**Proposal for a minor amendment in SOSANT1300, starting Høst 2023**

**To the programrådet**

Given the teaching experience and the student feedback concerning the last week, and especially the reading of Ferry and Muehlebach, it would be fair, productive and efficient to consider a small change in this 10th lecture and accompanying seminars.

Elisabeth Ferry’s article “Geologies of power: Value transformations of mineral specimens from Guanajuato, Mexico”, that we have had in our curriculum adds little to the reiterating discussion that this last week aims to achieve. As it introduces discussions on material culture, it does not contributing to bringing the preceding learning outcomes from the course together but to counter-productively adding new material at the last moment.

What we need instead is a classic article, that would bring forth a snappy, informed, and time-resisting argument that would have a lingering effect on students as a last reading for the course.

This is why I propose James Woodburn influential piece “Egalitarian societies”, thought across the world in Economic Anthropology courses. It is one of the most enduring arguments of the subdiscipline, and its clarity of thought would work wonders, as students can use it in combination with previous learnings. Given the last week also entails (re)reading the monograph, this would be the perfect article to combine the book with.

Concerning Muehlebach, I would suggest we take the 7 pages from her book that we currently have out altogether. It is a subsection in a chapter in an ethnographic monograph. Its position in the course is confusing, and many students have asked “do we need to have the whole chapter or just this small section”?

Ferry’s article is 16 pages long. Muehlebach’s excerpt is 7 pages long. Woodburn’s article is 20 pages long. We thus, if we apply this small change, have only 3 pages less than before, for next semester: indeed, the page number for the course allows this tiny addition, as the overall course now stands at 772 pages, so below the 800 general limit.

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**Emneansvarlig sosant1300**