Course Objectives
This course aims to study the impacts of cultural mechanisms on the management of resources, population size and health practices in different cultural settings. In addition to examining the relationship between "culture" and the “environment,” we shall survey the complex adaptive systems integrating technologies, social organization and ideology, and understand how these institutions shape the environment and cultures for different people in the world.

Intended Learning Outcomes
On completion of this course, students should be able to
1. Comprehend interactions between environmental and cultural settings in our daily life;
2. Develop an anthropological understanding of socio-cultural institutions and their environment in human societies;
3. Develop environmental awareness in our daily life.

Teaching Approach
In this course, we shall emphasize the cultural and ecological strategies of adaption developed by different societies in various environmental settings. In tutorials, we will examine various case studies. Students’ participation in lectures and tutorials are emphasized to accelerate their intellectual development.

Assessment
Students are expected to attend all lectures, tutorials and exams. Continual assessment counts for 50% of the marks. Of this 50%, 20% is based on assessments of two quizzes while the remaining 30% comes from tutorial presentations (20%) and participation (10%). The final exam counts for 50%.

Textbook and Main References
Course content and teaching components:

September 5. Week 1. Introduction
Reading:

No tutorial this week (In Add/Drop period).

Reading:

No tutorial this week (In Add/Drop period).

Reading:


September 26. Week 4. Production and Consumption in Societies of Different Types
Reading:


October 3. Week 5. Hunting and Gathering (the Bushmen)
Reading:


October 10. Week 6. Horticulture (The Lahu)
Reading:

October 17. Week 7. Maritime and Tropical Foragers (Fishman communities); Quiz A.
Reading:


October 24. Week 8. Pastoralism (The Mongol)


October 31. Week 9. Labor Intensive Agriculture (The Pearl River Delta)
Reading:


November 7. Week 10. Ritual and Magic (Chinese Fengshui); Quiz B.
Reading:


Reading:

Readings:


November 28. Week 13. Conclusion

Tutorial: November 28. Final Reviewing