

Undergraduate Program in Anthropology

Anthropological Theories of Society and Culture

Semester III

Paper 6

Marks: 150 (Theory = 75; Internal Assessment = 25; Practical / Project = 50)

Theory

Unit I:

Emergence of Anthropology: Interface with evolutionary theory and colonialism, Changing perspectives on Evolutionism, Diffusionism and Culture area theories

Unit II:

Emergence of fieldwork tradition, Historical Particularism, American Cultural Tradition

Unit III:

Durkheim and social integration, Functionalism and Structural-functionalism and British Social Anthropology

Unit IV:

Structuralism: Claude Levi-Strauss and Edmund Leach

Unit V:

Symbolic and Interpretative approach

Practical

As a part of the practical following exercises will be undertaken by the students so as to enable them to connect the theories they learn with things of everyday living.

1. To identify a topic relating to contemporary issue and formulate research questions and clearly identify the theoretical perspectives from which they are derived.
2. Identification of variables of a study.
3. Various types of hypotheses.
4. Formulation of hypothesis.
5. Distinction between hypothesis testing and exploratory research.
6. Identification of universe and unit of study with justifications.
7. Choice of appropriate research technique and method in the context of theoretical framework.
8. Data collection and analysis

Readings

1. Applebaum H.A. (1987) *Perspectives in Cultural Anthropology*. Albany: State University of New York. [Unit I (Page: 207-254), Unit II (Page: 70-115) and Unit III (Page: 70-146)]
2. Barnard A. (2000). *History and Theory in Anthropology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University. [Unit I (Page: 1-47). Unit III (Page: 61-79) and Unit VI (Page: 139-178)]
3. McGee R.J. and Warms R.L. (1996) *Anthropological Theories: An Introductory History*. [Unit III (Page: 85-102), Unit I (Page: 221-257), Unit IV (Page: 310-344) Unit IV (Page: 480-512)]
4. Moore M. and Sanders T. (2006). *Anthropology in Theory: Issues in Epistemology*, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. [Unit I (Section 1), Unit II (Section 2), Unit V (Section 7), Unit VI (Page: 407-422) Unit VI (Section 7, 13, 14)]