

TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI



VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES
Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Cultural Anthropology

ANTH 315

Selected Topic: Medical Anthropology

20 POINTS:
Trimester 2, 2013

Important dates

Trimester dates: 15 July to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 15 July to 18 October 2013

Mid-trimester break: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Last assessment item due: 11 October 2013

Study period: 21–25 October 2013

Withdrawal dates: Refer to:

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday 12-12.50pm, HM LT001
Thursday 12-1.50pm, HM LT001

Tutorials: Tutorials will start in week 2 and end in week 11.
You will need to sign up for tutorials during the first week of lectures.

Tuesday	MY303	14:10
Tuesday	MY303	15:10
Wednesday	CO228	11:00

Names and contact details

Course Co-ordinator Contacts: Dr Catherine Trundle
Level 10, Murphy Building, MY1021
Telephone: (04) 463 5134
E-mail: catherine.trundle@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours: Tuesday 11am-12pm, MY1021 (or at an alternative time by appointment)

Communication of additional information

Additional information will be communicated in lectures and on BlackBoard. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use

Prescription

This course introduces students to current questions in medical anthropology. It explores how culture shapes experiences of the body and illness, and critically examines the politics and ethics of modern global healthcare in a range of ethnographic settings.

Course Content

This course asks such questions as: What do the concepts 'health' and 'illness' mean in different cultural contexts? How is the body understood and experienced culturally? How do political, economic and technological systems interact with health and illness? What is the relationship between culture, inequality and illness? What can anthropology add to biomedical domains and strategies for dealing with global health issues?

Week 1: Beginning 15 July
Introduction
Lecture 1: Intro to course. What are 'sickness', 'illness' and 'disease'?
Lecture 2: What does culture have to do with illness? Documentary: *Facing Death*.

Week 2: Beginning 22 July
A sociocultural approach to health
Lecture 1: Key concepts: The culture-bound syndrome and medicalization.
Lecture 2: The documentary *Intersexions*, followed by discussion.

- Week 3:** Beginning 29 July
A sociocultural approach to health: a case study
 Lecture 1: Depression in a range of ethnographic contexts.
 Lecture 2: The documentary *The Split Horn*, followed by discussion.
- Week 4:** Beginning 5 August
A sociocultural approach to health: a case study cont.
 Lecture 1: The history of depression.
 Lecture 2: Depression in NZ and the modern world. Summary of the key themes of this topic.
- Week 5:** Beginning 12 August
Biopower: key thinkers
 Lecture 1: What is biopower? Foucault's ideas.
 Lecture 2: Documentary: *After the Apocalypse*.
- Week 6:** Beginning 19 August
Biopower: how the sick gain recognition and legitimacy.
 Lecture 1: Biological Citizenship and Biosociality
 Lecture 2: A case study: Nuclear test veterans
- Week 7:** Beginning 9 September
Biopower: Communities of illness and biological citizenship
 Lecture 1: Giorgio Agamben, states of exception and excluded communities.
 Lecture 2: Documentary: *Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making us Sick?*
 Followed by discussion.
- Week 8:** Beginning 16 September
Biopower: poverty, health and human rights
 Lecture 1: A class discussion on inequality and health in New Zealand.
 Lecture 2: AIDS in Brazil, summary of this topic.
- Week 9:** Beginning 23 September
Bioethics: pharmaceutical ethics
 Lecture 1: What would an anthropological approach to/critique of global bioethics look like?
 Lecture 2: The ethics of pharmaceutical patents and access, and the global drug trial industry.
- Week 10:** Beginning 30 September
Genetics, Choice and Property
 Lecture 1: The patenting of life, cell lines and bioprospecting.
 Lecture 2: The trade and transplantation of organs.
- Week 11:** Beginning 7th October
The ethics of genetic testing
 Lecture 1: Prenatal genetic screening.
 Lecture 2: Documentary: *Pieces of Me: Prevention, Cure or Madness*, followed by topic summary.
- Week 12:** Beginning 14 October
 Lecture 1: Summing up topic.
 Lecture 2: Summing up the course.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of ANTH 315 students passing this course should be able to:

1. Recall and summarise a range of foundational and contemporary concepts in medical anthropology, and communicate them clearly and succinctly in written and verbal form.
2. Creatively synthesise and apply core theoretical concepts in medical anthropology to a range of ethnographic examples and contemporary medical issues, and critically evaluate the concepts' usefulness for understanding contemporary medical issues.
3. Critically reflect on and recognise the wider social and cultural influences affecting our own beliefs and practices of health, illness, the body and medicine.
4. Express informed perspectives (in verbal and written form) on the relationship between culture, inequality and illness

Teaching format

Lectures and tutorials

While attendance at lectures and tutorials is not compulsory, students are expected to regularly attend them, and will be advantaged if they do so.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- Submit the Research Essay
- Submit the three Reflective Critique Essays
- Attend 8 out of 11 tutorials
- Attend 75% of lectures (attendance will be recorded)

Reasons for acceptable absence to lectures and tutorials (for which minimum attendance in lectures and tutorials will be waived): sickness, with doctor's certificate; bereavement, with death/funeral notice from newspaper; other difficulties, with supporting documentation from a counsellor or another medical professional.

Workload

Taking into account class attendance, reading for tutorials, assignment preparation and so on, students should spend around 13 hours per week working for ANTH 315.

Assessment

Detailed assignment instruction sheet will be given out in the first lecture and on blackboard

Three reflective critique essays

Assignment weighting: 20% each (60% in total)

(Linked to learning objectives 2, 3 and 4).

Word Limit: 1000 words each.

- Reflective Critique Essay 1 due: **Monday 29th July 2013**, 4pm, SACS Essay Box, level 9, Murphy Bldg
- Reflective Critique Essay 2 due: **Friday 23rd August**, 4pm, SACS Essay Box, level 9, Murphy Bldg
- Reflective Critique Essay 3 due: **Friday 11th October**, 4pm, SACS Essay Box, level 9, Murphy Bldg

Research Essay

Assignment weighting: 40%

(Linked to learning objectives 1, 2 and 3)

Word Limit: 3000-3500 words.

Due: **Monday 16th September**, 4pm, SACS Essay Box, level 9, Murphy Bldg

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Reflective Critique essay (1000 words)	20	2,3,4	29 July 2013
2 Reflective Critique essay (1000 words)	20	2,3,4	23 August 2013
3 Research Essay (3000 – 3500 words)	40	1,2,3	16 September 2013
4 Reflective Critique essay (1000 words)	20	2,3,4	11 October 2013

Submission and return of work

You must submit your papers in two ways.

- 1) Submit to *Turnitin* electronically by the due date. The turnitin link is on Blackboard under 'Course Resources', in the 'Assessment' folder.

AND

- 2) Submit a paper copy to the assignment box at the SACS Office, level 9 Murphy building by the due date.

Your paper copy must include:

- a) A completed SACS cover sheet on the front.
- b) The assignment marking guide that will be handed out in class. Attach it to the back of your essay.

Extensions

Extensions will be granted to students prior to submission date due to serious and justifiable circumstances. Extensions for up to 4 days can be obtained from the lecturer, Catherine Trundle via email. For longer extensions please arrange to speak with Catherine in person.

Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **2.00 and 4.00 pm only** from Monday to Friday.

Penalties

Penalties will apply for lateness in presenting assignments. 5% of the value of the assignment will be deducted from the piece of work per day (e.g., on a 20 mark assignment you would lose 1 mark for each late day).

Practicum/placement/field trip/internship arrangements

There are no other arrangements for this course.

Set texts

Each student should buy the prepared book of Student Notes from Vic Books since ready access to and familiarity with its contents will be required throughout the course. Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student evaluations are a valued source of feedback and will be completed in the second half of the course. Student feedback from previous years can be found at: http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Resolving academic issues:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

School Contact Information

Head of School: Dr Allison Kirkman, MY1013

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International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine MY1023

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Maori and Pacific Student Liaison: Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101

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Students with Disabilities Liaison: Dr Russil Durrant, MY1120

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School Manager: La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918

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School Administrators: Suzanne Weaver, Alison Melling, MY921,

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