Course Syllabus: ANT 4462 Medical Anthropology

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Professor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Nessette Falu
Office	Remote via Zoom only
Office Hours	M 3-4pm via Zoom only and by appointment
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Course Information

Course Name	Medical Anthropology
Course ID & Section	ANT 4462
Credit Hours	3
Meeting Times	1:30-2:45pm via Zoom only
Semester/Year	Fall 2020
Location	Online

Teaching Assistant: Ms. Suzanne Draper

You may contact her via Inbox in Webcourses only.
Also, you should contact me primarily via Inbox Webcourses.

Prerequisite: PR: Sophomore standing.
Special Notice: The course would have ordinarily been a face-to-face course but changed to mix-mode Zoom (remote) class time for COVID 19 safety precautions as per the university. The course will aim to give you the optimal experience under these circumstances. If you are feeling ill or diagnosed with COVID-19, please send me a message about your status and circumstances.

Course Description

Medical anthropology is concerned with interpreting health, illness and disease, medicine, healthcare, and public health in a variety of ways and contexts both locally and globally. Medical anthropological research for decades has explored themes beyond the traditional boundaries related to issues such as bodily constructions, human rights, identity, sexuality, race, gender, and policy. This course introduces students to bio-cultural perspectives, methods, and theoretical approaches toward issues about and toward the body and community health, illness, medicine, and healthcare within the U.S. and globally. How might we understand ways in which individuals and communities negotiate issues of health and healthcare? How might we reflect upon the influences of structures and institutions such as healthcare and medicine, religion, and government toward human health and health caring practices? How might these concepts about the human body serve as lenses by which to understand interdisciplinary related issues such as gender, politics, race, religion, healthcare, ethics, tourism, and human rights? We will discuss and question the existing debates toward norms, identities, sex, freedom, justice, and rights to express and even discipline the human body and seek health. The main objective of this course is to trace how varying ideas of health and healthcare have been interpreted by anthropologists and other scholars across different contexts and complex issues. As a social science, you will engage in readings, discussions, and assignments that examine and explore culture and society. This course will explore films, cultural production, social media, politics, global and local contexts, and much more.

Course Objectives

- Introduce students to the study of medical anthropology and related topics across a variety of disciplines
- Give students an awareness of issues of health and medicine within cultures and diversity at US, international and global scales
- Encourage critical thinking on a range of dilemmas posed by the readings and films
- Develop students' proficiency in speaking critically and writing cogently and/or persuasively and effectively about the body, health, and medical institutions
- Demonstrate applied ways for students to integrate issues of the healthcare and health into their thinking about their future lives and work, including considering many forms of action and intervention
- Learn theories and methods for the application of medical anthropology.

Required Texts

- Skloot, Rebecca. 2010. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*.Crown Publishing Group. ISBN 9781400052189
- Plemons, Eric. 2017. *The Look of a Woman: Facial Feminization Surgery and the Aims of Trans-Medicine*. Duke University Press. ISBN9780822369141
- Davis, Dana-Ain. 2019. *Reproductive Injustice*: Racism, Pregnancy, and Premature Birth. ISBN-9781479853571
  - NOTE: This textbook is an e-book via UCF Library!
- Hanna, Anita. 2017. Beyond Surgery: Injury, Healing, and Religion at an Ethiopian Hospital. ISBN: 9780226457291

Supplemental Texts

Links to other required supplemental course material can be found in each module of this course.

Course Requirements

Discussion Posts: 10 posts. 30 points each, 300 in total. Students are required to post a response for a discussion post and reply by due date. 30 points each discussion post (Main post: 25 points due by Friday 11:59pm - 250-300 words; your reply to another student post: 5 points due Sunday 11:59pm). The assignment will remain open through Sunday 11:59pm to post your response. Please post on-time to allow your classmates time to read your post and post their reply. **You will lose 5 points if your main post is posted on Sunday.**

Midterm Paper: 300 points. This is a critical thinking paper. You are required to find a political cartoon about COVID - 19 and analyze it. Each student needs to choose a different cartoon. You will need to submit your cartoon for approval to the TA and professor via Canvas In-box. Explain what the cartoon illustrates graphically (details and nuances) and the messages that are hidden, nuanced, and glaringly obvious. Your analysis must engage some of the theories or concepts covered in the course. Paper length 5 pages, double spaced, not including reference list. You may use Chicago Style or MLA citations.

