CULTURE, DISEASE, AND HEALING

ANT 4408

Section 0M01

Spring 2020
Thursday: 9:00am – 10:15am & Online
BA1 121
3 Credit Hours

Instructor: Dr. Shana Harris
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Office Hours: Thursdays, 11:00am – 3:00pm

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Course Description

This course explores the role of culture in shaping the experiences and perceptions of health, illness, and well-being in a variety of contexts. Drawing on work from the field of medical anthropology, we will examine how culture intersects with political, economic, and institutional forces to influence these experiences and perceptions. We will also look at different medical and healing practices in order to understand the delivery of healthcare in its various forms. Course material will cover an array of health-related topics, including biomedicine, ethnomedicine, race and ethnicity, addiction, and social suffering, in multiple contexts such as China, Mexico, and the United States. Ultimately, this course will reveal the various ways in which medical anthropologists research and think critically about health, illness, disease, the body, and medical and healing systems.

Public Course Description

The role of culture in shaping the experience and perceptions of health, sickness, and well-being in a variety of contexts.

Prerequisites

Sophomore standing or Consent of Instructor

Student Learning Objectives

This course has three objectives: 1) to familiarize you with ways in which health, illness, and well-being are understood and experienced in various cultural contexts; 2) to expose you to key concepts and theoretical paradigms in medical anthropology; and 3) to instigate critical thinking about health-related issues in both the classroom and your everyday lives.

Course Requirements

Reading and Participation

Reading course materials and active participation in the course are both required. Students are expected to attend class having read the required readings for that day. The lectures will cover the readings, but will be supplemented with additional material. Doing well in the course will depend on keeping up with readings and coming to class prepared to discuss them.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all face-to-face classes, and attendance will be recorded. Students who leave class early without letting Dr. Harris or the GTA know the reason before the class will be marked as absent for the entire class. Additionally, phone use during class will be noted in the grade roster, which will be used as a negative when calculating your final grade.

Midterm Exam (40 points)

There will be one midterm exam. The exam consists of 40 questions (multiple choice, true/false, and/or short answer) and will cover concepts from all texts, videos, and lectures in the first half of the semester. There will be **no make-up** exam except for serious illness, personal/family tragedy, etc. You must let Dr. Harris know in advance of any extenuating circumstance that would prevent you from taking the midterm exam as scheduled. Please bring a **brown** scantron and #2 pencil to the exam.

Final Exam (40 points)

The final exam will consist of 40 questions (multiple choice, true/false, and/or short answer) and is cumulative. It is based on concepts from all texts, videos, and lectures, with an emphasis on the last half of the course material. There will be **no make-up** exam except for serious illness, personal/family tragedy, etc. You must let Dr. Harris know in advance of any extenuating circumstance that would prevent you from taking the final exam as scheduled. Please bring a **brown** scantron and #2 pencil to the exam.

Quizzes (6 points each, 60 points total)

There will be 12 quizzes over the course of the semester. Quizzes are based on assigned readings for that day, and will consist of 1-2 questions aimed at assessing whether or not you read and understood the assigned material. The questions will be multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, or narrative. Quizzes will take 5-10 minutes at the beginning of class. There will be **no make-up** for missed quizzes because your two lowest scores will be dropped.

Online Component – Research Paper (60 points)

The online component of this course is a research paper, which will hopefully be fun for you! This is an opportunity for you to learn more about a topic that interests you. The paper should be 1600-2000 words in length, plus bibliography. It will be based on a **close reading** of three medical anthropology articles, one medical anthropology book, or three chapters from an edited medical anthropology book. Online assignments are designed as a step-by-step process to develop and write a great research paper. The paper topic is your choice! You can choose any topic relevant to health and culture. For example, you can examine how ideas about health or the body manifest themselves in culturally-specific ways or you can select a specific disease as a lens through which to analyze cultural meanings of health and experiences of being sick. A list of topic ideas will be provided to help you think about possibilities. To have fun with this project, it is most important to choose a topic based on your own interest and on information available.

Grading Structure

Midterm Exam	40 points
Final Exam	40 points
Quizzes (10 out of 12)	60 points
Research Paper	60 points
Total:	200 points

Attendance record and class participation will be used to help students in borderline cases.

Grading Scale

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Total Points	200-187	186-179	178-173	172-167	166-159	158-153	152-147	146-139	138-133	132-127	126-119	118-0

Course Policies

Computer Policy

Research has shown that taking notes on a computer is less effective than taking notes with pen and paper. Computers are also often a distraction for you and your classmates. Therefore, computers are not allowed in class. Please come prepared to take notes by hand. Also, because you will not have access to electronic versions of the readings during class, please bring hard copies of the readings for use during class discussion. You can print 50 double-sided pages (100 sides, black & white) per week for **free** at different locations (https://studentunion.ucf.edu/spaces/lab). If you are an Honors College student, you should check with your college or department to see if they provide facilities for free printing. If Student Accessibility Services has approved your use of a computer in class, please let Dr. Harris know as soon as possible.

