Welcome to the UGA Spring Semester Study Abroad
Field Studies in Natural Resources: Sustaining Human Societies and the Natural Environment
ANTH 4271/6271 (3 credits)

This is a sample syllabus intended as a general guide only and deviations may be necessary (a final syllabus will be included in the course-book or available by contacting the office)

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Course Description
This course focuses on interconnections between human culture, biology, and the environment in long-term historical and evolutionary perspectives, including how and why contemporary human cultures vary. The program mega-course links perspectives of ecology, human geography, anthropology, political science, and international affairs to the study of the relationships between humans and their natural environments, especially as they influence conservation of natural resources and using cases in the South Pacific. Anthropology, as the discipline that straddles the sciences and humanities, and with its evolutionary history, is an excellent interdisciplinary perspective in which to do this, and in which also to address human-environment interactions more generally. Thus, we will spend time in this course considering how what anthropologists know and how they know it may link to and enhance the other disciplinary knowledge.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes
In order to evaluate the complex relationships between human culture and the natural environment and to address the “big questions” facing sustainability, you will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the related social and cultural contexts of Hawai‘i, Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji as presented in readings, seminars, lectures, and field activities.
2. Apply this knowledge to understand the complexity of the social dimensions of sustainable development in Hawai‘i, Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji and to international and global issues generally.
3. Engage in creative individual- and peer-based experiential learning to design integrated solutions to the major challenges facing sustainable development through recall, translation, deconstruction and reflection of the knowledge acquired.

4. Critically evaluate the human dimensions of sustainable development through personal experiences, peer-group evaluations, and applied research projects; in particular, to be able to
   a. Judge the strengths and weaknesses of solutions to problems arising from human-environment interactions using evidence from applied case studies;
   b. Evaluate ethical implications of conservation and sustainability;
   c. Defend your perspectives in written and oral presentations.

5. Conduct yourself in a manner consistent with Discover Abroad’s Professional, Academic, and Ethical Code of Conduct (refer to the Program Manual for a description and course-related implications).

Course Credit
Credit is offered for 3 semester hours at the undergraduate level (4271) or graduate level (6271) in:

   ANTH  Anthropology

Graduate and Honors Option Credit
Students who wish to take this course for honors credit will be required to register for the graduate version of the course. To do so, simply request this course upon applying to the program, and the CRN will be given to you when it comes time to register. Remember that there are additional requirements for graduate credit. See "Additional Course Assignment for Graduate Credit and Honors Option" below. Questions about graduate course credit and how it works with your honors program of study may be directed to the Honors Program (honors@uga.edu), Tel: 706-542-6938.

Prerequisites
All students in good academic standing are eligible to take the course. There are no academic prerequisites, however, some activities will require a level of physical exertion and may span a broad climatic gradient requiring certain gear (refer to the Program Manual).

Attendance
Punctual attendance at all scheduled program–related activities is required, including group meetings, discussions, field excursions, as well as lectures and any other scheduled activities. Participation in educational field activities (such as hiking, snorkeling, swimming, etc.) is voluntary and at the discretion of the student; however, should you wish not to participate you must inform the instructor and an alternate education non-field activity will be assigned. An excused absence or decision not to participate in one or any of these field activities will not affect your course grade. During the field studies, no student may leave the group without the consent of the faculty supervisor. Unless an absence is approved by one of the instructors, students will lose 10% of their final grade for each day or part-day they fail to participate. Unexcused absences or chronic late arrival to
program activities may be grounds for dismissal from the program (refer to the *Program Manual* for further details).

**Late and Missed Assignments**

Because of the nature of this course and the tight schedule, assignments are not accepted late without prior approval from the instructor.

**Academic Honesty**

All academic work must meet the standards contained in the University's Culture of Honesty policy ([www.uga.edu/honesty](http://www.uga.edu/honesty)). All students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The penalties for academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) award of a failing grade for the course, suspension, notification placed on the student's transcript of their having been found guilty of cheating, and expulsion from the university, and ignorance is not an acceptable defense. Academic dishonesty will be reported to the University Academic Policy Panel.

**Special Accommodations**

Any student(s) who require special accommodation(s) or other requirements in this course must contact the instructor before or at the UGA on-campus orientation and register with UGA Disability Resource Center ([www.drc.uga.edu](http://www.drc.uga.edu)). Some activities include moderate exercise, such as hiking and snorkeling.

**Course-book**


2. Collection of readings and course material. Download from UGA e-Learning Commons ([www.elc.uga.edu](http://www.elc.uga.edu)) prior to departure. The files will be available approximately four weeks prior to the start of the program and you should not expect to be able to download the materials easily or cheaply once in country.

You are required to bring a laptop or notebook with Microsoft Word (ipads, kindles, or other similar electronic reading devices are not acceptable for course assignments) and a flash drive. The program accepts no responsibility for lost or stolen items and we recommend that you consider purchasing insurance for any expensive personal items before bringing them on the course.

**Optional Reading**

For pre-departure (optional) reading, we recommend:


**Course Requirements**

*Interactive notebook (20%)*

This will be on online google slides folder that you will download and then share your individual copy back with me so that we can interact on some assignments throughout your travels. More details to come.

*Field modules (60%)*

The field modules are location-based questions to be answered as individually written 250-word essays, group debates, site quizzes, and/or research projects. Due dates as listed on the Course Itinerary. This course requirement meets the following learning outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4.

*Final exam - concepts quiz (20%)*

Due date as listed on the Course Itinerary. This course requirement meets the following learning outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4.

**Additional Assignment for Graduate or Honors Option Credit**

Graduate credit for the course requires both of the following: (1) the quality of the presentations, written exam material, and project assignments will be of a higher quality than at the undergraduate level. Accordingly, written material and project assignments will receive more rigorous grading than at the undergraduate level. (2) a paper analyzing the complexity of the human dimensions of sustainability. Any perspective on this topic is allowable, but it is advisable to discuss with instructor in advance. Specifications are on eLC. Email the Word file (titled, “*your last and first name ANTH paper*”) to the instructor within four (4) weeks after the end of the program in-country.

**Grade Assessment**
Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- **A** 93 – 100 percent
- **A-** 89.5 – 92.9 percent
- **B+** 87 – 89.4 percent
- **B** 83 – 86.9 percent
- **B-** 79.5 – 82.9 percent
- **C+** 77 – 79.4 percent
- **C** 73 – 76.9 percent
- **C-** 69.5 – 72.9 percent
- **D** 59.5 - 69.4 percent
- **F** below 59.4 percent

**Course Itinerary**

Refer to the sample itineraries available online. Final itineraries will be distributed on arrival in-country or contact the office for the most recent version.