

SA1603 - Anthropology and Contemporary Debates (2018-2019)

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152 items

You should read the following sources in support of the lectures in the first four weeks.

Lecture 1: What 'contemporary debates'? What relation can anthropology have to these debates? What is theory? (5 items)

In this lecture we will outline the scope of the 'contemporary debates' we will be looking into during the module. We will be discussing the connected crises of the biosphere and politics in relation to changing lifestyles and grassroots politics in the West and elsewhere. We will deal with this in the lecture, and a period of discussion to follow, which will focus on the sources above and how we might approach them as anthropologists.

Geology of mankind - in Nature, by Paul J. Crutzen, 2002-1

[Article](#) | Essential reading

We're back to the 1930s politics of anger and, yes, appeasement | Larry Elliott | Opinion | The Guardian, 2018-12-31

[Webpage](#) | Essential reading

Migration: how many people are on the move around the world?, by Hill, Amelia, 2018, 2019-01-08

[Newspaper](#) | Essential reading

Understanding the Global Rise of Populism, by IDEAS, LSE, 2018, 2018-12-31

[Document](#) | Essential reading

World Report: The Dangerous Rise of Populism: Global Attacks on Human Rights Values, by Kenneth Roth, 2017, 2018-12-31

[Report](#) | Essential reading

Lecture 2: Culture and history. The advantages and limitations of classic anthropological strategies for dealing with contemporary problems. (4 items)

Anthropology normally works by placing what people do in context as a way of understanding other people's lives. That context would usually be social or cultural or historical (or some combination of the three). That kind of intellectual strategy is, as you know, closely connected to ethnography as a method for conducting research. For understanding the contemporary crises, however, this kind of approach might not be all that helpful. This is for two reasons. First, the sorts of issues we are talking about are difficult to contextualise either because they cross all kinds of borders (migration, extinction, climate change etc) or because they belong firmly to 'our' culture (Trump, Brexit etc) and are difficult to explain in 'cultural terms'. Second, because in the contemporary crisis, things that used to operate as the 'background' to human activity –

things like the climate, the sea, even the internet – have started to behave as participants in political processes. This seems to demand some innovation in the way we go about contextualising things.

The Climate of History: Four Theses - in Critical Inquiry, by Dipesh Chakrabarty, 2009-01
[Article](#) | [Essential reading](#)

Ethnography in/of the World System: The Emergence of Multi-Sited Ethnography - in Annual Review of Anthropology, by Marcus, George E., 1995, 2018-12-26
[Article](#) | [Essential reading](#)

Modernity at large: cultural dimensions of globalization, by Arjun Appadurai, c1996
[Book](#) | [Essential reading](#) | Read Chapter 3 'Global Ethnoscapes' -- although the whole book is useful

Social and cultural anthropology: the key concepts, by Rapport, Nigel, 2014
[Book](#) | [Recommended reading](#) | Read the entry on 'Movement'

Lecture 3: Narrative and discourse. How people tell themselves what is happening. Nature and culture, progress and homeland as particularly important figures for our time. (4 items)

In this session, we are going to look at two key ideas that should be very helpful for you in developing anthropological approaches to the current crisis.

First, the notion of narrative. A narrative is a story. In social life all kinds of histories, accounts of events, and projects for the future take the form of stories. Crucially, narratives are not freely constructed. They have rules that govern how they make sense, who will be recognised as an actor or agent within them and so on. If we understand these narratives, then we can begin to grasp how and why people approach the world in the way they do.

Second, the idea of discourse. This is fundamentally similar to the idea of narrative. When scholars talk about discourse, however, they usually want to do two things. Firstly, they want to draw attention to the ways in which what people say or know gets built into institutions that have a lasting impact on social life. Second, they want to show how ways of talking have effects on patterns of inequality or oppression. We will look at these ideas in the lecture before discussing them in terms of recent news stories.

