M.A. 2nd Semester, Compulsory Course, Winter Semester January–May, Credit: 4
Course Teacher: Professor Nilika Mehrotra
Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University

This course introduces students to history of ideas and thinkers in the trajectories of theory development in Anthropology from nineteenth century to contemporary times. In tracing the debates on key concepts like Evolution, Structure, Culture and Agency etc students are required to read the original texts and participate in the discussions on a regular basis.

**Mode of Instruction:** 3 lecture classes (1hr) and a tutorial/Presentation class (2 hrs) per week

**Mode of Evaluation:** 4 credits: Presentations and write up (1), midterm test (1) and end semester (2). In the overall evaluation, students’ participation in the class and aptitude would be assessed.
Presentations will be based on chosen core theory texts. The students are expected to select the text in consultation with the course teacher by **20th Jan 2016** after discussion with the Teacher /TA and make a presentation. Attendance in the presentation classes is compulsory.
Presentation paper should be submitted within a week of the discussion. (1,000 words).
Date of Midterm test : **21st Feb 2016**.

**Section I  Classical Theories**

**Rise of Anthropological Theory**

Evolutionism (Morgan) Historical Particularism (Boas)

**Early Twentieth Century Approaches** Functionalism (Malinowski), Structural Functionalism (R.R. Brown) Culture and Personality (Benedict, Mead)

**Section II  Theories after 1950-60s**

**Theory at Mid Century** Structuralism (Levi Strauss) Symbolic Anthropology (Geertz) Neo Evolutionism (Sahlins) Postcolonialism (Asad)

**New Debates** Feminist Anthropology (Ortner) Poststructuralism and Postmodernism (Bourdieu, Clifford and Marcus) Globalization debate (Appadurai, Gupta & Ferguson)

**Core Readings**


Marx, Karl. 1857. Pre-Capitalist Social Formations. Lawrence and Wish Art


Reference Readings


### Supplementary Readings


