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### **Anthropology of Work (ANTH 340)**

An anthropological perspective stressing an “emic” or insider view and structural constraints of class, gender, and race will be used to describe and analyze the diverse experiences of humans at work. Attention will be devoted to both the commonalities and differences that characterize work over time and space and the changes that have occurred with capitalist industrialization, colonialism, development, economic restructuring, and globalization.

Students will be responsible for careful and critical consideration of the material covered in class and in the required readings. The final grade will be the average of the grades on a mid-term examination (33%), a final (33%), and a research paper (33%). Students will be evaluated in terms of their familiarity with the material covered in the course, their creative use of course material, and their ability to express their knowledge and ideas clearly. If you have a documented disability, please let me know so that we can discuss ways I might assist you.

**Research Paper** (Bibliography is due Oct. 23. Paper is due Dec. 9) (Late papers or bibliographies will be penalized).

You are required to write a paper on one book (from the attached book list) and two related articles from scholarly journals.<sup>1</sup> The paper should be a discussion of the topic of the book and the two articles. At least two of the three sources should be by anthropologists or in anthropology journals. Your paper should demonstrate that you understand the readings and that you can identify their salient points and themes. Include in your paper a discussion of how the authors substantiate their points. You must observe conventional rules in the social sciences with regards to citations and references.<sup>2</sup> This means that you must cite sources (including page numbers) for any ideas that you take from someone else when you quote (that is, use exactly the words of the author) or paraphrase (that is, put the idea into your own words). When you proofread your paper, check for common errors (such as “it’s” instead of its, sexist language, correct use of there and their, than and then) and also that you have made it clear that an idea presented is yours and not someone else’s. It is often helpful to read your paper out loud to see how it sounds or have a friend read it.

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<sup>1</sup> A scholarly article is one that appears in a journal that has an editorial board of academics. Scholarly articles always have references or bibliographies. Articles in newspapers and popular magazines (such as *Time* or *Newsweek*) are **not** scholarly articles. You can find appropriate articles by looking in online indexes such as AnthroSource or Academic Index (check scholarly “peer reviewed” journals). You may also find appropriate articles in the bibliographies of the required readings. The articles you select should be by anthropologists or in anthropology journals.

<sup>2</sup> See the Sprague Library Home Page for suggestions as to how to write research papers, citation styles, and avoiding plagiarism. See also the Homepage of the Department of Anthropology for MSU’s Writing Center’s “Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: A Student Guide.”

**Required Reading:**

Katherine Newman, Falling from Grace: Downward Mobility in the Age of Affluence. Berkeley: University of California, 1999.

Marybeth Mills, Thai Women in the Global Labor Force: Consuming Desires, Contested Selves. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1999.

Selected readings available online or through Blackboard.

- 9/4 Introduction: Anthropology of Work: What is Anthropology? What is Work?  
& 9 F. Gamst, "Considerations of Work" in Gamst, 1995, (Blackboard)  
Newman, Preface
- 9/11 Work in Kin-Ordered Communities: Gatherer-Hunters  
& 16 Pay particular attention to the division of labor by age and gender, access to productive factors, and the dominant pattern of exchange (reciprocity).  
R. Lee, "Men, Women, and Work" from Lee, 1979, (Blackboard)  
Recommended: T. Weisner, "My Brother's Keeper: Child and Sibling Caretaking" Current Anthropology June, 1977 18(2):169 (available online through JSTOR)
- 9/18 Work in Kin-Ordered Communities (continued): Swiddeners  
& 23 Johnson. "Time Allocation in a Machiguenga Community." Ethnology 14:301-10 (1975). (available online through JSTOR)
- 9/25 Non-waged work: Tributary, Slave, and Peasant Communities  
Mills, chapters 1 & 2 (Again pay particular attention to the division of labor by age and gender and access to productive factors)
- 9/30 The Industrial Revolution and Capitalism in England and the US:  
& 10/2 Capitalists and Workers  
Janet Siskind, "Conclusion: Distancing Production," from Siskind, 2002, (Blackboard)
- 10/7 The Industrial Revolution: Women and Factory Work  
& 9 E. P. Thompson, "Time, Work-Discipline and Industrial Capitalism," Past and Present 38 (December), 1967 (available online through JSTOR).
- 10/14 Colonialism, Development, and Work (Video: "Todos Santos Cuchumatán")  
& 16 Escobar, Arturo. "Power and Invisibility: Tales of Peasants, Women, and the Environment." (Chapter 5). In Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World. Princeton: Princeton University. 1995, (Blackboard)
- 10/21 Mid-term exam (tentative)