Social and cultural anthropology: the key concepts, by Rapport, Nigel, 2014
[Book](#) | [Essential reading](#) | Read the entries on 'Narrative' and 'Discourse'

The Sadness of Sweetness: The Native Anthropology of Western Cosmology [and Comments and Reply] - in Current Anthropology, by Sahlins, Marshall David, 1996, 2011-06-07
[Article](#) | [Essential reading](#)

Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism, by Benedict R. O'G. Anderson, 1991
[Book](#) | [Recommended reading](#)

The history of sexuality: Vol.1: An introduction, by Michel Foucault; Robert Hurley, 1990
[Book](#) | [Recommended reading](#)

Lecture 4: What about materiality? Actor-Network-Theory (ANT) for complete beginners. Why this might be useful. Applications of ANT to the contemporary crisis. (6 items)

This session is dedicated to thinking about a brand of social theory called 'Actor-Network Theory' (ANT), closely associated with French philosopher Bruno Latour. The key point of ANT is that social relations in themselves are not enough to account for the way contemporary life operates. Therefore, to account for 'social' life, we also have to understand all sorts of non-social things. These might include technologies, non-human organisms, ideas – and even the biosphere itself. This is potentially extremely useful for thinking through the current ecological crisis and its relationship to both contemporary politics and distinctively modern lifestyles.

Bruno Latour, by Gerard de Vries, 2016

[Book](#) | [Essential reading](#) | [Read Chapter 4](#)

Artifacts have consequences, not agency - in European Journal of Social Theory, by Alf Hornborg, 2017-02

[Article](#) | [Recommended reading](#)

Agency between humanism and posthumanism - in HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory, by Andrew B. Kipnis, 2015-09

[Article](#) | [Recommended reading](#)

Reassembling the social: an introduction to actor-network-theory, by Bruno Latour, 2005

[Book](#) | [Recommended reading](#) | Available as an ebook in the Library. Read the first chapter, or as much as you can

Reassembling the social: an introduction to actor-network-theory, by Bruno Latour, 2005

[Book](#) | [Recommended reading](#)

Down to earth: politics in the new climatic regime, by Bruno Latour; Catherine Porter, 2018

[Book](#) | [Recommended reading](#) | [Read the first chapter](#)

Presentation and essay resources

Here you will find a collection of sources to start you off in your preparation for your presentations and essays. This list should be useful but shouldn't be taken as exhaustive. The texts are divided between news and other popular sources, and academic articles and commentaries. Sometimes – for example in the case of UN reports from the IPCC – the distinction is a bit blurred. You can and should read any of these sources in conjunction with the theoretical ideas introduced in the opening series of lectures.

You will also find, for each panel, a list of suggested questions that you might want to pursue in planning your presentations. Again, you shouldn't regard these as exhaustive or authoritative – feel free to adapt these questions or ask entirely different ones.

General sources

Good sources for anthropological approaches to current affairs include Anthropology Today (<https://www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/14678322>) and Cultural Anthropology's online 'Fieldsights' series (<https://culanth.org/fieldsights>). These are generally worth browsing. Some articles from both these sources appear in the lists below, but you may also find other things to interest you there.

Other useful sources on environmental issues are Scientific American and Nature. You have access to both of these publications through Brunel's library.

For general news sources, pick reputable outlets. The Guardian (left/liberal), The Independent (liberal/centre), The Times (right), The Telegraph (right) are all good sources. The New York Times and The Washington Post are also useful, although I am less familiar with their political alignments. The BBC is also a trustworthy source. Tabloid newspapers are less useful as sources of fact but can be very useful as sources of popular opinion.

Blogposts and web 2.0 content generally needs to be interrogated for who wrote them and why before you decide to trust them. This also applies to Wikipedia, which is of mixed quality.

Panel 1: Climate change and mitigation (21 items)

opportunities of dealing with climate anthropologically. Alternatively, you could think about the ways in which particular sets of people or communities represent climate change, or respond to it in particular ways. For overviews of what is happening, the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) are best. You could also look at climate change denial – this is of course more difficult to cite, because by definition, denialist sources are not good academic sources (since they're not dealing with facts). There are, however, some useful commentaries in this list.

Suggested questions: How can anthropologists give (or contribute to) an account of climate change? Should we approach climate change denial through the lens of cultural relativism? Does the notion of the Anthropocene make anthropology more important? How should we approach local notions of climate in the context of debates over climate change?

Al Gore: climate change threat leaves 'no time to despair' over Trump victory | US news | The Guardian, 2018-12-26

Webpage

Climate change and energy use: The role for anthropological research - in Anthropology Today, by ANNETTE HENNING, 2005-06

Article

The Unbearable Lightness of Politics: Climate Change Denial and Political Polarization - in The Sociological Quarterly, by Robert J. Antonio; Robert J. Brulle, 2011-05

Article

Toward a Critical Anthropology on the Impact of Global Warming on Health and Human Societies - in Medical Anthropology, by Hans A. Baer, 2008-02-13

Article

The anthropology of climate change: an integrated critical perspective, by Baer, Hans A., 2014, 2018-12-26