Obtaining Notes for Missed Lectures

If you miss a lecture, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from a fellow classmate. Dr. Harris will not provide notes or a copy of the lecture PowerPoint.

Respectful Behavior

You are expected to have a respectful demeanor in all class discussions and interactions with Dr. Harris, the GTA, and classmates. You should also be respectful of the class start time. Arriving late to class is distracting to both Dr. Harris and your classmates. Make every effort to be punctual. Tardiness will be noted and marked on attendance records.

Knights Email and Webcourses Communication

Given that there will be important email and Webcourses communications between Dr. Harris, the GTA, and the class, you are responsible for checking your "knights.ucf.edu" email and Webcourses inboxes on a regular basis.

Grade Disputes

If you would like to dispute a grade on a particular assignment, please come to Dr. Harris's office hours in person **and** submit your graded work along with a written explanation of why you would like her to read and review your work a second time. Please be aware, though, that her willingness to re-read your work is not a guarantee that your grade for the assignment will be changed.

Academic Integrity

You are expected to do your own work in this course. You should familiarize yourself with UCF's Rules of Conduct (http://osc.sdes.ucf.edu/process/roc). According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," you are prohibited from engaging in the following:

- *Unauthorized assistance*: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by Dr. Harris. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
- *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.
- *Commercial use of academic material*: 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 Dr. Harris. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Dr. Harris's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
- *Falsifying or misrepresenting* your own academic work.
- *Plagiarism*: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is your own.
- *Multiple submissions*: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of Dr. Harris.
- *Helping another student cheat* or violate academic behavior standards

Responses to Academic Misconduct

Engaging in academic misconduct it will not be tolerated in this course and will carry serious consequences. You should familiarize yourself with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's Student Handbook, *The Golden Rule* (http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu).

UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree. We seek to prevent unethical behavior and, when necessary, respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a zero grade for an assignment or in the course and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. Another penalty is receiving a "Z Designation" on your official transcription, indicating academic dishonesty, resulting in the final grade for this course being preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation: http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade

Student Accessibility

UCF is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need access to course content due to course design limitations should contact Dr. Harris as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu, 407-823-2371, or Ferrell Commons 185. For students connected to SAS, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to Dr. Harris, which informs her of potential course access and accommodations that might be necessary and reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives, and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student. Further conversation with SAS, Dr. Harris, and the student may be warranted to ensure an accessible course experience.

Campus Safety

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. You should be aware of your surroundings and familiar with the following basic safety concepts:

- In case of emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. You should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version: http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html
- You should know the evacuation routes from the classroom and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, you may need to access a first-aid kit or Automated External Defibrillator (AED). To learn where those are located: http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/AEDlocations-UCF (click on link from menu on the left)
- To stay informed about emergency situations, you can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to logging into my.ucf.edu. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center Screen, click on "UCF Alert," fill out the information (including email address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider), click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with Dr. Harris.

- To learn how to manage an active shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIKYajEx4pk

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

If you are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact Dr. Harris as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after you receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

Make-Up Assignments for Authorized University Activities

If you represent UCF in an authorized activity (ex. student-athletes) and are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event, then you must provide Dr. Harris with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied. For more information: http://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.2MakeUpAssignmentsorAuthUnivEventsorCocurricular Activities.pdf

Religious Observance

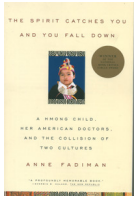
You must notify Dr. Harris in advance if you intend to miss class for a religious observance. For more information: http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservances FINALJan19.pdf

Academic Activity Record

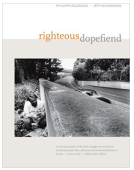
DO THIS ASAP! All students have to document academic activity at the beginning of each semester. To show that you began this course, complete the "Academic Activity" assignment by **Friday, January 10**, by answering a few questions pertaining to this syllabus. The assignment can be found on the course Webcourses page. This Academic Activity assignment is **not** part of your course grade; it only documents your presence in this class. Failure to complete the assignment may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Required Texts

The required books for this course are:



- Fadiman, Anne. 1997. *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures.* New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux.



- Bourgois, Philippe, and Jeff Schonberg. 2009. *Righteous Dopefiend.* Berkeley: University of California Press.

