

Examiner guidelines for ANTH4720

The exam consists of four short texts (around 500 words), which the students selected from the range of short texts that they submitted during the course, and on which they received some written or oral feedback.

Two of the texts are brief engagements with one of the anthropological authors that were read on the course; the text can have the character of a critical summary, or a more personal reflection on the authors texts, but it should be of a more "academic" genre, providing essential information about the author, the text and its specific form and purpose, and show that the student has engaged with the author in question, and understood its original contribution to the development of ethnographic form.

By contrast, the other two texts are completely free 'creative ethnographic writing' exercises. The two tasks the students responded to with their texts were: (1) to write about an image/photograph from fieldwork or related to fieldwork (since most had not done fieldwork); and (2) to use their own Covid-19 experience as an ethnographic situation to engage with through a short creative text.

Grading Criteria:

A:

Engagement with literature: Clearly and succinctly summarises the chosen text(s), and provides a clearly structured and well written critical argument regarding the author and her/his approach to ethnographic form, including its limitations and possibilities, and relations to other, comparable or contrasting authors, and it possibly voices well-sustained personal critical views of the text.

Creative text: Thoroughly crafted, original text that conveys ethnographic modes of observation and reflection, and sustains a chosen form systematically, and manages to capture the reader's attention and imagination.

B:

Engagement with literature: clearly summarises essential traits of the chosen texts and provides a structured critical argument regarding the author's approach to ethnographic form, highlighting limitations and possibilities or, possibly relations to other authors on the reading list.

Creative text: Original text that conveys ethnographic modes of observation and reflection, and shows signs of concerted effort, succeeding to sustain the chosen form somewhat systematically.

C:

Engagement with literature: provides a summary of the chosen texts and describes the chosen author's approach to ethnographic form and attempts to explain what it can do for anthropological writing .

Creative text: Original text that conveys ethnographic modes of observation and reflection, showing effort, but without succeeding to sustain the chosen form systematically, or produce a rounded impression.

D:

Engagement with literature: summarises some essential traits of the chosen texts and some understanding of the ethnographic form that the author has chosen.

Creative text: attempts to experiment with language and form to convey ethnographic observation, without pursuing an original and systematically sustained format.

E:

Engagement with literature: summarises some aspects of the chosen texts and attempts to describe its ethnographic form, without full grasp of the authors style intention or potential.

Creative text: shows little attempt to create an original text and fails to produce a coherent and complete piece of writing.

F:

Engagement with literature: does not show any understanding of the chosen author's texts, or their ethnographic form.

Creative text: made no effort at creating an original ethnographic text or experimenting with ethnographic style and form.