

# COURSE DETAIL

## ECONOMIC 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)**

Economics

**UCEAP Course Number**

138

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

ECONOMIC ANTHROPOLOGY

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

ECONOMIC ANTHRO

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

## Course Description

This course explores how the historical rise of capitalism has been inextricably tied to the production of the very idea of "the economy," and how anthropologists have persistently challenged this separation, showing instead how economic life is entangled with religion, kinship, politics, and affect. Drawing on a broad range of ethnographic and theoretical work, students explore the radical possibilities of alternative social relations offered by communities historically constituted outside capitalist economies or incorporated on their own terms, such as the so-called "original affluent societies." The course critically examines the limits and potentials of contemporary global capitalism. How did the global economy emerge? What are its political, social, and cultural consequences? Why does it produce volatility, inequality, and, at times, accumulation and spectacular abundance? Is globalization unravelling in an era of "de-coupling" and populism, and what new futures might be imagined for capitalism? The course answers these questions through key themes including production, social reproduction, circulation, consumption, and the enduring significance of colonialism, empire, industrialization, neoliberalization, financialization, digital and platform economies

### Language(s) of Instruction

English

### Host Institution Course Number

AN256

### Host Institution Course Title

ECONOMIC ANTHROPOLOGY

### Host Institution Course Details

[https://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar2025-2026/courseGuides/AN/2025\\_AN256.htm](https://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar2025-2026/courseGuides/AN/2025_AN256.htm)

### Host Institution Campus

### Host Institution Faculty

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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