Final Paper: 300 points. Your final paper should propose a social dilemma related to medical anthropology for research. You will develop a research proposal proposing a clear strategy with background, significance, methods, literature review and discussion. This paper should demonstrate an understanding of medical anthropology. Paper length: 7-8 pages, not including references. You may use Chicago Style or MLA citations. Submit your topic to the professor by 10/23 (10 points). Optional: submit an outline for feedback by the end of November for no credit.

Film(s) will be screened via Zoom and offered for online content.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit

Every week, you will have to complete a group discussion. There are due dates for discussion posts and other assignments (papers) so you have to stay on top of the work. Communication is key. Send me a message via Canvas if you have any challenges to completing any of the work this remainder of semester. I will not accept late assignment after 5 days of deadline without medical or other documentation. For each day late, you will lose 10 points. There is no extra credit granted unless there is a opportunity for the entire class at my discretion.

Evaluation and Grading

You are expected to produce college-level writing. If you have trouble writing, please contact me or contact via email the university writing center. There may be virtual resources for you from UCF. I am also happy to read and comment on preliminary drafts of your papers, as long as you have them to me at least ten days before the paper deadline.

Discussion Posts (10)	*300 points*
Midterm: Analytical Paper	*300 points*
Final Paper: Decolonizing Medicine Paper	*300 points (includes 10 points for topic submission and 10 points for proposal outline)*

TOTAL: 900 points

Your grade will be based on the following scale:

Percentage	Grade
94-100	A
89-93	A-
85-88	B+
82-84	B
79-81	B-
73-78	C+
68-72	C
64-67	C-
60-63	D
59 and below	F

ZOOM USE

Statement

Because of the continued remote instruction requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this course will use Zoom for some synchronous ("real time") class meetings. Meeting dates and times will be scheduled through Webcourses@UCF and should appear on your calendar.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with Zoom by visiting the UCF Zoom Guides at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/zoom/>. You may choose to use Zoom on your mobile device (phone or tablet).

Things to Know About Zoom:

- You must sign in to my Zoom session using your UCF NID and password.
- The Zoom sessions are recorded.
- Improper classroom behavior is not tolerated within Zoom sessions and may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct.
- You can contact Webcourses@UCF Support at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/> if you have any technical issues accessing Zoom.

Course Etique:

I am expecting students to attend Zoom sessions each week. Your presence and contribution count as participation. Attendance will be taken. If you have more than 3 absences (and certainly if excessively absent), you may be subject to 10% reduction of your final grade for the course. Communication is key about your internet access and virtual needs to be successful in the course. You are also required to wear clothes during the Zoom sessions. Also, please monitor the distractions during the session for background noise. Mute yourself until you are ready to speak to the group. I prefer for students to use the raise their hands Zoom option.

I encourage all opinions and perspectives. There is no right or wrong answer if you are thinking critically with awareness about a topic. Students are expected to be respectful and mindful of each others' opinions and differences. At the same time, this course will not tolerate passive aggressive or anti-Black and anti-ethnic or anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ comments or statements that offend any one student or target any marginal populations. Let's create together a robust learning environment, share ideas, frustrations, and be vulnerable for transformation of ourselves and society.

WRITING CENTER

University Writing Center
Trevor Colbourn Hall 109
Satellite Locations: Main Library, Rosen Library, Online
407-823-2197
http://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/

The University Writing Center (UWC) offers writing support to students from first-year to graduate in every discipline. Tutors provide help at every stage of the writing process, including understanding assignments, researching, drafting, revising, incorporating sources, and learning to proofread and edit. The UWC's purpose is not merely to fix or edit papers, but to teach writing strategies that can be applied to any writing situation. Consultations are available for individuals and small groups. You may schedule a 45-minute appointment by clicking the *Success Resources* tab on Webcourses, calling the UWC at 407-823-2197, or through the UWC website.

The UWC seeks graduate and undergraduate tutors from all majors. To learn more about becoming a writing tutor, please contact us.

COVID 19 UNIVERSITY STATEMENTS

University-Wide Face Covering Policy for Common Spaces and Face-to-Face Classes

To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf . Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the Golden Rule for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

Notifications in Case of Changes to Course Modality

Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification

Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place.

Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)

Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

In Case of Faculty Illness

If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement

Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact sas@ucf.edu to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses.

Academic Honesty

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct at <https://scal.sdes.ucf.edu/student-rules-of-conduct/ >. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Materials: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.
5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.
8. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating
Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule* https://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/ >. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on the exercise to an "F" letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a "Z" designation on one's transcript.

Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc.

Let's avoid all of this by demonstrating values of honesty, trust, and integrity. No grade is worth compromising your integrity and moving your moral compass. Stay true to doing the right thing: take the zero, not a shortcut.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services , Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need not make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.