

**Anthropology 399**  
**Anthropology of HIV/AIDS**

Dr. Hart Krentz  
Winter Session 2012  
Office: SS 944  
Office Phone: 220-6874  
Office Hours: T, W 16:30 – 17:45 or by appointment

Classroom: A140  
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**Course Description**

This course will examine the clinical, epidemiological, cultural, social, psychological, political, economic, and public policy dimensions of HIV/AIDS on a global level from an anthropological perspective. It will use a holistic and cross-cultural approach to explore how gender, class, sexual orientation, nationality, and ethnicity impact individuals living with HIV/AIDS focusing on social stigma, discrimination, economic, and political issues within and between global populations. The meaning and importance of HIV/AIDS will also be discussed.

**Text:** Whelan, Patricia (2010) *The Anthropology of HIV/AIDS*

**Topics/Readings (subject to some change):**

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|--------|--|
| 11 Jan | Course Overview and Introduction<br>The Anthropological Perspective as it applies to AIDS.<br>Why study HIV/AIDS?<br><br>The History of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic            |
| 18 Jan | 'AIDS 101' -The Biology and Virology of HIV/AIDS<br><br>The Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS   |
| 25 Jan | Socio-psychological dimensions of HIV/AIDS:<br>The Personal Impact of HIV/AIDS<br>HIV and Testing<br>Social health inequalities during the course of chronic HIV disease |
| 1 Feb  | AIDS and Sexuality:<br>Same Sex Relationships (MSM)  |
| 8 Feb  | Heterosexual Relationships (MSW)<br>Women and HIV/AIDS;  |



15 Feb	<b>Mid-term examination (30%)</b> Commercial sex and HIV/AIDS (FSW/MSW)
22 Feb	<b>Reading Break – No class</b>
29 Feb	AIDS in children/youth
7 March	AIDS and Drug Use
14 March	HIV Causality and Denialism HIV and Stigma
21 March	HIV as a Syndemic Disease HIV and Violence Structural Violence Social Inequality
28 March	HIV/AIDS in emergent vulnerable populations: 1. Aboriginal Populations  2. Immigrants [HIV and Migration]
	<b>Term Papers are due (35%)</b>
4 April	HIV and Public Policy  HIV and the Law
11 April	Current and Future Status of HIV/AIDS What can Anthropologists do?

### **Grading and Examinations**

Final course grades will be based on an in-class midterm and a final examination, and on an analytical discussion paper (details to be distributed in class). Examinations will consist of short answer, and essay questions.

Midterm Examination	30%	15 February (at 1800 hrs)
Discussion Paper	35%	due on 28 March
Registrar Scheduled Final Exam	35%	date to be announced

\*Late papers will be marked down 10% per day for each day late prior to marking the paper

Final Course Grades are based on the following:

A+	100 - 94.9%	B	79.8 - 74.9%	C-	62.8 – 58.9%
A	94.8 - 89.9%	B-	74.8 – 70.9%	D+	58.8 – 54.9%
A-	89.8 - 84.9%	C+	70.8– 66.9%	D	54.8 – 49.9%
B+	84.8 – 79.9%	C	66.8 – 62.9%	F	49.8% and below

**Academic Accommodations** - It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC), please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the DRC are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. DRC students are required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

### **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 Anthropology Departments policy on intellectual honesty available at:

<https://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>

### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION**

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency please note that the primary assembly point shall be the Social Science Food Court. The secondary evacuation point will be the ICT Food Court.

The Department of Anthropology's FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructors office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology Office (SS 854) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternate arrangements with the course instructor early in the term. The Anthropology Office will post grades randomly by ID number. If for any reason you do not wish your grades posted, please inform the course instructor.

### **Recommended Readings:**

Poundstone et.al. (2004) The Social Epidemiological of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome.

Taylor, Julie J 2007 Assisting or compromising intervention? The concept of 'culture' in biomedical and social research on HIV/AIDS.

- Parker R Sexuality, Culture, and Power in HIV/AIDS Research
- Siegel K, Lekas HM AIDS as a chronic illness: psychosocial implications.
- Dray-Spira, Rosemary, et al 2003 Social health inequalities during the course of chronic HIV disease in the era of highly active antiretroviral therapy.
- Nepal, B AIDS denial in Asia: Dimensions and roots.
- Mshana, G et.al 'She was bewitched and caught an illness similar to AIDS': AIDS and sexually transmitted infection causation beliefs in rural northern Tanzania.
- Niehaus, Isak with Gunvor Jonsson 2005 Dr. Wouter Basson, Americans, and Wild Beasts: Men's Conspiracy Theories of HIV/AIDS in the South African Lowveld.
- Rajabali A et al. 2008 HIV and homosexuality in Pakistan.
- Lichtenstein B Secret Encounters: Black Men, Bisexuality, and AIDS in Alabama.
- Wojcicki JM "She Drank His Money": Survival Sex and the Problem of Violence in Taverns in Gauteng Province, South Africa.
- Hoffman, Jennifer et al. 2009 Breast milk as the "water that supports and preserves life" – Socio-cultural constructions of breastfeeding and their implications for the prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Lockhart C The Life and Death of a Street Boy in East Africa. Everyday Violence in the Times of AIDS.
- Razani, N et.al. 2007 HIV risk behaviour among injection drug users in Tehran, Iran.
- Teengs Doris et al. 2006 "River of Life, Rapids of Change"; Understanding HIV Vulnerability among Two-Spirit Youth who Migrate to Toronto.
- McKay-McNabb Kim 2001 Life experiences of Aboriginal women living with HIV/AIDS.
- Gardezi F, et al Experiences of and responses to HIV among African and Caribbean communities in Toronto, Canada.
- Shuster, Justin, et al. 2009 The cultural and community-level acceptance of antiretroviral therapy (ART) among traditional healers in Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- Evans, Catrin & Lambert, Helen 2008 Implementing community interventions for HIV prevention: insights from project ethnography.
- Atun, Rifat et al. 2008 Health systems' responses to 25 years of HIV in Europe: Inequities persist

**and challenges remain.**