- 10/23 Deindustrialization and Economic Restructuring in the U.S: Downward Mobility.  
 & 28 Newman, Falling from Grace, Chs. 1-3, 6
- 10/30 Globalization and Work: The New International Division of Labor  
 & 11/4 (Video: “The Global Assemblyline”)  
 Mills, Thai Women in the Global Labor Force: Consuming Desires, Contested Selves. Chapters 2-8.  
 Recommended: “Made in Thailand” (video) Available in the Multimedia Center, Sprague Library
- 11/6 Flexible Accumulation and Flexible Labor  
 & 11 Guy Standing, “Global Feminization through Flexible Labor,” World Development 27:583-602, 1999 (available online through Science Direct Journals)
- 11/13 The New Economy and Old Patterns: Occupational Segregation (Pick a country and look at the occupational distribution by gender and race)
- 11/18 Work and Family in the New Economy (video, “The Care Chain”)  
 & 20 Newman, Chapters 4 & 7  
 Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette and Ernestine Avila. 1997. “I’m here, but I’m There’: The Meanings of Latina Transnational Motherhood,” Gender and Society 11(5):548-71 (available through JSTOR).
- 12/2 The New Economy: Resistance, Accommodation, and Change  
 & 4 Work-Based Social Movements  
 Newman, Ch. 5  
 “Maquilaoplis” (available in the Multimedia Center, Sprague Library)  
 Melissa Fisher, “Negotiating Wall Street Women’s Gendered Networks in the New Economy.” In M. Fisher and G. Downed, Eds. Frontiers of Capital: Ethnographic Reflections on the New Economy. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2006, ((Blackboard) **ADD Mills**)
- 12/9 Anthropologists and Work (Using Work Anthropology)  
 & 11 M. Baba, “The Anthropology of Work in the Fortune 1000: A Critical Retrospective.” Anthropology of Work Review XVIII(4), 1997 (available online through JSTOR .  
 Newman, Ch. 8 and Afterword

**Book List** (You must check with me if you select a book that is not on this list)

- Applebaum, Herbert. Royal Blue: The Culture of Construction Workers. NY: Holt, Rinehart and Winston.
- Babb, Florence, 1989. Between Field and Cooking Pot: The Political Economy of Marketwomen in Peru. Austin: University of Texas Press..
- Barndt, Deborah, 2004. Tangled Routes: Women, Work, and Globalization on the Tomato Trail. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield.
- Benería, Lourdes, and Marta Roldán. 1987 Crossroads of Class and Gender: Industrial Homework, Subcontracting, and Household Dynamics in Mexico City. Chicago: University of Chicago.
- Benton, Lauren.1990. Invisible Factories: The Informal Economy and Industrial Development in Spain. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press.
- Blim, Michael. 1990. Made in Italy: Small-Scale Industrialization and Its Consequences. New York: Praeger Publishers.
- 2004. Equality and Economy: The Global Challenge. Walnut Creek, CA: Alta Mira Press.
- Bluestone, Barry and Bennett Harrison.1982. The Deindustrialization of America. New York: Basic Books.
- Braverman, Harry. 1974. Labor and Monopoly Capital: The Degradation of Work in the Twentieth Century. NY: Monthly Review Press.
- Brennan, Denise. 2004. What's Love To to Do with It? Transnational Desires and Sex Tourism in the Dominican Republic. Duke University Press.
- Buechler, Hans and Judith-Maria Buechler.1992. Manufacturing against the Odds: Small-Scale Producers in an Andean City. Boulder: Westview Press.
- Collins, Jane. 2003. Threads: Gender, Labor, and Power in the Global Apparel Industry. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Dalby Geisha. 1983. Geisha. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Day, Sophie. 2007. On the Game: Women and Sex Work. London: Pluto Press.
- Dunn, Elizabeth. 2004. Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor. Ithaca: Cornell University Press
- Escobar, Arturo. 1995. Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World. Princeton: Princeton University.
- Fernandez-Kelly, Maria Patricia. 1983. For We are Sold, I and My People: Women and Industry in Mexico's Frontier. Albany: State University of New York Press
- Freeman, Carla. 2000. High Tech and High Heels in the Global Economy: Women, Work, and Pink-Collar Identities in the Caribbean. Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press.
- Frobel, F., J. Heinrichs, and O. Kreye. 1981. The New International Division of Labor. London: Cambridge University Press.
- Fruendt, Henry.1998. Trade Conditions and Labor Rights: US Initiatives, Dominican and Central American Responses. Gainesville: University Press of Florida
- Gamst, Frederick. 1980. The Hoghead: An Industrial Ethnology of the locomotive Engineer. NY: Holt, Rinehart and Winston.
- Gill, Lesley. 1994. Precarious Dependencies: Gender, Class and Domestic Service in Bolivia. Columbia University Press.
- Gordon, David

Grasmuck, Sherri and Patricia Pessar. 1992. Between Two Islands: Dominican International Migration. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Gordon, David, Richard Edwards, and Michael Reich. 1982. Segmented Work, Divided Workers: The Historical Transformation of labor in the United States. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hansen, Karen. 2000. Salaula: The World of Secondhand Clothing and Zambia. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Harvey, David. 1989. The Condition of Postmodernity. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.

Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette. 2001. Doméstica: Immigrant Workers Cleaning and Caring in the Shadows of Affluence. Berkeley: University of California.

Hsiung, Ping-Chun. 1996. Living Rooms as Factories: Class, Gender, and the Satellite Factory System in Taiwan Phil: Temple University Press.

Humphrey, John. 1987. Gender and Work in the Third World: Sexual Divisions in Brazilian Industry. London: Tavistock.

Kelly, Patti. 2008. Lydia's Open Door: Inside Mexico's Most Modern Brothel. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Klein, Naomi. 1999. No Logo: Taking Aim at the Brand Bullies. NY: Picador

Kopinak, Kathryn. 1996. Desert Capitalism: Maquiladoras in North America's Western Industrial Corridor. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

Lamphere, Louise. 1993. From Working Daughters to Working Mothers. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Lamphere, Louise, Alex Stepick, and Guillermo Grenier. 1994. Newcomers in the Workplace: Immigrants and the Restructuring of the U.S. Economy. Phil.: Temple University Press.

Lamphere, Louise, Patricia Zavella, and Felipe Gonzales. 1993. Sunbelt Working Mothers: Reconciling Family and Factory. Ithaca: Cornell University.

Lee, Ching Kwan. 1998. Gender and the South China Miracle: Two Worlds of Factory Women. Berkeley: University of California

Mintz, Sidney. 1985. Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History. NY: Penguin.

Nash, June. 1979. We Eat the Mines and the Mines Eat Us. NY: Columbia University Press.

----- 1989. From Tank Town to High Tech: The Clash of Community and Industrial Cycles. Albany: SUNY Press.

Newman, Katherine. Shame in My Game: The Working Poor in the Inner City. NY: Vintage.

Ogasawara, Yuko. 1998. Office Ladies and Salaried Men: Power, Gender and Work in Japanese Companies. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Ong, Aihwa. 1987. Spirits of Resistance and Capitalist Discipline: Factory Women in Malaysia. Albany: SUNY Press.

----- 2000. Flexible Citizenship: The Cultural Logics of Transnationality. Durham: Duke University.

Orr, Julian. Talking about Machines: An Ethnography of a Modern Job. NY: Cornell University Press.

Gregory Pappas, The Magic City: Unemployment in a Working-Class Community. NY: Cornell University Press. 1989.

Parreñas, R.S. Servants of Globalization: Women, Migration, and Domestic Work. Stanford: Stanford University Press

----- Children of Global Migration: Transnational Families and Gendered Woes. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Pine, Adrienne. Working Hard and Drinking Hard: On Violence and Survival in Honduras. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Powdermaker, Hortense. Hollywood, the Dream Factory: An Anthropologist Looks at the Movie-Makers. London: Secker and Warburg.

Romero, Mary. 1992. Maid in America. NY:Routledge.

Ross, Andrew. 2003. No Collar: The Hidden Costs of the Humane Workplace. NY: Basic Books

Rudolf, Gloria. Panama's Poor. Gainesville, Fla: University Press of Florida

Sacks, Karen Brodtkin. 1988. Caring by the Hour: Women, Work and Organizing at Duke Medical Center. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

Safa, Helen. 1995. The Myth of the Male Breadwinner. Boulder: Westview

Sassen (Sassen-Koob), S. 1988. The Mobility of Labor and Capital: A Study in International Investment and Labor Flow. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Seung Kyung, Kim. 1997. Class Struggle or Family Struggle: The lives of Factory Workers in South Korea. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Siskind, Janet. 2002. Rum and Axes: The Rise of a Connecticut Merchant Family, 1795-1850. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Striffler, Steve. 2002. In the Shadows of the State and Capital: The United Fruit Company, Popular Struggle, and Agrarian Restructuring in Ecuador, 1900-1995. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Shaiken, Harley. 1990. Mexico in the Global Economy: High Technology and Work Organization in Export Industries. La Jolla: Center for US Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego.

Stephen, Lynn. 2005 Zapotec Women: Gender, Class and Ethnicity in Globalized Oaxaca Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Tiano, Susan. Patriarchy on the Line. Phil.:Temple University Press.

Traweek, Sharon. 1992 Beamtimes and Lifetimes: The World of High Energy Physicists. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Tripp, Aili Mari. 1997. Changing the Rules: The Politics of Liberalization and the Urban Informal Economy in Tanzania. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Wolf, Linda. 1993 Factory Daughters. Berkeley: University of California.

Yanagisako, Sylvia Junko. 2002. Producing Culture and Capital: Family Firms in Italy. Princeton:Princeton University Press

Zavela, Patricia. 1987. Women's Work and Chicano Families. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press.

Zolniski, Christian. 2006. Janitors, Street Vendors, and Activists: The Lives of Mexican Immigrants in Silicon Valley. Berkeley: University of California Press.