Book

Anthropology and Global Warming: The Need for Environmental Engagement - in The Australian Journal of Anthropology, by Simon Batterbury, 2008-04

Article

Managing the health effects of climate change - in The Lancet, by Anthony Costello; Mustafa Abbas; Adriana Allen; Sarah Ball; Sarah Bell; Richard Bellamy; Sharon Friel; Nora Groce; Anne Johnson; Maria Kett; Maria Lee; Caren Levy; Mark Maslin; David McCoy; Bill McGuire; Hugh Montgomery; David Napier; Christina Pagel; Jinesh Patel; Jose Antonio Puppim de Oliveira; Nanneke Redclift; Hannah Rees; Daniel Rogger; Joanne Scott; Judith Stephenson; John Twigg; Jonathan Wolff; Craig Patterson, 2009-05

Article

Gone the Bull of Winter? - in Current Anthropology, by Susan A. Crate, 2008-08

Article

A Widening Gap: Republican and Democratic Views on Climate Change - in Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development, by Riley E. Dunlap; Araon M. McCright, 2008-09

Article

Climate Change and the Victim Slot: From Oil to Innocence - in American Anthropologist, by David McDermott Hughes, 2013-12

Article

The organisation of denial: Conservative think tanks and environmental scepticism - in Environmental Politics, by Peter J. Jacques; Riley E. Dunlap; Mark Freeman, 2008-06

Article

Cochabamba and climate anthropology (Respond to this article at <http://www.therai.org.uk/at/debate>) - in Anthropology Today, by Nancy Lindisfarne, 2010-08-03

Article

The Politicization of Climate Change and Polarization in the American Public's Views of Global Warming, 2001-2010 - in The Sociological Quarterly, by Aaron M. McCright; Riley E. Dunlap, 2011-05

Article

Nations Approve Landmark Climate Accord in Paris - The New York Times, 2018-12-26

Webpage

Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation: the View from applied anthropology - in Human Organization, by Oliver-Smith, Anthony, 2013, 2018-12-26

Article

Recognitions and Responsibilities - in Current Anthropology, by Ben Orlove; Heather Lazrus; Grete K. Hovelsrud; Alessandra Giannini, 2014-06

Article

Climate change and anthropology: The importance of reception studies (Respond to this article at <http://www.therai.org.uk/at/debate>) - in Anthropology Today, by Peter Rudiak-Gould, 2011-04

Article

Climate Change and Accusation - in Current Anthropology, by Peter Rudiak-Gould, 2014-08

Article

Tell Donald Trump: the Paris climate deal is very good for America | Joseph Stiglitz | Business | The Guardian, 2018-12-26

Webpage

What Does Climate Change Demand of Anthropology? - in PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review, by Jerome Whittington, 2016-05

Article

Why energy needs anthropology - in Anthropology Today, by HAROLD WILHITE, 2005-06

Article

Panel 2: Pollution (19 items)

There are a number of debates at present concerning pollution, especially from organophosphate herbicides (notably Glyphosate/Roundup) and neonicotinoid insecticides, as well as Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBS) and other highly persistent environmental pollutants – a list that includes CFCs (now banned but still produced in China), HFCs (used in refrigeration, recently banned by the Kigali protocol), and the PFCs used in waterproofing raincoats. You might also want to look into the controversy surrounding air pollution, both in the UK and globally.

On the topic of pollution, you might also want to think about plastics (not all that much here – but plenty in the ether. Watch the final episode of Blue Planet II and follow the fallout from that, or the excellent Plastic Ocean). Pollution will often force you to think about the ways in which everyday human activity is connected to much larger issues of biosphere survival, and the different ways we either act unintentionally on the world, or the ways in which the effects of what we do are more or less deliberately masked by powerful actors (an issue that connects strongly to climate change denial). You will also probably find yourself thinking about inequality, and the ways in which inequalities and neo-colonial domination shapes pollution (no accident e-waste is typically disposed of in the Third World, or that a large proportion of plastic pollution comes from places without reliable reticulated water supplies).

Suggested questions: What does pollution show us about the everyday human agency? How is pollution linked to inequality? What does the pervasiveness of pollution tell us about the kind of society we live in (esp Beck!)? How can anthropologists study pollution or waste (Henig, Drackner, Douglas)?

