



Anthropology Teachers' Day

8th June 2011

Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT

The Anthropology Teachers' Day is intended to bring together those teachers involved in the new A-Level in Anthropology, or who are interested in teaching it in the future, with members of the Royal Anthropological Institute's Education Committee - professional anthropologists who have been involved in the development and support of the course. This will be the first meeting of many to come and will provide an opportunity for people to meet, to discuss progress so far and issues arising, and to plan future meetings. There will be ample opportunity for participants to meet informally, over coffee and lunch, as well as more direct inputs on issues such as resources, the project activity in Unit 4, and a Q&A session with Senior AQA Examiners.

Programme

10.00 Arrive and Coffee

10:30-11.15 Introductions plus initial discussion of books and other teaching resources

A text book has been written that will shortly be published and a resource book for AS is also ready for publication and one for A2 is in preparation. The authors will discuss these and, in addition, this session will discuss the Discover Anthropology website, museum-based resources, and the use of film in teaching anthropology.

11.15 - 12:00 Unit 3: Global and Local - case studies, exam questions, discussion

Members of the RAI Education Committee will bring out some of the underlying principles of Unit 3 (the first section of the A2 curriculum), provide case studies from their own anthropological experience and also address some of the sample exam questions signalled on the AQA site. The themes will be explored from both a social and biological anthropology perspective.

12:00- 12.15 Coffee

12:15-13:00 Discussion session on issues raised by teachers

This session will provide an opportunity for those who have already taught the AS to share experiences, raise issues for discussion and ask questions. As well as learning from one another, one objective is to identify themes for future RAI Teachers' Days. It would be helpful if those planning to attend were to give some thought to these issues beforehand.

13:00-14:00 Lunch (provided by RAI)

14:00-15:00 Unit 4: Projects and Methods - case studies, procedures, examining, discussion

Unit 4, 'Practising Anthropology', consists of explicit teaching on methods used by anthropologists followed by students conducting an individual 'small-scale

investigation', which will be assessed through questions in the exam paper. Students will not, then, actually hand in a written 'project', rather they will come to the exam ready to make use of their investigation to answer questions about rationale, methods, use of anthropological concepts, etc. In this session, members of the Education Committee will address the issues involved in teaching and doing anthropological research and look at some sample questions.

15:00-16:00 Examination Q&A

Senior members of the AQA Examination Team will be present to answer questions about the Examination procedure and its relation to the Specification of the A-Level

16:00-16:30 Conclusion: future meetings, feedback

We anticipate further meetings, perhaps focussed more closely on particular topics, such as use of film, resource materials, and issues that teachers have raised. This session will allow those present to make suggestions and also to offer feedback on the Day.

Registration Details:

If you are interested in attending this event, please email the RAI's Office Manager at: admin@therai.org.uk . Registration costs £50 for the day which includes lunch and refreshments. Payments may be made using our website page: <http://www.therai.org.uk/about-the-rai/order-from-us/payment/>. The RAI accepts payment by cheque, credit card or bank transfer. If your school requires an invoice please contact us.

Directions to the Royal Anthropological Institute:

The RAI is located on 50 Fitzroy St, London W1T-5BT. Directions to the Institute can be found on our webpage: <http://www.therai.org.uk/contact-us/contact-us/>

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch: admin@therai.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you on the day!

Kinds Regards,
The RAI's Education Committee