Dr. Stephen Dueppen  
Office: 252 Condon Hall  
Office Hours: Monday 2:30-4:30 pm  
Email: dueppen@uoregon.edu

Course Description: Recent research in archaeology and cultural anthropology has increasingly examined philosophies of being (ontologies) to understand the ways in which people categorize and experience the world. In so doing, scholars have made advances in our knowledge of the complexities of human-human, human-time, human-thing, human-place, and human-living entity relations. With the inherent focus of archaeology on temporalities and the growing interest of cultural anthropology in history, scholars have developed new approaches to examine short and long-term histories and/or to understand how histories shape present events. This course examines the recent theoretical literature, emphasizing how it can be employed in or applied to research topics in archaeology and cultural anthropology.

Readings (Required for All Students): I recommend purchasing the following book:  
Sahlins, Marshall. What Kinship is-and is Not. University of Chicago Press, 2013. The two articles published together as this volume were originally published in the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (17:2-19 and 17:227-42), and are available from this source through the library.  
All other readings will be available as PDF files through the class blackboard site.

Learning Objectives: Following successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe and critically evaluate recent trends in anthropological theories of ontology and relationality.
- Integrate the theoretical literature described above into anthropological research projects.

Course Requirements: Your grade will consist of three primary elements:

- seven applied reading analyses on weekly readings (7 x 9%)
- a summary analysis (9%)
- class participation (28%)

Applied Reading Analyses: A primary goal of this class is to read theory with application in mind. Each week, you will write a short essay evaluating the assigned readings in regards to the perspective or framework they offer for your own research. While the integration with your research is a key element of the assignment, these papers do need to demonstrate that you have read and interacted with all of the required readings. Papers should be ca. 1250-1750 words, and are due by 3:00 pm on Mondays (I will read them prior to our class meetings). Weekly reading papers are required for seven of Weeks 2-10, i.e., you may skip two weeks during the term. You will still be expected to complete the readings and engage in active discussion on weeks you choose not to turn in a paper.

Summary Analysis: In addition to the weekly analyses, you will be asked to complete a summary analysis at the end of the term which identifies and integrates the theoretical perspectives studied in this class that you find most useful for your own research. This paper will be the same length as a weekly analysis (1250-1750 words) and will be due by 10 pm Monday, December 8.

Class Participation: You are expected to attend every class meeting and participate actively in discussions.
**Accommodations**
The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. Please notify me if there are aspects of this course structure that result in disability related barriers to your participation. You may also wish to contact the Office of Accessible Education in 164 Oregon Hall (346-1155, uoaec@uoregon.edu). Their advisers can help you acquire a letter verifying your disability.

**Inclusion Statement**
The College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Oregon affirms and actively promotes the right of all individuals to equal opportunity in education at this institution without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, age, religion, marital status, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or any other consideration not directly and substantively related to effective performance. If you feel that you have encountered discrimination or harassment, please inquire at the Office of Affirmative Action & Equal Opportunity (http://aaeo.uoregon.edu, 541-345-3123) for information on your rights, options, and resources. Confidentiality for all parties is respected to the extent possible.

**Academic Integrity**
I take academic integrity very seriously: please review the University’s Academic Honesty Policy posted on the blackboard website, and contact me if you have any questions.

**Office Hours and Email**
I am always happy to meet with you during my office hours. If you cannot make my office hours, please contact me to set up an alternate meeting time.

**Grading**
I do not anticipate a curve for this class.

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**Department of Anthropology: Expected levels of performance:**
A+: Quality of student's performance significantly exceeds all requirements and expectations required for an A grade. Very few, if any, students receive this grade in a given course.
A: Quality of performance is outstanding relative to that required to meet course requirements; demonstrates mastery of course content at a high level.
B: Quality of performance is significantly above that required to meet course requirements; demonstrates mastery of course content at a high level.
B-: Quality of performance meets the requirements for graduate students; demonstrates the minimum level of understanding of course content for graduate-level.
C+ to D: Quality of performance is inadequate for graduate-level work; demonstrates only an undergraduate-level of understanding of course content.
F: Quality of performance in the course is unacceptable and does not meet the course requirements; demonstrates an inadequate understanding of course content.
CLASS TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1 (September 29): Introduction to Course Themes

Week 2 (October 6): History, Ontology, Culture, Temporality and Scale

Week 3 (October 13): (In)dividuals, Relationalities

Week 4 (October 20): Kinship, Relatedness, and Mutualisms
Week 5 (October 27): Kinship, Relatedness and Mutualisms

Week 6 (November 3): The “House”, Domestic Units

Week 7 (November 10): Times, Places, and Memories
**Week 8 (November 17): Living Entities**


**Week 9 (November 24): Materiality**


**Week 10 (December 1): Legitimacy, Illegitimacy, Space and Time**