What is waste? To whom? - An anthropological perspective on garbage - in Waste Management & Research, by Mikael Drackner, 2005-06

Article

Rubbish values: Reflections on the political economy of waste - in Science as Culture, by Martin O'Brien, 1999-09

Article

The weedkiller in our food is killing us | Erin Brockovich, by Erin Brockovich, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Platypus eating a normal insect diet could ingest at least 69 drugs, research reveals, by Lisa Cox, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Race is on to rid UK waters of PCBs after toxic pollutants found in killer whale, by Jamie Doward, 2017, 2018-12-31

Article

Purity and danger: an analysis of the concepts of pollution and taboo, by Mary Douglas, 1991

Book

EU agrees total ban on bee-harming pesticides, by editor, Damian Carrington Environment, 2018, 2018-12-31

Newspaper

Monsanto's global weedkiller harms honeybees, research finds, by Damian Carrington, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Orca 'apocalypse': half of killer whales doomed to die from pollution, by editor, Damian Carrington Environment, 2018, 2018-12-31

Newspaper

'I'm worried pollution will affect my baby', 2018-12-31

Webpage

Glyphosate is here to stay in EU — at least for now, by Marks, Simon, 2018, 2018-12-31

Webpage

The Burning Truth Behind an E-Waste Dump in Africa, by Minter, Adam, 2018-12-31

Webpage

Neonicotinoids: risks to bees confirmed, 2018, 2018-12-31

Webpage

Eight Million Tons of Illegal E-Waste Is Smuggled Into China Each Year, by Nuwer, Rachel, 2018-12-31

Webpage

Pesticides in food: latest figures remain steady, 2018, 2018-12-31

Webpage

European agency concludes controversial 'neonic' pesticides threaten bees, by StokstadFeb. 28, Erik; 2018; Pm, 2:25, 2018, 2018-12-31

Webpage

Invasion of the 'frankenbees': the danger of building a better bee, by Bernhard Warner, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Weedkiller cancer ruling: What do we know about glyphosate?, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Strongest evidence yet that neonicotinoids are killing bees, by Wong, Sam, 2018-12-31

Webpage

Panel 3: Extinction (14 items)

This theme is important, since we are now living through the Sixth Extinction Event (the fifth one, the K-P extinction, wiped out the dinosaurs) but tricky, because there is not a great deal of material out there by or for anthropologists. There are a couple of different angles you might take here. One is to look into specific species or groups of animals. This list picks out orcas, bees (and flying insects in general) and orangutans – but there are many more candidates out there (rhinoceroses, or whales are both good examples). You could examine, perhaps making use of ANT, how the extinction of these organisms is taking place, and, if appropriate, why it matters. You might also go the other way around (the orangutans case is quite well-worked-out from this point of view) and examine what people are doing to try to avert extinctions, and what this might tell us. Another way of looking at these issues is to see extinction as a way of registering the kinds of changes taking place in the biosphere. Orcas, for example, will go extinct in UK waters because of chemicals developed and released into the environment in many years ago – so they ask us to think about when extinction happens, and what its history is.

Suggested questions: How is X being made extinct and what does this tell us about the connections between human activity and the biosphere? What can we learn about the possibilities for political action from attempts to save X from extinction? When did extinction happen and what does this tell us about the possibilities for political action in the present (Beck from the list on pollution will be useful here)?

Small acts and personal politics: On helping to save the orangutan via social media - in Anthropology Today, by LIANA CHUA, 2018-06

Article

What role for conservation in culture? A response to Schneider - in Oryx, by Liana Chua, 2018-07

Article

Orangutans need more than your well-meaning clicktivism - in The Conversation, by Liana Chua, 2015, 2018-12-26

Article

Orca 'apocalypse': half of killer whales doomed to die from pollution, by editor, Damian

Carrington Environment, 2018, 2018-12-31

Newspaper

Predicting global killer whale population collapse from PCB pollution - in Science, by Jean-Pierre Desforges; Ailsa Hall; Bernie McConnell; Aqgalu Rosing-Asvid; Jonathan L. Barber; Andrew Brownlow; Sylvain De Guise; Igor Eulaers; Paul D. Jepson; Robert J. Letcher; Milton Levin; Peter S. Ross; Filipa Samarra; Gísli Víkingsson; Christian Sonne; Rune Dietz, 2018-09-28

Article

More than 75 percent decline over 27 years in total flying insect biomass in protected areas - in PLOS ONE, by Caspar A. Hallmann; Martin Sorg; Eelke Jongejans; Henk Siepel; Nick Hofland; Heinz Schwan; Werner Stenmans; Andreas Müller; Hubert Sumser; Thomas Hörren; Dave Goulson; Hans de Kroon, 2017-10-18

