ANTH 341
MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
FALL 2018
TR 9:30 – 10:45 P.M.
ST 132

Instructor Charles Mather
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Office Hours MW- 1:00PM to 2:00PM
Prerequisite Anthropology 203

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Office Hours TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course introduces students to medical anthropology. Particular case studies, drawn from the course readings, will serve as examples for the diversity of methods and theories found within medical anthropology. Course content will consist of lectures based upon material from the readings, and films. Reading material before the lectures will help prepare for potential discussion and question and answer sessions (i.e., the instructor will ask students questions and try to stimulate conversation about the subject matter).

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES
Among other things, by the end of this course students will have a basic understanding of the three broad approaches in the sub-discipline: biocultural, cultural, and applied medical anthropology. Students will become familiar with using a comparative and holistic perspective to understand complex health phenomena and challenges. Through their reading of course materials, they will not only be prepared to answer short answer, essay questions, and multiple choice questions on exams, but will have a grounding in and be able to discuss salient issues in the sub-discipline.

REQUIRED READINGS
The readings for this course consist of articles from major academic journals that students can access through the University of Calgary Library system. Citations for the readings appear in the lecture schedule at the end of this outline. Students can use these citations to search for the readings on the library system, or they can access the readings via links that they can find on the D2L page for the course.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATIONS
The final grade will be based upon marks attained in two mid-term examinations and a final examination. The exams will be made up of multiple choice questions, mix and match questions, short answer questions, and essay questions. Values for the three exams are as follows:
1st mid-term exam, October 4  
2nd mid-term exam, November 1  
Registrar scheduled final exam  

If there are any conflicts with the exam schedule and your personal schedule you need to let me know promptly – that way I’ll have time to make the appropriate arrangements.

Correspondences between letter grades and percentages are as follows:

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<th>Grade</th>
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**September**
Thursday 6 – Lecture one  
Course Introduction

Tuesday 11 - Lecture two  
Medical anthropology: An introduction to the fields

Thursday 13 – TOPIC 1 - Impact of evolution, biology, history, and ecology on health

Lecture three  
Evolution, health, and medicine  
Readings  


Tuesday 18 – Lecture Four  
Human biological variation  
Readings  


Thursday 23 – Lecture Five  
Bioarchaeology and the history of health  
Readings


Tuesday 25 - Lecture six
Cultural and political ecologies of disease

Readings


Thursday 27 – Lecture six (cont).
TOPIC 3 - How the social and cultural create, produce, and reproduce health
Lecture seven
Health, illness, and disease as social constructs and products

Readings


**October**
Tuesday 2 – Lecture seven (cont)

Thursday 4 – First mid-term exam – lectures one through six

Tuesday 9 – Film “The Return of Dr. Fritz”
Thursday 11 – Lecture eight
Ethnomedicine and Belief
Readings

Thompson, Jennifer Jo, Cheryl Ritenbaugh, and Mark Nichter. 2009. Reconsidering the placebo response from a broad anthropological perspective. *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry* 33(1): 112-152.

Tuesday 16 – Lecture eight (cont)

Lecture nine
Healers in cross cultural perspective
Readings
Hardin, Jessica. 2016. “Healing is a Done Deal”: Temporality and Metabolic Healing Among Evangelical Christians in Samoa. *Medical anthropology* 35(2), 105-118.


Thursday 18 – Lecture nine (cont)

Tuesday 23 – Lecture ten
Culture Illness and Mental Health
Readings


Thursday 25 – Lecture ten (cont)
Lecture eleven
1. Critical Medical Anthropology
   Readings
   Baer, Hans A., Merrill Singer, and John H. Johnsen. 1986. Toward a critical

   Carroll, Jennifer J. 2013. Key Theories from Critical Medical Anthropology for
   Public Health Research. Part I: Starting with Foucault: cultures of medicine and

   Dressler, William W. 2001. Medical anthropology: Toward a third moment in

   Pfeiffer, James, and Mark Nichter. 2008. What Can Critical Medical Anthropology
   Contribute to Global Health? A Health Systems Perspective. *Medical Anthropology

Tuesday 30 – Lecture eleven (cont)

November
Thursday 2 – TOPIC THREE – Applied Anthropology and case studies

Lecture Twelve
Explanatory models
   Readings
   Harwood, Alan. 1971. The hot-cold theory of disease: Implications for the

   Frank, Sarah M. and T. Elizabeth Durden. 2017. Two approaches, one problem:
   Cultural constructions of type II diabetes in an indigenous community in Yucatán,

Tuesday 7 – Lecture thirteen
Stigma
   Readings

   Inhorn, Marcia C. 2004. Middle Eastern masculinities in the age of new
   reproductive technologies: male infertility and stigma in Egypt and
Thursday 8 – Mid-term two

READING BREAK

Tuesday 20 – Film “Vine of the Soul”

Thursday 22 – Lecture fourteen
Reproductive Health

Readings


Tuesday 27 – Lecture fourteen (cont)
Lecture fifteen
Obesity

Readings


Thursday 29 – Lecture sixteen
Global Health

Readings


December
Tuesday 5 – Lecture seventeen
Thrifty Gene
Readings


Thursday 7 – Lecture eighteen
Biomedicine, technology and health
Readings


Important dates
Mid-term One – October 4
Mid-term Two – November 8
Reading Break – November 12 to November 18

DEFERRED EXAMS:
A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar approval. The instructor at their discretion may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc. Documentation supporting the reason for missing an exam may be required. Deferred exams may be in a different format than the regularly scheduled exam, e.g. essay style questions instead of multiple choice questions. Students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided by the Provincial Health Care Plan

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING
Plagiarism: “to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one’s own” (Webster’s). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the University
of Calgary’s policy on intellectual honesty

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**
http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy
Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor of this course.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**
Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Calgary is a strong signal of each student’s individual academic achievements. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Non-academic integrity also constitutes an important component of this program.

For detailed information on what constitutes academic and non-academic misconduct, please refer to the following link: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html

All suspected cases of academic and non-academic misconduct will be investigated following procedures outlined in the University Calendar. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

Where there is a criminal act involved in plagiarism, cheating or other academic misconduct, e.g., theft (taking another student's paper from their possession, or from the possession of a faculty member without permission), breaking and entering (forcibly entering an office to gain access to papers, grades or records), forgery, personation and conspiracy (impersonating another student by agreement and writing their paper) and other such offences under the Criminal Code of Canada, the University may take legal advice on the appropriate response and, where appropriate, refer the matter to the police, in addition to or in substitution for any action taken under these regulations by the University

**TEACHING EVALUATIONS / USRIS (Universal Student Ratings of Instruction)**
At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. **Your responses make a difference, please participate!** Website: http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri/

**WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**
Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers,
students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support, part of the Student Success Centre, can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

**Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points:** In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints)

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:** Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip](http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip)

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology’s FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructor’s office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology and Archaeology Office (ES620) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternative arrangements with the course instructor early in the term.

**Safewalk Information:** Campus Security, in partnership with the Students’ Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:** Have a question, but not sure where to start? Arts Students' Centre
The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance that they require.
In addition to housing the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning, the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:
- program advising
- the Faculty’s Co-operative Education Program
- the Arts and Science Honours Academy
- the Faculty’s Interdisciplinary Programs
- a Student Help Desk
Location: Social Sciences Room 102
Phone: 403.220.3580
Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca
Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contacts for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:
arts1@su.ucalgary.ca
arts2@su.ucalgary.ca
arts3@su.ucalgary.ca
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Ombudsman`s office: http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/