

Want to figure out what on Earth is going on?

The Anthropology of Global Problems

FALL 2009

Special
Topics:

ANT 405
ANT 505

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In this course, we will investigate changing cultural values and social relations of capitalism from the Industrial Revolution and models of Fordist production to an increasingly post-industrial and global economy. **This is the world that YOU are living in now.** We will examine an **ongoing transformation of basic social institutions, changing values and practices of corporations, and shifting meanings of consumption and production.** Students will employ critical cultural analysis in their consideration of a broad range of social and environmental issues with special emphasis on the varied impact of a culture of capitalism on indigenous peoples, as well as different forms of resistance to globalizing forces. The course will **investigate these issues in depth through a number of practical case studies**, including the infamous Exxon-Valdez oil spill of 1989. Although we will be taking the approach of an applied anthropology, this class will be of use to students from any major interested in contemporary global problems and the potential role of advocacy in social science research.