinburgh

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Anthropology

UCEAP Course Number

107

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

CONSUMPTION, EXCHANGE, TECHNOLOGY

UCEAP Transcript Title

CONSUMPTN/EXCH/TECH

UCEAP Quarter Units

8.00

UCEAP Semester Units

5.30

Course Description

The course discusses how goods are produced, circulated, and consumed, and how these three fundamental processes of social life and reproduction are mediated by technology. Classically, economic anthropologists focused on how such activities were organized in small-scale societies or in colonial territories; often production and exchange, with their associated technologies, were highlighted while consumption received less attention. Today the impact of globalization, the rise of the digital society, and the overflowing material abundance that characterizes life in the advanced economies and aspirations elsewhere, have led many social theorists to focus on consumption and communication as the key factors determining how people experience power, identity, connections, and conflicts. The course examines a range of case studies and theoretical essays, evaluating the strengths, weaknesses, and applicability of different approaches.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

SCAN10031

Host Institution Course Title

CONSUMPTION, EXCHANGE, TECHNOLOGY

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

Edinburgh

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Anthropology

Course Last Reviewed

[Print](#)