-off the beaten track
anthropology field school

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sending institution
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2006

Course unit code | Title | Issue date | Duration of course unit | Credits | Grade
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ANT/892011/006 | Experiential Learning in Anthropological Fieldwork | 26/06/2015 | 1 term minimum of 60-64 contact hours | 3 | A+

Description: The fieldwork is done in gozo during the summer project. Under guidance of mentors with field experience in gozo, the individual student develops her/his research concept or topic and performs the necessary data gathering on it by interviewing and participant observation. Student staff ratio is at most 2:1. The program is highly individually tailored, undergraduates, graduates as well as PhD students will get the guidance they need. Quite often Post-Doctoral researchers take part in the program as student a well. The student gets constant feedback and mentors join them in their fieldwork when required. But the emphasis is on the independent confrontation with fieldwork. Next to that mandatory individual meetings are scheduled on a regular basis where the student show their progress.

Eligibility and selection: The Field School is geared toward highly motivated undergraduate and graduate students in the social sciences. Past participants have hailed from anthropology, sociology, architecture, and history. However, participation in the program will benefit any student or professional looking to develop or refine skills in anthropological research methods. Students are chosen based on the application info they provide. Sometimes we consult them by video chat or personal meeting. At this point only 1 out of 8 applications gets selected. The selection is based more on enthusiasm and dedication then on academic merit.

Evaluation: Students are under permanent evaluation of their performance with focus on how well they deal with tensions and conflicts of this kind of fieldwork. We focus less on their failures, but on their ability to be resilient when confronted with the inherent challenges of conducting anthropological fieldwork. Next to that there is a presentation requirement that consists of a decently filled field-notebook, a poster presentation of their research and the performance of a 20 minute keynote presentation for the group. Grading is done on an A to F scale or percentage when required.

ANT/892011/007 | Experiential Learning in Research Publication | 05/04/2019 | 1 term minimum of 75-80 working hours | 6 | A+

Publication

Description: Based on their fieldwork, participants of the course are encouraged to start writing on a research paper after the summer project. After the student delivers her/his first article draft, one or two mentors get assigned to give feedback (this happens through e-mail and/or video conferencing). If the student doesn’t back out of the process, we work with her/him until they have a publishable research paper. We assist with the publication as well, and in general the program succeeds in this. Not all students manage to finish, and that mostly depends on their persistency in data gathering during the fieldwork project. By the end of their fieldwork course students decide with their mentors if finishing a paper is possible for them.

Eligibility and selection: The student has finished Experiential Learning in Anthropological Fieldwork (ANT/892011/006)

Evaluation: Grade given by peer reviewers of the article, based on the writing and editing process.

Signature of registrar/dean/administration officer:

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