

Course Guide

Paper SAN5: Ethical Life & the Anthropology of the Subject 2020-2021

Part IIB, Social Anthropology Human, Social, and Political Sciences Tripos

Paper Co-ordinator: Dr Yael Navaro (yn213@cam.ac.uk)

Supervision and supervision arrangements:

Supervision for this paper is organized by College Directors of Studies. Details will be available on the 'Social Anthropology Directors of Studies' Moodle course (<https://www.vle.cam.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=135982>) see "List of Undergraduate Supervisors" and the HSPS Supervision Workload Handout, <https://www.vle.cam.ac.uk/mod/resource/view.php?id=7697491>.

Directors of Studies must approach supervisors to arrange supervision for their students. If Directors of Studies encounter problems, they are encouraged to contact the Paper Co-ordinator (whose name and email address are listed above) at the very earliest opportunity.

The Department recommends that undergraduates receive supervisions for both core papers (SAN5 and SAN6) and any optional paper (SAN8, SAN9 and SAN13). Directors of Studies may take different views on the appropriate number of supervisions for students, especially to make adjustments in the light of individual students' needs. The Department considers that a normal supervision load might be configured as either (a) one supervision each week in Full Term to cover the papers, or (b) six supervisions in the course of the year for each paper, plus one or more additional supervisions for revision.

Syllabus for SAN5:

The anthropological study of ethics, belief, and the emotions/affect. This paper introduces students to advanced work in anthropology, cross-cultural ethnography, and social theory, including areas of shared interest and/or controversy between anthropology, theology, psychology and moral philosophy/

Mode of assessment:

One three hour written examination at the end of the year. Three questions to be answered from an undivided paper.

Intended for students reading: Part IIB Social Anthropology.

Paper description:

The cross-cultural study of knowing, feeling and reasoning. The scope of this paper includes: anthropological perspectives on ethics and the place of ideas of the moral in anthropological theory; the anthropology of emotions, subjectivity, and affect; the concept of belief in cross-cultural analysis; the anthropology of a world religion; cultural constructions of the body and care, and concepts of the person.

Definitions:

Syllabus: the range of topics covered by the paper and on which students will be examined.

Paper description: a brief guide to the rationale behind the paper.

Paper: a set of subjects offered for examination.

Course: a programme of work directed towards a particular paper. Note that the term is used in various ways, from the teaching and learning undertaken for an entire degree ('degree course') to individual lecture and seminar series ('lecture course'). In the latter sense, papers at Cambridge are ordinarily taught through several lecture courses, as well as through supervision and personal reading. Supervision work and reading are important. The lectures detailed here will address topics that fall within the scope of the paper, but are not intended to be exhaustive. They may also include materials of more general interest.

Lecture courses for this paper are as follows:**Michaelmas Term**

'The Anthropology of Ethics': Prof J. Laidlaw (8 lectures)

'Anthropology of the Emotions, Subjectivity and Affect': Dr Y. Navaro (8 lectures)

'Personhood, Cognition and Ethics' : Dr P. McKearney (4 lectures)

Lent Term

'Anthropology of Values': Prof J. Robbins (5 lectures)

'Anthropology of Buddhism': Dr H. Diemberger (4 lectures)

'Anthropology of subjectivity': Dr Marta Magalhaes (4 lectures)

Please check the Social Anthropology website for updated information on dates, times and locations of all lectures and seminars

<http://www.socanth.cam.ac.uk/current-students/timetables>)

Background reading

Asad, T Formations of the Secular (2003) Stanford.

Biehl, J, B Good, and A Kleinman, eds. Subjectivity: Ethnographic Investigations (2007), California.

Bornstein, E Disquieting Gifts (2012) Stanford.

Carrithers, M et al The Category of the Person (1985), Cambridge.

Durkheim, E Professional Ethics and Civil Morals. 2nd ed. (1992), Routledge.

Fassin, D A Companion to Moral Anthropology (2012) Wiley-Blackwell.

Foucault, M Essential Works of Michel Foucault. Vol. 1. Ethics (1997), Penguin.

Foucault, M The Archaeology of Knowledge and the Discourse on Language (1972), New York: Pantheon Books.

Howell, S The Ethnography of Moralities (1997), Routledge.

Kleinman, A and B Good, eds. Culture and depression: Studies in the Anthropology and Cross-Cultural Psychiatry of Affect and Disorder (185), California.

Kleinman, A, V Das, and M M Lock, eds. Social Suffering (1997). Berkeley: University of California Press.

Lutz, C A Unnatural Emotions: Everyday Sentiments on a Micronesian Atoll & Their Challenge to Western Theory (1988), Chicago

MacIntyre, A Three Rival Versions of Moral Enquiry (1990), Duckworth.

Parry, J & M Bloch Money and the Morality of Exchange (1989), Cambridge.

Taylor, C Sources of the Self (1989), Cambridge.