# Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology

## Prof. Michele Filippo Fontefrancesco

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to introduce students to the key concepts of anthropology in order to identify its possible applications in their related professional contexts. In particular, it aims to offer an overview of the different methodologies and forms of applied anthropology, which can be used in social and educational intervention contexts oriented towards sociocultural inclusion and local development.

Specifically, the course aims to help students:

1. Know, in broad terms, the history of the discipline and the fundamental issues that anthropology has analysed and is still raising today for critical reflection.
2. Understand the terminology of anthropology and the critical approach adopted by the discipline in order to interpret the cultural constructs of our society/other societies.
3. Understand the typical methodological and intervention tools used by the discipline in contexts of social and educational intervention.
4. Understand and assimilate the humanistic orientation of anthropology, based on the opposition to any form of racism and discrimination, the recognition of the right to diversity, respect and curiosity towards the multiple lifestyles and mindsets of the peoples (as well as the symbolic worlds related to them), and the commitment to sociocultural progress.

At the end of the course, students will be able to (according to the Dublin Descriptors):

1. Know the key steps of the history of cultural anthropology, and understand its main topics and achievements.
2. Know and understand the terminology of anthropology, the research methodology used by the discipline, and its interpretive concepts.
3. Apply anthropological knowledge to the analysis of social issues, as well as those related to their professional profile.
4. Know and understand the contemporary social, cultural, and religious complexity of the Italian or the extra-Italian context.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will be characterised by a general part related to the history and the development of ethno-anthropology, from its origins to the contemporary theoretical formulations. In particular, it will analyse the topics at the basis of the discipline and the contemporary debates, especially those that are particularly relevant in current social issues. Furthermore, it will explore the crux of applied anthropology through the analysis of its historical development and case studies related to social and educational intervention contexts.

Specifically, it will study the following topics:

1. The origins and the main schools of anthropology (evolutionism, functionalism, cultural relativism, structuralism, interpretivism, critical anthropology, the topics related to the contemporary debate).
2. The key concepts and the contemporary research fields of anthropology.
3. Applied anthropology: theoretical questions, historical development, case studies.

***READING LIST***

M. Aime, *Antropologia,* Egea, Milan 2016.

Except part I and II, which are optional.

R. Malighetti, *Antropologia applicata*, Scholé, Brescia 2020.

Furthermore, different case studies will be analysed through the study of the following articles belonging to different research fields.

***Socio-cultural inclusion:***

Fontefrancesco, MF., Vozza, V. (2020). Viaggio nei gusti delle altre integrazione e antropologia del cibo a Modena. Dada, N.S. Antropologia del cibo: 97-128. Fontefrancesco, MF. (2019). Cibo e narrazioni di multiculturalità a scuola: un approccio autonarrativo alla conoscenza dell’altro. Narrare i Gruppi, 14: 11-22.

***The fight against Poverty and Loneliness:***

Fontefrancesco, MF., Boscolo, A. (2022). L’emporio sociale: un modello di capacitazione ed inclusione sociale. Narrare i Gruppi 17: 87-108.

Fontefrancesco, MF., Zocchi, DM. (2020). Commensalità e capacità individuale: un’analisi etnografica del progetto ’Tavole allegre’. Narrare i Gruppi, 15: 197-237.

***Knowledge of the territory:***

Fontefrancesco, MF. (Ed.) (2018). Etichette d’Artista. Tortona: Vicolo del Pavone.

Fontefrancesco, MF. (2016). Etichette di Comunità. In P. Grimaldi (Ed.), La storia è lunga e bella. I cinquant’anni di Eurostampa (p. 168-171). Pollenzo, Bra (Cn): Università degli Studi di Scienze Gastronomiche.

***Redevelopment:***

Fontefrancesco, MF. (2020). Apocalissi Lente. La sfida della contemporaneità del mondo rurale italiano. AND, 38: 32-37.

Fontefrancesco, M.F. (2023). Dagli spazi ai luoghi attraverso una biblioteca vivente: una nota metodologica di rigenerazione urbana. In Narrare i Gruppi, 18(2): 01-36

***Promotion of the territory:***

Fontefrancesco, M.F., Zocchi, D.M. (2023). Filiere agroalimentari corte: sfide e soluzione dell’imprenditoria artigiana italiana. Quaderni di ricerca sull’artigianato, Rivista di Economia, Cultura e Ricerca Sociale, 1/2023: 85-117.

Fontefrancesco, MF (2023). Un pezzo di castagnaccio, una manciata di castagne. Storia agraria e paesaggio montano nell’Alessandrino tra sviluppo, interruzione e possibile ripresa. Quaderno di storia contemporanea, 73: 218-234

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures with the use of support material (slides and audio-visual and iconographic documents) that will be made available on Blackboard. Also, a selection of articles (in addition to the reading list) will be made available on Blackboard. The course will include practical activities aimed at the experimentation of the research methodologies and the study of the topics presented during the course.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam. The assessment method for the definition of the final mark will take into account the following elements: knowledge of the main steps of the history of the discipline and its achievements, understanding of the fundamental issues analysed during the course and the anthropological method; proper use of the terminology and the critical tools of anthropology; students’ ability to apply the newly-acquired anthropological knowledge to their cultural and professional learning path; knowledge of the European anthropological context in all its regional and planning transformations.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

As this is an introductory course, there are no prerequisites in terms of content.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.