Article

Can folk music save the honeybee?, by Ammar Kalia, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Where have all our insects gone?, by Robin McKie, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Insectageddon: farming is more catastrophic than climate breakdown, by George Monbiot, 2017, 2018-12-31

Article

'Shocking' pollutant levels in UK killer whale Lulu, by Rebecca Morelle, 2017, 2018-12-31

Article

Understanding the UK's last killer whales, 2018, 2018-12-31

Webpage

Stop biodiversity loss or we could face our own extinction, warns UN, by Jonathan Watts, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

Scientist unveils blueprint to save bees and enrich farmers, by Jonathan Watts, 2018, 2018-12-31

Article

How to fight Insectageddon with a garden of native plants, by Zitani, Nina M., 2018-12-31

Webpage

Panel 4: Populism (15 items)

In many ways this is dead easy because there is so much coverage of what gets called populism, and such readily available anthropological theory about identity, nationalism etc. An easy route through this material is to think about the ways in which particular contemporary cases reflect or otherwise relate to anthropological ideas about identity etc. A more challenging approach is to try to link populism to other aspects of the contemporary crisis. This is relatively straightforward when it comes to migration (a lot of populist rhetoric is articulated around migration), but it can also be done around the

climate (in the form of climate change denial) and extinction (especially in the case of Brazil). Here it might be useful to think about the ways in which populist notions of belonging and homeland are as unrealistic as modernist notions of endless growth and inexhaustible nature.

Suggested questions: How does X relate to anthropological theories of identity/nationalism? Are anthropological theories of identity/nationalism adequate for thinking about contemporary populism? How do anthropological understandings of populism help us to understand other aspects of the contemporary crisis?

Brexit: the way of dealing with populism - in Social Identities, by Pal Ahluwalia; Toby Miller, 2016-09-02

Article

Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism, by Benedict R. O'G. Anderson, 1991

Book

Enoch Powell's 'Rivers of Blood' speech - Telegraph, 2018-12-26

Webpage

Ethnicity and nationalism: anthropological perspectives, by Thomas Hylland Eriksen, 2010

Book

Britishness: perspectives on the Britishness question, by Andrew Gamble; Anthony Wright, 2009

Book

Nations and nationalism, by Ernest Gellner, 2006

Book

Between camps: nations, cultures and the allure of race, by Paul Gilroy, 2004

Book

'My Britain is fuck all' zombie multiculturalism and the race politics of citizenship - in Identities, by Paul Gilroy, 2012-07

Article

Neo-nationalism and the reconfiguration of Europe - in Social Anthropology, by ANDRE GINGRICH, 2006-6

Article

Brexit Referendum: first reactions from anthropology - in Social Anthropology, by Sarah Green; Chris Gregory; Madeleine Reeves; Jane K. Cowan; Olga Demetriou; Insa Koch; Michael Carrithers; Ruben Andersson; Andre Gingrich; Sharon Macdonald; Salih Can Açıksöz; Umut Yildirim; Thomas Hylland Eriksen; Cris Shore; Douglas R. Holmes; Michael Herzfeld; Marilyn Strathern; Casper Bruun Jensen; Keir Martin; Dimitris Dalakoglou; Georgos Poulimenakos; Stef Jansen; Čarna Brkovič; Thomas M. Wilson; Niko Besnier; Daniel Guinness; Mark Hann; Pamela Ballinger; Dace Dzenovska, 2016-11

Article

The hands of Donald Trump - in HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory, by Kira Hall; Donna M. Goldstein; Matthew Bruce Ingram, 2016-09

[Article](#)

Ethnicity and Nationalism in Europe Today - in Anthropology Today, by E. J. Hobsbawm; David J. Kertzer, 1992-02

[Article](#)

Climate Change and the Victim Slot: From Oil to Innocence - in American Anthropologist, by David McDermott Hughes, 2013-12

[Article](#)

#spanishrevolution (Respond to this article at <http://www.therai.org.uk/at/debate>) - in Anthropology Today, by Alberto Corsín Jiménez; Adolfo Estalella, 2011-08

[Article](#)

When Brexit Came to Anthropology - in Anthropology Today, by Jessica Symons, 2016-12

[Article](#)

Panel 5: Social media and fake news (10 items)

This is a relatively difficult set of issues to get to grips with because they are recent and although there is a great deal of discussion in the news and online about fake news, there isn't so much anthropological material out there. However, there is an anthropology of ignorance that you can draw on, as well as material about identity, nationalism etc from the list above. It might also be worth thinking about the kinds of social relations people form through social media, and how these relate to off-line lives and activities. You could also simply follow and analyse particular fake news stories and memes for what they have to say about the way people see each other and the world around them – this itself is likely to shed light on the contemporary crisis.

