This leaflet should be read in conjunction with the General Guide to Anthropology at Rhodes (white) and the Anthropology 1 Year Guide (green) that you should have received at Registration and are available on the Anthropology website: http://www.ru.ac.za/anthropology. This leaflet contains all you need to know about the Cape Nguni Case Study module. Additional information and readings will be placed on RUConnected. The password will be given in class in the first week of term 4.

In this module, we will return to kinship, religion, politics and economics, four key aspects of human social life, and the focus areas of anthropological study that you studied last term. This time these core social institutions will be considered in terms of how they relate to an ethnographic context, that of the ‘Cape Nguni’ or isiXhosa-speaking people living along the southeastern coast of South Africa, aka the former ‘Bantustan’, Transkei.

Drawing on classic ethnographic texts, seminal and contemporary anthropological, historical and other social scientific work, and my PhD research, we will consider traditional forms of these institutions, as well as some of the impacts of colonialism and apartheid, and challenges of post-democracy. We will take note of critiques of some of the concepts that have been applied to the anthropological study of African cultures, and other pertinent debates.

You are encouraged to think about the material covered in this module in relation to the institutions you studied in the second term with Shabnam.

The lectures will begin by providing an historical background to the region of the former-Transkei homeland and its people, and then spend some time expanding on kinship studies, both classical and contemporary, and looking at those aspects that are relevant to the Cape Nguni cultural context. Thereafter, religious, economic and political aspects will be looked at, with an emphasis on factors emanating from colonialism and especially apartheid that shaped the history of the former Transkei, and some of their repercussions in the present.

**Lectures**
We will have lectures in the Chemistry Major lecture theatre on Mondays (10:30 – 11:15), Tuesdays (11:25 – 12:10), Thursdays (08:40 - 09h25) and Fridays (09:35 - 10:20).

**Tutorials**
You are required to submit THREE tutorials. During weeks 2, 3 & 5 tuts will address specific topics (see below). You are required to respond to all three tutorial questions in under 750 words. Written concept documents should be brought to tuts for discussion, and submissions are due the following week. These are to be submitted through the Turnitin link on RUConnected. They will be assessed by your tutor and marks will contribute to your semester mark. Week 5 tut will involve discussion of your term essay.
The tut during the last week of term will be a revision tut in preparation for the final exam. There will be no tuts in weeks 1 & 4

**Essay**
You are required to write ONE essay. Submit your essay on the Turnitin link. You should submit a hard copy of your essay including a signed Plagiarism Declaration (Cover Sheet) to your tutor during your tut in Week 6 (Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 October). Essays should be not more than 1500 words, and essay questions are detailed below on p 5.

**Readings**
The required books have been placed on short loan in the library and links to journal articles, online resources and my work can be accessed via RU connected.

**Assessment**
To successfully complete this module you need to:
1) Attend all lectures and tutorials. Failure to attend a minimum of 90% of tutorials and lectures may result in the loss of your DP.
2) Hand in all written work on time. Failure to do so may result in the loss of your DP.

Term 4 course work will count 30% of your final semester mark.
Your exam will count 20% of your final semester mark.

**Evaluation**
You will have a chance to evaluate this module in the last week of term.

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### Week 1: (2 – 6) September

No tutorials this week.

**Lecture 1: Introduction to the module & roadmap**


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### Week 2: (9 – 13 September)

**Tutorial Topic 1:**
Why can the term ‘tribe’ be considered a social construction?


In addition, please write a reflective piece (2 pages long) addressing the following:
- Reading and writing abilities/ skills that you started the year with
- How do you feel this has changed through the year
• Comments made by tutors on your work throughout the year (you may name the tutor/s as there have been changes during the year) - what has been helpful vs not
• What feedback was easy/ difficult to work with and why
• What do you feel that you need to work on moving forward
• Do you feel that the department has assisted you with reading and writing in an academic space – explain.

Bring both your concept document and reflective piece to your tutorial.


DVD: The human family tree (Cohen 2009).

Week 3: (16 – 20 September)

Tutorial Topic 2:
Why is kinship a social construction?

Pecha Kucha presentation
Break into pairs or groups of 3 to begin preparing a Pecha Kucha presentation to be delivered during your tut in week 6. You must address the following question:

How does Cape Nguni ethnography contribute to an understanding of the four social institutions studied by anthropologists?

There are no tutorials in Week 4, so please submit tut 2 in the department foyer on Wednesday 25th of September.


Lecture 9: Ancestor religion as a model of and for social reality (Kuckertz 1990:227-269).


Week 4: (23 – 27 September)
No tutorials this week.
Lecture 10: Ancestor religion as living archive (Hayward 2014a).


DVD: To Become a Man (Edmunds 2000).

**Week 5: (30 – 4 October)**

Tutorials:
Essay discussion.


**Week 6: (7 – 11 October)**

Tutorial: Pecha Kucha Presentation:
How does Cape Nguni ethnography contribute to an understanding of the four social institutions studied by anthropologists? (Work in pairs or groups of 3).


Lecture 17: The homestead as unit of production (Guy 2010).


**Week 7: (14 – 18 October)**

Tutorials: Revision for exams.

Lecture 18: Concluding remarks

Lecture 19: Module wrap-up & what to expect in the exam

Lecture 20: Revision
TERM ESSAY (Submit to your tutor during your final tut in Week 6)

Choose ONE of the topics below and write a 1500 word essay, consulting and referencing ALL the essay readings for each topic. You are encouraged to use any other readings from the module bibliography provided you demonstrate their relevance to your argument. You should ONLY refer to these texts in your essay, and not look for other texts on the internet, as these might not be appropriate.

Essay Topic 1:
A number of scholars have reviewed the use of terms such as ‘clan’ and ‘tribe’ by anthropologists working in Africa. Assess some of the problems they have raised and offer your own perspective on the matter.


Essay Topic 2:
Discuss some contemporary beliefs about and criticisms of the payment of brideprice (lobola). Assess these positions, making a strong case for your own perspective.


Essay Topic 3:
Schneider criticised the concept of kinship and suggested that it should be abandoned, whereas Carsten argued that it had value to the extent that it expressed “the relatedness that people act and feel”. Assess the relevance of Carsten's ideas to Cape Nguni clans descended from non-African forebears.


Essay Topic 4:
McAllister distinguished between ‘ancestor rituals’ and ‘beer drinks’. Discuss the differences between these two types of ritual practice and what he characterised as their “very different relationships to social practice”.


Essay Topic 5:
Trace the changing role of Cape Nguni traditional leaders over pre-, during, and post-apartheid eras, and then comment on whether or not you foresee a role for them in the future.

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