

COURSE DETAIL

ANTHROPOLOGY OF ETHICS AND ETHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Free University of Berlin

Program(s)

Free University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Anthropology

UCEAP Course Number

103

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

ANTHROPOLOGY OF ETHICS AND ETHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

UCEAP Transcript Title

ETHICAL ANTHRO

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This seminar course will engage with key readings and positions in the wider field of anthropology of ethics and morality as they have been shaped and discussed within and beyond anthropology. We shall be engaged in critical readings of programmatic texts and different kinds of approaches, focusing in particular on the readings of ethnographies (as articles, or key chapters). Readings will include work on the 'ethnography of moralities', and particularly approaches focusing on the workings of ethics in ordinary everyday life (e.g. Lambek, Das, Keane, Fassin), as well as the anthropology of Islam (e.g. Mahmood; Hirschkind; Marsden, Schielke), and overall conceptual approaches (e.g. Laidlaw; Faubion). We may also engage with earlier writings (to grasp the history of intellectual trajectories), and with particular writings on human sharing, suffering and persevering, trying to assess what we can gain from here. Critical readings of these approaches and their critical reception, particularly within the field of interpretive and existentialist anthropology, will guide our course discussions – which seek to address aspects of ethnographic description and critical conceptualization in a balanced manner. Thereby, we will also pursue recent questions about the integration of ethical perspectives and/or moral universes from the global South into theorizing (asking how much/ how far this may have been done); and we will consider decolonial demands for theory to work with and be built on concepts from the global South (e.g. Menon 2022). Which kind of concepts, and what kind of writers from there could enrich, enhance, or re-focus recent approaches and debates in an adequate manner? These are open questions, for critical and open-minded engagements in close readings.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

29681

Host Institution Course Title

ANTHROPOLOGY OF ETHICS AND ETHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Host Institution Campus

Free University of Berlin

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

Sozial- und Kulturanthropologie

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