COURSE DETAIL

BEING HUMAN: CONTEMPORARY THEMES IN SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Country
United Kingdom - England

Host Institution
London School of Economics

Program(s)
London School of Economics

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Anthropology

UCEAP Course Number
149

UCEAP Course Suffix
Y

UCEAP Official Title
BEING HUMAN: CONTEMPORARY THEMES IN SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

UCEAP Transcript Title
THEMES/SOCIAL ANTH

UCEAP Quarter Units
12.00

UCEAP Semester Units
8.00

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to Social Anthropology as the comparative study of human societies and cultures. Students are introduced to key themes and debates in the history of the discipline. Ethnographic case studies are drawn from work on a variety of societies, including hunter-gatherers, farmers, industrial laborers, and urban city-dwellers. Drawing on both classical and contemporary work, the course starts by posing the question: What is Social Anthropology? After exploring the ethnographic method and considering some historical background, the rest of the course is organized around core themes in the discipline, including (in the fall term) relatedness, exchange, and power. Through comparing different ethnographic examples, students consider key questions through anthropological perspectives. How do we become people and become related to others? What is love, and is it natural? Why do we think of some people as different and others as the same? Why are gifts and exchange so central to human societies? Does work empower or enslave us? What is power, and why do some people have it and others don’t?

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
AN100

Host Institution Course Title
BEING HUMAN: CONTEMPORARY THEMES IN SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar2024-2025/courseGuides/AN/2024_AN100.htm

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Anthropology
Course Last Reviewed 2024-2025

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