Chapter 1: Locating the political: a political anthropology for today, pp. 1-21.

**List of issues covered in Gledhill’s Ch. 1:**

- colonialism and political anthropology
- ordered anarchy, fission and fusion
- development, neocolonialism, dependency
- what political anthropology ought to be about, how it should be done
- problem of Eurocentric analyses of power as coercion, statelessness as an absence
- the modern state & surveillance
- repressive states as weak states
- locating power, politics in the everyday

**Questions about Gledhill, Ch. 1:**

- What were some of the limitations of early political anthropology in Gledhill’s view?
- What was its “ethnocentric baggage” and how did that shape and limit understandings?
- How have “stateless societies” been understood in early political anthropology?
- Is power to be found in stateless societies? Is politics to be found in bands and tribes? What are politics rooted in if there is “relative egalitarianism”?
- What is distinctive about *the state*?
- Is the power of the state total and absolute, does it operate everywhere?
- For anthropologists to make a valuable contribution to the study of politics, along what directions should their studies proceed, in Gledhill’s view?