The required books are available for purchase at the student bookstore. Several articles and book chapters are also required and are available electronically on the Webcourses website under the **Modules** tab. All assigned readings are listed in the class schedule below, which specifies when you are expected to read them. **Please download the readings to your computers and/or print them** so you can make notes on them and have them available for review later in the semester. To access Webcourses: login on webcourses.ucf.edu website, then go to Courses, and then select our class ANT4481-20Spring 0M01. For technical support with Webcourses, call 407-823-0407.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Thursday, January 9

- TOPIC: Syllabus and course overview

Online

- Assignment #1: Become familiar with Webcourses site and make sure you can access readings (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 2

Thursday, January 16

QUIZ #1

- TOPIC: Disease, Illness, and Narrative

- READING: Kleinman, Arthur, and Don Seeman. 2000. "Personal Experience of Illness." In *Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine*, edited by Gary L. Albrecht, Ray Fitzpatrick, and Susan C. Scrimshaw, 230-242. London: Sage.

Online

- Assignment #2: Submit preliminary paper topic ideas, keywords, and preferred geographic areas. Examples of topics listed on assignment (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 3

Thursday, January 23

QUIZ #2

- TOPIC: Disease, Illness, and Narrative

- READING: Lang, Gretchen Chesley. 1989. "'Making Sense' About Diabetes: Dakota Narratives of Illness." *Medical Anthropology* 11:305-327.

Online

- Assignment #3: Begin searching for articles/books/book chapters (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 4

Thursday, January 30

QUIZ #3

- TOPIC: Biomedicine as Cultural System

- READING: Good, Byron, and Mary Jo DelVecchio Good. 1993. "'Learning Medicine': The Constructing of Medical Knowledge at Harvard Medical School." In *Knowledge, Power, and Practice: The Anthropology of Medicine and Everyday Life*, edited by Shirley Lindenbaum and Margaret Lock, 81-107. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Online

- Assignment #4: Submit list of proposed articles/books/book chapters. Wait for approval and feedback (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 5

Thursday, February 6

QUIZ #4

- TOPIC: Biomedicine and Ethnomedicine Compared

- READING: Finkler, Kaja. 1994. "Sacred Healing and Biomedicine Compared." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 8:178-197.

Online

- Assignment #5: Submit revised list of articles/books/book chapters and wait for approval <u>or</u> start reading and annotating (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 6

Thursday, February 13

QUIZ #5

- TOPIC: Cultural Collisions in Healthcare in North America

- READING: Fadiman, pg. 3-77

Online

- Assignment #6: Read and annotate (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 7

QUIZ #6

Thursday, February 20

- TOPIC: Cultural Collisions in Healthcare in North America
- READING: Fadiman, pg. 225-288

Online

- Assignment #7: Submit annotated bibliography (instructions on Webcourses).
- FILM: *Between Two Worlds: The Hmong Shaman in America*

Week 8

QUIZ #7

Thursday, February 27

- TOPIC: Race, Ethnicity, and Health
- READING: Hunt, Linda M., Nicole D. Truesdell, and Meta J. Kreiner. 2013. "Genes, Race, and Culture in Clinical Care: Racial Profiling in the Management of Chronic Illness." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 27:253-271.

Online

- Assignment #8: Submit outline for research paper (~1 page) (instructions on Webcourses).
- FILM: *The Problem with Race-Based Medicine*

Week 9

Thursday, March 5

MIDTERM EXAM

Online

- Assignment #9: Begin with writing research paper (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 10

NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)

- NO Assignment #10 – Happy Spring Break!

Week 11

Thursday, March 19

QUIZ #8

- TOPIC: Culture, Politics, and the Body

- READING: Scheper-Hughes, Nancy and Margaret Lock. 1987. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1: 6-41.

Online

- Assignment #11: Proceed with writing research paper (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 12

Thursday, March 26

QUIZ #9

- TOPIC: Population Control and Policies in China

- READING: Greenhalgh, Susan. 1994. "Controlling Births and Bodies in Village China." *American Ethnologist* 21: 3-30.

Online

- Assignment #12: Proceed with writing (instructions on Webcourses).

- FILM: *China: One Child Policy*

Week 13

Thursday, April 2

QUIZ #10

- TOPIC: Health, Inequality, and Social Suffering
- READINGS: Farmer, Paul. 1996. "On Social Suffering and Structural Violence: A View from Below." *Daedalus* 125: 261-283.

  Bourgois and Schonberg, pg. 1-45

Online

- Assignment #13: Proceed with writing (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 14

Thursday, April 9

QUIZ #11

- TOPIC: Drug Use and Homelessness in the U.S.
- READING: Bourgois and Schonberg, pg. 79-115, 147-181

Online

- Assignment #14: Proceed with writing and final editing (instructions on Webcourses).

Week 15

Thursday, April 16

QUIZ #12

- TOPIC: Drug Use and Homelessness in the U.S.
- READING: Bourgois and Schonberg, pg. 241-320

Online

- Research paper due on Sunday, April 19, at 11:59pm (instructions on Webcourses).
- FILM: *Chasing Heroin*

Final Exam Week

Thursday, April 23

Final Exam 7:00am – 9:50am