

Nordic PhD/ Research Course in Social Anthropology: From Text to Field and Field to Text

September 11th-13th 2013. Trondheim, Norway

Course Objectives:

This course aims to bring together PhD candidates from Nordic and other institutions for three days of intensive lectures and discussions on different aspects of the ethnographic research cycle.

The course seeks to highlight the centrality of the construction and articulation of theoretical problems and ethnographic data in anthropological research. Thus, the course will cover the linkages from definition of the problem and pre-fieldwork preparation, to fieldwork strategies and dilemmas, to analysing data and preparation of the finished text.

Participants will be expected to submit a draft of their proposed research by August 1st to allow proposals to be pre-circulated to and read by participants prior to the workshop. Participants will also be given the opportunity to present their proposals at the workshop.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion, students would have acquired:

1. An understanding of the dynamics between theory, fieldwork practice and writing up of results.
2. Skills for the construction of a conceptual research problem relating it both to an empirical field situation as well as with pre-existing theoretical debates
3. Awareness of potential ethical issues.
4. Hands on experience in writing up an ethnographically based research piece.
5. First-hand experience in presenting their own research to a professional audience. Including the making and reception of peer critique.

There is no course fee, however participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. Vacancies are limited, so early registration is highly recommended.

Evaluation: Essay. Submission of essay is required to obtain credits. The essay must fall within one of the following categories: a) A discussion and critical appraisal of the course literature, b) an application of the course contents to the participants own research. The essay should not exceed 8000 words (excluding bibliography and notes). Deadline for submission of essay: November 10th. The course is equivalent to 10 ECTS.

Registration: Send email to sosant@svt.ntnu.no stating institutional affiliation by June 20th 2013, followed by draft of proposed research by August 1st 2013. Participants should be enrolled in a doctoral programme or equivalent to participate.

Person responsible for the course: Lorenzo Cañas Bottos (NTNU)

Guest Lecturers

Kjersti Larsen (Museum of Cultural History, Oslo)

Don Kalb (Central European University, Budapest)

Victor de Munck (SUNY, New Paltz)