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Thomas Hylland Eriksen

Small Places – Large Issues *Introduction to Social Anthropology*

Is there such a thing as a “common human condition”? What is the relationship between religion, science and mysticism? What is the role of family ties in traditional or modern societies? How does politics function in a society without leadership? Why are ethnicity and nationalism such central issues in our time?

Small places, Large Issues is a clear and accessible overview of social and cultural anthropology. Hylland Eriksen focuses on the central topics such as kinship, ethnicity, ritual and political systems, and offers a wealth of examples that demonstrate the enormous scope of anthropology and the importance of a comparative perspective. Ranging from the pacific islands to the Arctic north and from small villages to modern nation states, this concise introduction reveals the rich global variation in social life and culture. Eriksen emphasises the need to establish interrelations between action and social structure and between the study to incorporate the anthropology of complex modern societies, thus providing a key text for all students of social and cultural anthropology.

Thomas Hylland Eriksen

Thomas Hylland Eriksen is Professor of social anthropology at the University of Oslo and the author of numerous books on anthropological and cultural issues, including *Small Places, Large Issues* and *Tyranny of the Moment*, which have both enjoyed tremendous success in Norway and abroad.

From 1993 to 2001 he was affiliated with the Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture at the University of Oslo. His research spans ethnic relations, nation building and cultural dynamism in multicultural societies and he has written several books on such subjects. He has carried out field work in Mauritius and Trinidad.



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Social anthropology is the study of how humans give meaning to the world through different social norms, values, practices and means of organisation. This course provides an exciting and dynamic introduction to the world of social anthropology. This course provides an exciting and dynamic introduction to the world of social anthropology. In brief, social anthropology is the study of how humans give meaning to the world through different social norms, values, practices and means of organisation. As such, the role of the social anthropologist is to explore and understand other cultures and societies, and in so doing, to better understand his or her own worldview as well.

1. Introduction

Anthropology tries to account for the social and cultural variation in the world, but a crucial part of the anthropological project also consists in conceptualising and understanding similarities between social systems and human relationships.

Anthropologists try to understand both connections within societies and connections between societies

interrelationships between different aspects of human existence: investigate this by taking as their point of.

1.1 An outline of the subject

etymology: Anthropos (human) + logos (reason) = knowledge about humans

social anthropology: knowledge about humans in societies

culture (colere = to cultivate): knowledge about cultivated humans

All Documents from Small Places, Large Issues - Second Edition: An Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology (Anthropology, Culture and Society). exam 1 2019-02-11. exam 2 2019-03-09. anth exam 2 2013-03-13. exam 1 2013-02-06. exam 2 2018-03-05. anthr 2000 study guide (2012-13 dussart) 2013-06-30. Small Places, Large Issues book. Read 28 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. A revised and updated edition of this unique best-sellin... This concise introduction to social and cultural anthropology has become a modern classic, revealing the rich global variation in social life and culture. I enjoyed reading it.

1- Anthropology: comparison and context

The inhabitants of densely populated, ethnically complex island of Mauritius avoid violent ethnic conflicts. Azande of central Africa believe in witches. In the poststructuralist era, anthropology and history alike have turned to the use of personal life histories and (auto) biographies. They are used to write detailed ethnographies or social histories that shed light on the way large issues are articulated in small places (Hylland Eriksen 2001). Subaltern and feminist studies have demonstrated the relevance of foregrounding the lived experiences of individuals. Negotiating National Identity and Local Belonging in Contemporary Liberia.