Suggested questions: What impact does social media have on people as political subjects? What does X story/meme demonstrate about the way X people imagine their place in the world? Is fake news really 'fake'?

Beyond Celebration: Toward a More Nuanced Assessment of Facebook's Role in Occupy Wall Street — Cultural Anthropology, 2018-12-26

[Webpage](#)

Facework on Facebook: The presentation of self in virtual life and its role in the US elections - in Anthropology Today, by Steffen Dalsgaard, 2008-12

[Article](#)

Seeing into hearts and minds: Part 1. The Pentagon's quest for a 'social radar' (Respond to this article at <https://www.therai.org.uk/publications/anthropology-today/debate>) - in Anthropology Today, by Roberto J. González, 2015-06

[Article](#)

Un-friend my heart: Facebook, promiscuity, and heartbreak in a neoliberal age - in Anthropological Quarterly, by Ilana Gershon, 2011, 2018-12-26

[Article](#)

Focus on Facebook: Who Are We Anyway? - in Anthropology News, by Anne McClard; Ken Anderson, 2008-03

[Article](#)

On the Face of Facebook: Historical Images and Personhood in Filipino Social Networking - in History and Anthropology, by Deirdre McKay, 2010-12

Article

The ideology of friendship in the era of Facebook - in HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory, by Daniel Miller, 2017, 2018-12-26

Article

Reading romance: the impact Facebook rituals can have on a romantic relationship - in Journal of comparative research in anthropology and sociology, 2010, 2018-12-26

Article

'Snooper's charter' bill becomes law, extending UK state surveillance | World news | The Guardian, 2018-12-26

Webpage

Digital anthropology - in Digital anthropology, by Postill, John, 2012

Chapter

Panel 6: Migration (15 items)

Lots of this in the news, so you shouldn't have too much difficulty finding materials. There's a very strong crossover here between sources on migration and sources on populism, since at present the two issues are very closely linked. Things to think about here are why people are on the move, how the reasons for their movements are like or unlike political representations of contemporary migration (e.g. the UK government systematically confuses migrants and asylum seekers), and how migration and the issues underpinning it are connected to other aspects of the contemporary crisis (it's especially worth looking into the role of climate change and shifting access to water in driving conflict and thus migration). You might also want to think about the way in which migration is represented in the media and the effect this has (or doesn't have) on popular opinion – think about the case of the photographs of Alan Kurdi's corpse, or Nigel Farage's 'Breaking Point' poster – or about the institutions that handle migrants in Europe. Suggested questions: What do responses to migration tell us about Europeans' ideas of themselves? What can anthropologists contribute to describing contemporary migrations? How do the institutions of borders create 'migration'/migration experiences? How is migration linked to other aspects of the contemporary crisis?

Europe's refugee crisis - in Anthropology Today, by Maurizio Albahari, 2015-10

Article

Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism, by Benedict R. O'G. Anderson, 1991

Book

Diversity in the Classroom: The Headscarf Controversy in European Schools - in Peace Change, by Eva Brems, 2006-01

Article

Nations and nationalism, by Ernest Gellner, 2006

Book

Between camps: nations, cultures and the allure of race, by Paul Gilroy, 2004

Book

The anthropology of Europe: identity and boundaries in conflict, by Victoria A. Goddard; Cris Shore; Josep R. Llobera, 1996

Book

Brexit Referendum: first reactions from anthropology - in Social Anthropology, by Sarah Green; Chris Gregory; Madeleine Reeves; Jane K. Cowan; Olga Demetriou; Insa Koch; Michael Carrithers; Ruben Andersson; Andre Gingrich; Sharon Macdonald; Salih Can Açıksöz; Umut Yildirim; Thomas Hylland Eriksen; Cris Shore; Douglas R. Holmes; Michael Herzfeld; Marilyn Strathern; Casper Bruun Jensen; Keir Martin; Dimitris Dalakoglou; Georgos Poulimenakos; Stef Jansen; Čarna Brkovič; Thomas M. Wilson; Niko Besnier; Daniel Guinness; Mark Hann; Pamela Ballinger; Dace Dzenovska, 2016-11

Article

'Vile liars and truth distorters': truth, trust and the asylum system - in Anthropology Today, by Melanie Griffiths, 2012, 2018-12-26

