

Anthropology 434 Native South Americans

MW 2:00-3:50

Prof. Sugiyama

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Office Hours: Weds. 4:00-5:00 and by appt.

Introduction: This course is designed as an upper division/graduate course on Native Peoples of South America. This term it will focus on Native Amazonian People, their interaction/adaptation to local environments, and some basic issues in Anthropology for which research in Amazonia has had a major impact. While factors causing destruction of the rainforest and disruption of Indigenous Amazonians' lifeways are a major concern of conservationists and human rights activists--issues we have focused on in this course in the past--this term we will focus on the "traditional" ways of life that are affected by these changes. We will use a behavioral ecological approach to understand how people make a living, mate and raise their children, cooperate, provide for their healthcare needs, and organize themselves to settle disputes and conflicts. Readings for the class will be research articles and book chapters. The design of the class is interactive, with student presentations and lecture forming the majority of in-class activities.

Grades:

Undergraduate Students: Your grade is based on a midterm (35%), final exam (35%), and in class article summaries/presentations and participation (30%). Depending on our number of students, each group will be responsible for 2-4 summaries.

Graduate Students are not responsible for taking the exams, but are responsible for participation, article summaries or background information presentations, and a term paper on a topic relevant to the course approved by me. The term paper is worth 50% of your grade and the article summaries and participation 50%.

Article summaries/presentations:

Undergraduate students will be divided into groups. Each class session, selected groups will prepare written summaries of assigned articles and chapters for their classmates and then lead the discussion on the assigned reading. Summaries should provide an overview of the article outlining the fundamental issues and conclusions raised by the author(s).

Article summary/presentation should, *in your own words*, **explain** all basic aspects of the research article including:

1. Theory (what question is being addressed and why?)
2. Hypotheses (what specific hypotheses are tested if any)
3. Background (on previous research and the research population)
4. Methods (how was data gathered and hypothesis tested)
5. Results (what were the specific research findings)
6. Discussion/conclusions (what did the authors conclude about their results in relation to a)hypotheses tested, and b) theory addressed)
7. New questions or issues stimulated by this research and/or valid scientific criticisms and comments on the article.
8. At least two questions (essay type) about the article that may appear on the midterm or final (based on my discretion).

Grading of Article summaries:

1. Students not presenting will grade the presenting group based on how useful clear and accurate the article summary/presentation was, based on the usual F-A scale. This will account for 5% of each group members' total grade.
2. Each group member will grade each of their other group members. This will account for 5% of each group members' total grade.
3. I will assign the additional 20% of the grade allocated for presentations.

Readings: All students must complete all the reading.

Available Online (OL) via links on blackboard.

Course Packet: available as a course packet in the UO bookstore, henceforth (CP)

Additional assignments where appropriate to be announced

Note: the following course schedule lays out the general timetable for the course. We will adjust the timetable to accommodate discussion etc. as the course progresses. You are responsible for keeping abreast of any changes that occur.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Section 1: Introductions, theory, and orientation

Week 1: (Jan 3-7). Introduction to the Course, Assign Readings, Theoretical Background

Sugiyama, LS. 1996. Introduction. In *In Search of the Adapted Mind: A Study of Human Cognitive Adaptations Among the Shiwiar of Ecuador and the Yora of Peru*. OL

Sugiyama, LS. 2004. Physical Attractiveness in Adaptationist Perspective (Intro) OL

Smith EA Winterhalder B. 2000. Analyzing adaptive strategies: human behavioral ecology at twenty-five. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 9:51-72. OL

Week 2: (Jan 10-14). The Physical Environment and a Prehistoric Perspective on Current Amazonian Societies

Roosevelt, (AI chpt 1) OL

Whitehead (AI chpt 2) OL

Section 2: Subsistence strategies:

Week 3: (Jan 17-21). Gathering.

Hawkes, Kristen, Kim Hill, and James F. O'Connell (1982). Why hunters gather: Optimal foraging and the Ache of eastern Paraguay. *AMERICAN ETHNOLOGIST* 9 (2): 379-398 1982 OL

Bailey, R., et al. 1989 Hunting and Gathering in Rainforest: Is it Possible? *American Anthropologist*, 91:59-82. OL

Colinvaux PA. Bush MB. 1991 The Rain-Forest Ecosystem as a Resource for Hunting and Gathering. *American Anthropologist* 93:153-163. OL

Hill and Kaplan 1989. Population and Dry season subsistence strategies of the recently contacted Yora of Peru. CP

Week 4: (Jan. 24-28). Agriculture

Johnson, A. 1983. Machiguenga Gardens. In *Adaptive responses of native Amazonians*. R. B. Hames & W. T. Vickers (eds). 29-63. New York: Academic Press. (CP)

Descola P. 1994. Homeostasis as a Cultural System: The Jivaro Case (AI Chpt 9) CP

