



## COURSE DATA

### DATA SUBJECT

**Code:** 34422

**Name:** Introduction to social anthropology

**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies

**ECTS Credits:** 6

**Academic year:** 2026-27

### STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1310 - Degree in Sociology	Facultat de Ciències Socials	1	First quarter
1925 - Double Degree Prog. Sociology-Political and Public Administration Sciences	Facultat de Dret	1	
1931 - Double Degree Program in Sociology-Political Sciences and Public Administr.	Facultat de Dret	2	First quarter

### SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1310 - Degree in Sociology	Anthropology	BASIC
1925 - Double Degree Prog. Sociology-Political and Public Administration Sciences	Year 1 optional subjects	COMPULSORY
1931 - Double Degree Program in Sociology-Political Sciences and Public Administr.	Asignaturas obligatorias de segundo curso	COMPULSORY

### COORDINATION

ALBERT RODRIGO MARIA JOSE

## SUMMARY

It is a basic subject of the Social Sciences branch, complementary to others. It continues with the subject *Social Anthropology of Contemporary Societies* (third academic year), included in the same module.

The subject introduces students to the anthropological discipline whose specificity stems from the study of non-Western societies once considered as primitive. This origin brings determinative epistemological and methodological consequences regarding both the approach to modern societies and its object of study (the diversity of human societies and cultures).

This specificity is what makes the subject basic for all the subjects of the module.

## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE



## RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Relationship with other subjects of the same degree

No enrolment restrictions have been specified.

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

### 1310 - Degree in Sociology

Analyse empirical data on social structure, change and problems.

Analyse social phenomena adopting a multidisciplinary perspective (sociological, psychosocial, economic, political, historical and anthropological).

Apply the quantitative and qualitative techniques of sociological data collection.

Conduct qualitative sociological analyses.

Develop gender perspective and integrate it into the study of social reality.

Gather and interpret relevant data on social reality from an anthropological perspective.

Know and use secondary data sources useful for sociology.

Learn independently and develop initiative in the field of sociology.

Manage documentary sources and statistics referring to social reality.

Relate and integrate information on social phenomena from primary and/or secondary sources.

Respect and promote the principles of fundamental rights, gender equality, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, democratic values and sustainability.

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.

Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.

Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of



autonomy.

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.

Understand the cultural diversity of societies.

Understand the political-economic organisation and the historical evolution of contemporary societies at the global and local level, and their relationship with social dynamics and processes.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. WHAT IS SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY?

Social anthropology: origin and concept. Nature, culture and society. Anthropological perspective: holism, comparison and ethnography.

### 2. ETHNOGRAPHY AS FIELD WORK

Theory and practice of the ethnographic field work. Tools of ethnographical search. Interpretation, description and analysis. Emic and etic.

### 3. BELIEFS AND VALUES

Beliefs and values: the social construction of reality. Signs and symbols. Order and disorder. Myths and rituals. Sacred and profane. Magic, science and religion.

### 4. KINSHIP AND FAMILY

The nature of kinship. Kinship, filiation and alliance. Domestic unit, family and marriage. Kinship in societies that are not kinship-based.

### 5. POWER AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

Power, constraint and consensus; legitimacy and authority. Political organization: centralized and de-centralized systems. The anthropological analysis of political performance. Power and inequality: gender, age, ethnicity, class and caste.



## 6. ECONOMICAL ORGANIZATION

Anthropologists and economy. Types of organization and productive organization. Reciprocity, redistribution and exchange. From subsistence societies to consumer societies. Globalization, capitalism and commodification.

### WORKLOAD

#### PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60,00</b>

#### NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	5,00
Individual or group project	18,00
Independent study and work	28,00
Preparation of lessons	25,00
Preparation for assessment activities	10,00
Resolution of case studies	4,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>90,00</b>

### TEACHING METHODOLOGY

- a. Lectures for each of the topics included in the programme. These will focus on explanation of concepts, dimensions, analytical interdependence and key empirical data which students must learn to use.
- b. Reading of texts (seminar of ethnographic readings) in class in order to add new concepts to each topic covered in class.
- c. Team discussion and analysis from audiovisual materials or brief texts (press releases, opinion articles, etc.) whose aim is to consolidate the knowledge and raise new doubts about the contents of the subject.
- d. Carrying out of a field work (participative observation) outside the class. Specific guidelines will be explained in class. This assignment will be supervised, monitored and oriented by the teacher regarding both the contents and the techniques used.
- e. Attendance and active participation in the conferences (complementary activities) that take place throughout the year.

### EVALUATION



There is no difference between first and second call.

- Written proof of open response to prove the capacity for written expression, the organization of ideas, the capacity for application, analysis and creativity. Weighting between 0.0 and 60.0
- Evaluation of conceptual maps to favour the construction of knowledge. Weighting between 0.0 and 9.0. It will be specified the percentage of the material that will be recoverable and the one that will not be recoverable.
- Evaluation of registration tools elaborated by students on complex learnings and basic, general and specific competences. Weighting between 0.0 and 19.0
- Assessment of practical situations in which students show the acquisition of skills in relation to problem solving, collaborative work and analytical skills. THIS CONTINUOUS ACTIVITY IS NOT RECOVERABLE. Weighting between 0.0 and 12.0

At the beginning of the classes, the teaching staff will specify the percentage of each of the practices to be carried out. Bear in mind that in order to pass the subject it is necessary to pass the theoretical part (equivalent to 60%) and the practical part (equivalent to 40%) in order to be able to obtain the average.

## REFERENCES

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- Gledhill, John (1999): El poder y sus disfraces, Barcelona, Bellaterra.
- Gómez Crespo, Paloma (1993): Comprar y vender, Madrid, Eudema.



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- Llobera, Josep Ramón (comp.) (1975): La antropología como ciencia, Barcelona, Anagrama.
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- Pujadas, Joan Josep (coord.); Comas dArgemir, Dolores; Roca, Jordi (2004): Etnografía, Barcelona, Edicions de la UOC.
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