Article

After the landing: Moral control and surveillance in Italy's asylum seeker camps (Respond to this article at <https://www.therai.org.uk/publications/anthropology-today/debate>) - in Anthropology Today, by Barbara Pinelli, 2015-04

Article

Building Europe: the cultural politics of European integration, by Cris Shore, 2000

Book

Deportation, non-deportability and precarious lives: the everyday lives of undocumented migrant children in Britain - in Anthropology Today, by Sigona, Nando, 2012, 2018-12-26

Article

Moving on: Italy as a stepping stone in migrants' imaginaries - in Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology, by Anna Tuckett, 2016, 2019-01-08

Article

'The island is full. Please don't come': Narratives of austerity and migration in a UK citizenship class - in Anthropology Today, by Anna Tuckett, 2017-10

Article

Strategies of navigation: migrants' everyday encounters with Italian immigration bureaucracy - in Cambridge Journal of Anthropology, by Anna Tuckett, 2015, 2019-01-08

Article

'Veils and wooden clogs don't go together' - in Ethnos, by Karin van Nieuwkerk, 2004-06

Article

Panel 7: consumption and lifestyle change (7 items)

One of the most troubling things about the contemporary crisis is that it definitely means that we will have to live differently in the future, although it isn't clear how. Of course, contemporary Europeans are always 'living differently', whether that is by '#eatingclean',

getting ripped and quaffing protein shakes, or inserting jade eggs into their vaginas. This produces all kinds of difficulties for composing a serious politics because it is never clear at what point we are dealing with political action, and where we are simply finding more commodities and more consumption (which is exactly the problem!). Hovering over these Euro-centric issues, however, are other concerns with inequality and the situation of people for whom consuming anything much is always a problem.

Suggested questions: How do patterns of consumption affect lifestyle changes in response to climate change? What might be the social or cultural significance of the large-scale adoption of veganism? How do patterns of consumption affect the meaning of the 'anthropos' of the Anthropocene? Does it make sense to talk about 'consumption' or 'lifestyle' cross-culturally?

Big society or broken society?: Food banks in the UK - in *Anthropology Today*, by Pat Caplan, 2016-02

Article

The unstoppable rise of veganism: how a fringe movement went mainstream, by Dan Hancox, 2018, 2018-12-28

Article

Shopping, place and identity, by Daniel Miller, 1998

Book

Global denim, edited by Daniel Miller; Sophie Woodward, 2011

Book

The Anthropology of Food and Eating - in *Annual Review of Anthropology*, by Sidney W. Mintz and Christine M. Du Bois, 2002, 2018-12-26

Article

Beef and Beyond: Exploring the Meat Consumption Practices of Christians in India - in *Ethnos*, by James Staples, 2017-03-15

Article

Food, Water, and Scarcity - in *Current Anthropology*, by Amber Wutich; Alexandra Brewis, 2014-08

Article

Panel 8: Human-nonhuman relations (14 items)

One of the really interesting aspects of anthropology in the age of the Anthropocene is that it seems to ask us to think seriously about the kinds of relationships that people have with non-humans. These are often animals in the literature. Of course, anthropologists have often thought about human-animal relations, but those ideas seem to be developing a new edge at present. One effect of thinking about human-nonhuman relations is that it tends to complicate politics and demands that we think carefully about what kinds of entities need or deserve political representation.

Suggested questions: What does X case show about the possibilities of human-nonhuman relations? Does X case force us to rethink what we mean by a person/political subject? In what ways are contemporary relationships between humans and non-humans similar or different to the ways they were thought about in older anthropological texts?

Pigs and profits: hybrids of animals, technology and humans in Danish industrialised farming - in Social Anthropology, by Inger Anneberg; Mette Vaarst; Nils Bubandt, 2013-11

Article

Lives With Others: Climate Change and Human-Animal Relations - in Annual Review of Anthropology, by Cassidy, Rebecca, 2012, 2018-12-31

Article

Thinking with animals: new perspectives on anthropomorphism - in Thinking with animals: new perspectives on anthropomorphism, 2005

Chapter

From plate to pet: Promotion of trans-species companionship by Korean animal activists - in Anthropology Today, by Julien Dugnoille, 2014-12

Article

The Nuer: a description of the modes of livelihood and political institutions of a Nilotic people - in The Nuer: a description of the modes of livelihood and political institutions of a Nilotic people, 1940

Chapter | Read Chapter 1, Interest in cattle, pp.16-50.