Werner, D. 1983. Why do the Mekronoti Trek? In *Adaptive responses of native Amazonians*. R. B. Hames & W. T. Vickers (eds). 225-238. New York: Academic Press. (CP)

Carneiro R. 1983. The cultivation of manioc among the Kuikuru of the Upper Xingu. In *Adaptive responses of native Amazonians*. R. B. Hames & W. T. Vickers (eds). 65-111. New York: Academic Press. (CP)

Week 5: (Jan 31-Feb. 4). Hunting Strategies

Ross E. B., 1978. Food taboos, diet, and hunting strategy: the adaptation to animals in Amazon cultural ecology. *Current Anthropology* 19(1):1-36. OL

Alvard M. (1995). Intraspecific prey choice by Amazonian hunters. *Current Anthropology* 36(5):789-818. OL

Yost J. A. and Kelly, P. 1983. Shotguns, Blowguns, and Spears: The Analysis of Technological Efficiency. In *Adaptive responses of native Amazonians*. R. B. Hames & W. T. Vickers (eds). 189-222. New York: Academic Press. (CP)

Hill, K. (2002). Altruistic cooperation during foraging by the Ache, and the evolved human predisposition to cooperate. *Human Nature* 13(1):105-128. (OL)

Week 6: (Feb. 7-11). Fishing Strategies. MIDTERM EXAM

Beckerman, S. (1983) "Carpe diem: An optimal foraging approach to Bari fishing and hunting." In: *Adaptive Strategies of Native Amazonians*, eds. R. Hames and W. Vickers. Academic Press: New York, pp. 269-299.

Beckerman (AI Chpt. 8)

Week 7: (Feb. 14-18). Food Transfers

Kaplan & Hill 1985: Food sharing among Ache foragers: tests of explanatory hypotheses. *Current Anthropology*, 26:2, 223-239. (OL)

Hames, R. 2000. Reciprocal Altruism in Yanomamo Food Exchange. In, *Adaptation and Human Behavior*, Cronk, L., Irons, B., & Chagnon, N. A. (eds.). pp 397-416. New York: Aldine

Sugiyama, L. (2000). Effects of Illness and Injury on Foraging Among the Yora and Shiwiari: Pathology Risk as Adaptive Problem. In *Human Behavior and Adaptation: An Anthropological Perspective*. Cronk, L., Chagnon, N.A. and Irons, W. (Eds.). New York: Aldine. (OL)

Gurven M, Allen-Arave W, Hill K, Hurtado M. (2000). "It's a Wonderful Life": signaling generosity among the Ache of Paraguay. *Evolution and Human Behavior* 21(4):263-282. (OL)

Section 3: Life History and Reproductive Strategies

Week 8: (Feb. 21-25). Mortality and Reproduction

Hill, K. & Hurtado, M. 1996. Ache Life History Chpt 5. Causes of Mortality

Hill, K. & Hurtado, M. 1996. Ache Life History Chpt. 8. Female Fertility. (or alt)

Hill, K. & Hurtado, M. 1996. Ache Life History Chpt. 8. Male Fertility. (or alt.)

Beckerman S, Lizarralde R, Ballew C, et al. The Bari partible paternity project: Preliminary results
CURR ANTHROPOL 39 (1): 164-167 FEB 1998. (OL)

Chagnon NA 2000. Manipulating Kinship Rules: A Form of Male Yanomamo Reproductive Competition. In: Cronk et al. CR

Week 9: (Feb. 28-March 4):

Walker, R., K. Hill, H. Kaplan and G. McMillan. (2002). Age dependency of strength, skill, and hunting ability among the Ache of Paraguay. J. Human Evolution 42: 639-657.

Sugiyama L. 2005. Yora Parental Investment. OL

Hagen EH, Hames RB, Craig NM, et al. 2001. Parental investment and child health in a Yanomamo village suffering short-term food stress J BIOSOC SCI 33 (4): 503-528. OL

Week 10: (March 7-11). Warfare: Protein, Jealousy, Revenge, Status or Gifts?

Chagnon & Hames, R. 1979. Protein deficiency and tribal warfare in Amazonia: New Data. Science 203:10-15.

Chagnon 1988 Life histories, blood revenge, and warfare in a tribal society. Science 239:985-002.

Albert, Bruce 1989, Yanomami violence: inclusive fitness or ethnographer's representation? Current Anthropology 30:637-640.

Chagnon, NA 1989. On Yanomao Violence: Reply to Albert, Current Anthropology 31:49-53.

Patton 2000. Reciprocal Altruism and Warfare: A Case from the Ecuadorian Amazon. Chapter 19 (Cronk et al.).

Selection From: Clayton Robarchek and Carole Robarchek 1998. Waorani: The Contexts of Violence and War.

Final Exam: Mon, March 14 3:15pm