

## **Anthropology 341 Medical Anthropology**

Dr. Hart Krentz  
Fall Session 2021

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Office Hours: Tue/Thurs 1130 – 12:30 (via email)

Online Web Based Course

Time: Tues/Thurs 1230-1345 (Zoom)

### **Course Learning Outcomes:**

**Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**

1. Understand the theoretical and practical approaches, research methods, analytical insights, factual information, and conclusions made within the subfield of medical anthropology.
2. Demonstrate ability to analyze and discuss central issues surrounding health, disease, illness, and sickness behaviour in a cross-cultural perspective.
3. Use a range of research skills to comparatively investigate health and illness within and between cultural groups.
4. Understand past, contemporary, and future issues surrounding the construction of disease and illness within cultural context.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary health issues (e.g., COVID) and be able to articulate different views on these issues.
6. Understand and demonstrate the ability to transfer knowledge obtained in the course to new and unique situations.

Material covered in this course will include lecture, film, discussion, and required readings. Grades and evaluation will be based on the student's (i) breadth of factual and theoretical knowledge, (ii) comprehension of concepts and descriptive materials, and (iii) clarity and structure of presentation both in class and in written materials. All written assignments including, written exam responses will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization.

*'It's important to give bread when people are hungry, but its also important to know why they didn't have bread in the first place.'*

### **Course Information:**

1. The course consists of weekly asynchronous lectures, and synchronous discussion sessions.
2. Asynchronous lectures will be posted on Mondays for the students to review during the week.
3. Synchronous discussion sessions will be conducted via Zoom on Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-1345. Students are required to attend 1 of the 2 sessions each week. Attendance will be reported and attendance marks will be earned (see evaluation section below).
4. Readings will be from the required textbook.
5. Course evaluation consists of 2 midterm exams, 1 final exam, and attendance (see details in the exam section below).

### **Required Technology and Equipment:**

- You must have a working computer with a broadband internet connection, an updated browser, webcam, and microphone (i.e. working camera and microphone) to participate in the zoom discussion sessions.
- You must have access to D2L, Word and PowerPoint for online examinations.

### **Course Evaluation and Grading**

Final course grades will be based on 2 midterms, and a final examination. Examinations will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and an essay question.

1 <sup>st</sup> Midterm Examination	30%
2 <sup>nd</sup> Midterm Examination	30%
Registrar Scheduled Final Exam	35%
Discussion Session Attendance	5%
Total	100%

**Final Course Grades** are based on the following:

A+ 95 – 100%	B 75 – 79.9%	C- 59 – 62.9%
A 90 – 94.9%	B- 71 – 74.9%	D+ 55 – 58.9%
A- 85 – 89.9%	C+ 67 – 70.9%	D 50 – 54.9%
B+ 80 – 84.9%	C 63 – 66.9%	F < 50%

### **Required Textbook:**

Brown, Peter J. & Closser, Svea (2016) *Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology*, 3rd Ed.

\*Reading assignments from the textbook will be listed weekly in D2L.

### **Weekly Discussion Session (via Zoom):**

1. Weekly discussion session will cover the topics presented in the current week's lectures and readings.
2. Although the sessions may vary slightly due to the attending students questions or concerns, students **are required to attend** either the Tuesday or Thursday session (students can attend both). Attendance will be recorded.
3. The sessions work well if students participate and brings their questions into the discussion.

**Zoom** is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered

in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect. When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies. If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

### **Course Lectures and Outline:**

\*Note- Live discussion session will be held on Tuesday and Thursday 1230 to 1345 every week unless otherwise noted.

<b>Week of:</b>	<b>Topics</b>
7 September	(a) Introduction to Medical Anthropology (b) Anthropological Perspectives on Health, Illness and Disease
<i>Anthropology of Illness</i>	
13 Sept	(a) Illness Behaviour/theories of illness causation (b) Explanatory Models of Illness / the 'sick role'
20 Sept	Caring and Curing and the development of Health Care Systems
27 Sept	The Art of Healing

- (a) Healers and Healing in Cross-Cultural Perspective
- (b) Total Drug/Treatment Effect -Culture and Pharmacology

4 Oct Cross cultural Mental Health and Illness

11 Oct Cross cultural mental health and illness cont.

**1<sup>st</sup> Mid-term Examination – posted Thursday, Oct 14 @ 1500 hrs.  
Due Friday, Oct 15 at 1500 hrs.**

18 Oct Changing Relationships with Illness and Disease

***Anthropology of Disease***

25 Oct (a) Evolutionary/Ecological Perspectives on Health and Disease  
(b) Disease Etiology

1 Nov Human Behaviour and Disease

8 Nov **No class – reading break**

15 Nov Historical Perspectives of Disease in Human Populations

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mid-term Examination – posted Thursday, Nov 18 @ 1500 hrs.  
Due Friday, Nov 19 at 1500 hrs.**

22 Nov Historical Perspectives of Disease in Human Populations cont.

***Applied Medical Anthropology***

29 Nov Applied Medical Anthropology:  
(a) Cultural Contact and Change between Health Care Systems

6 Dec (a) Sociopolitical and Economic aspects of Disease and Illness  
(b) Syndemic Perspectives  
(c) Conclusions

**Final Examination – to be scheduled by the Registrar (Dec 13-22 exam period)**

**Examinations:**

1. Midterm Examinations will be posted at 3pm on Thursday following the discussion session.
2. Exams will be ‘open’ book. Students will have access to their textbook, lecture notes and lecture slides. Other resources (such as Google, Google Scholar, Medscape etc.) will not be allowed for the exams.
3. Students will have 24 hours to complete their exam. Exams are not ‘timed’ but need to be completed and submitted to the course D2L dropbox before the deadline.

4. The final examination will be scheduled by the Registrar during the final exam testing period. Date of exam will be posted once it is determined by the Registrar. The final exam will also have a 24 hour window to complete and submit.

### **MISSED EXAMS:**

*Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, or a statutory declaration, etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.*

*Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar)). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus, please see [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar).*

*Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.*

**Deferral of the registrar scheduled final exam requires Registrar approval.**

**Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**Reappraisal of Final Grade:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

“Academic Misconduct” includes such things as cheating, falsification, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance, and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Students who participate in, or

encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

Further support on academic integrity is available at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **SUPPORT AND RESOURCES:**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Safewalk