Animals in Person - in Animals in person: cultural perspectives on human-animal intimacy, 2005

Chapter

How Chimpanzees Have Domesticated Humans: Towards an Anthropology of Human-Animal Communication - in Anthropology Today, by Dominique Lestel, 1998-06

Article

Totemism, by Claude Levi-Strauss, 1969

Book

Orangutans need more than your well-meaning clicktivism - in The Conversation, by Liana Chua, 2015, 2018-12-26

Article

Thinking with animals: new perspectives on anthropomorphism - in Thinking with animals: new perspectives on anthropomorphism, 2005

Chapter | Read Mitman, Gregg; (2005) 'Pachyderm personalities: the media of science, politics, and conservation'

Mirrors and windows: sociocultural studies of human-animal relationships - in Annual review of anthropology, by Molly H. Mullin, 2018-12-26

Article

Insects as food among hunter-gatherers - in Anthropology Today, by Brian Morris, 2008-02

Article

Shark attack!: A cultural approach - in Anthropology Today, by Adrian Peace, 2015-10

Article

"Flexible Personhood": Loving Animals as Family Members in Israel - in American

Anthropologist, by Dafna Shir-Vertesh, 2012-09

Article

Panel 9: Resistance and dissent (16 items)

In some ways this is an easy set of issues to deal with because a great deal of anthropological scholarship deals with issues of resistance and dissent, much of it quite current. You should, however, ask serious questions about whether conventional anthropological ideas are really up to the task of dealing with the contemporary crisis. Generally anthropological theories of power and resistance were framed to account for straightforward 'politics' between people, and not necessarily aimed at dealing with political contexts in which humans and non-humans find themselves mixed together as they evidently do at the moment. You might also want to think about the very clear and evident ineffectiveness of popular forms of resistance at the present time – whatever people are doing, it doesn't seem to be having any effect on the general trajectory of the contemporary crisis (although you might also find that to be an overly pessimistic view). Suggested questions: To what extent are anthropological understandings of resistance adequate to dealing with contemporary politics? How is popular resistance now different from earlier resistance in earlier periods? Why is popular resistance apparently so ineffective (is it ineffective?)? Is online resistance just 'clicktivism'?

#Ferguson: Digital protest, hashtag ethnography, and the racial politics of social media in the United States - in American Ethnologist, by YARIMAR BONILLA; JONATHAN ROSA, 2015-02

Article

The Occupy Movement and debt: An interview with David Graeber (Respond to this article at <http://www.therai.org.uk/at/debate>) - in Anthropology Today, by David Graeber; Gustaaf Houtman, 2012-10

Article

Occupy Wall Street rediscovers the radical imagination | David Graeber | World news | theguardian.com, 2018-12-26

Webpage

Inside Avaaz – can online activism really change the world? | Technology | The Observer, 2018-12-26

Webpage

#spanishrevolution (Respond to this article at <http://www.therai.org.uk/at/debate>) - in Anthropology Today, by Alberto Corsín Jiménez; Adolfo Estalella, 2011-08

Article

Reflections on #Occupy Everywhere: Social media, public space, and emerging logics of aggregation - in American Ethnologist, by Jeffrey S. Juris, 2012-05

Article

Collaborative Ethnography and Public Anthropology - in Current Anthropology, by Luke Eric Lassiter, 2005-02

Article

#MeToo movement named Time magazine's Person of the Year | Media | The Guardian,

2018-12-26

Webpage

Social movements: an anthropological reader, by June C. Nash, 2005

Book

Pesticides in Coca-Cola and Pepsi: Consumerism, Brand Image, and Public Interest in a Globalizing India - in Cultural Anthropology, by Neeraj Vedwan, 2007, 2018-12-26

Article

Commentary: Democracy, temporalities of capitalism, and dilemmas of inclusion in Occupy movements - in American Ethnologist, by David Nugent, 2012-05

Article

Occupy, Anthropology, and the 2011 Global Uprisings — Cultural Anthropology special Hot Spot online issue, 2018-12-26

Webpage

Occupy ethnography: reflections on studying the movement, 2018-12-26

Webpage

Digital anthropology - in Digital anthropology, by Postill, John, 2012

Chapter

The Occupy Movement in Žižek's hometown: Direct democracy and a politics of becoming - in American Ethnologist, by Maple Razsa; Andrej Kurnik, 2012-05

Article

Domination and the arts of resistance: hidden transcripts, by James C. Scott, c1990

Book