

ANTH-3369-002 **Medical Anthropology**

Class Meeting Location: Pickard Hall 109

Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00am-12:20pm

Professor: Isabel Montemayor, PhD

Email: isabel.montemayor@uta.edu

Office Hours: University Hall 416; Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:30-1:30pm & by appointment

Course Goals: By the end of this course you will be able to do the following

- Define and differentiate between illness and disease
- Describe the main theoretical orientations and frameworks utilized in medical anthropology
- Understand how health and illness are constructed across various cultures
- Observe the impact of culture on health and illness
- Discuss how medical anthropology can be utilized in a wide range of fields including the health professions

Core Course Objectives:

- Cross cultural understanding
- Critical analysis of health care systems
- Contextualize the meaning of disease and illness from a cultural perspective

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to draw attention to the growing field of medical anthropology. Specifically, this course is designed to enrich the student's perspective on illness, health, and healing across cultures. By debunking the myth that western biomedicine encompasses the sole framework for understanding illness and healing one can begin to understand how culture also plays a contributing role in defining, accepting, understanding, and treating illness. Students will be introduced to key theoretical concepts in the field of medical anthropology and gain a broad perspective regarding the applicability of the field in the world around us especially in the area of public health. The course seeks to engage students in an interactive dialogue regarding experiences and understandings of the terms, culture, health, illness, disease, medicine and healing. Lectures, readings, class discussions, films, maps and handouts are used to explore these topics and to provide the foundation for the three exams.

Required Texts:

- Cecil G. Helman- Culture, Health, and Illness 5th Edition
- Paul Stoller- Stranger in the Village of the Sick
- Elena Gutierrez- Fertile Matters: The Politics of Mexican-Origin Women's Reproduction

*Additional Articles posted on Blackboard (PDF) under the lessons tab

Week 1

August 24, 2017-Introduction: Health across Cultures and Illness Throughout the Ages

Week 2

August 29 , 2017- What is Culture?–Helman Chapter 1 & Miner’s “Body Ritual among the Nacirema (PDF-BB)

August 31, 2017- Anthropology and Public Health: Theoretical Approaches (Orientations and Frameworks) to Medical Anthropology (Hahn PDFs-BB)

Week 3

September 5, 2017-Research Methods Helman Chapter 19

September 7, 2017- Defining the Body Helman Chapter 2

Week 4

September 12, 2017 - Doctor-Patient Relations, Disease and Illness: Helman Chapter 5

September 14, 2017- Doctor-Patient Relations Continued (Hunt PDF-BB)

Week 5

September 19, 2017- Cultural competency (Kleinman PDF-BB) and Helman Chapter 7

September 21, 2017-Exam 1

Week 6

September 26, 2017- Diet and Nutrition – Helman Chapter 3

September 28, 2017- Food and Health (Harris PDF-BB)

Week 7

October 3, 2017- Student Group Projects

October 5, 2017- Student Group Projects

Week 8

October 10, 2017-Interpretive Medical Anthropology: Paul Stoller p. 1-137

October 12, 2017-Interpretive Medical anthropology: Paul Stoller p. 138-203

Week 9

October 17, 2017- Cancer-Alternative forms of healing and responses to Illness(BB-PDF Hunt & TBA)

October 19, 2017- Gerson Therapy

Week 10

October 24, 2017- The Sectors of Health Care: Helman Chapter 4 (**Article Search Due at the Start of Class**)

October 26, 2017- Epidemiology -Helman Chapter 15

Week 11

October 31, 2017- Exam 2

November 2, 2017- Video

Week 12

November 7, 2017-Migration and Health: Helman Chapter 12 & PDF-BB

November 9, 2017-Medical Anthropology and Global Health- Helman Chapter 18

Week 13

November 14, 2017-Female Reproductive Health Helman Chapter 6

November 16, 2017- Fertile Matters Chapters 1 & 2

Week 14

November 21, 2017- Fertile Matters Chapters 3 & 4 (**Health Matter Analysis Due at the start of class**)

November 23, 2017-No Class

Week 15

November 28, 2017- Fertile Matters Chapters 5 & 6

November 30, 2017- On-line assignment

Week 16

December 5, 2017- Fertile Matters Chapter 7

December 7, 2017- Third Exam

Grading Scale

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 or less

Overview of major projects and assignments & grading policy

All assignments shall be typed in Times New Roman 12point font with 1 inch margins and double spaced. Grades will be calculated based on Quizzes, Article search, Group Project, Health Matter Analysis, Syllabus Assignment and 3 exams. Students should expect to spend approximately 9 hours outside of class time reading, studying and preparing assignments for class.

Group Project: During this course you will be required to participate in a group project where you will document a form of alternative or complimentary healing in video format. The video must be 10 minutes in length and will focus on the healing narrative or experience related to a particular disease/illness. The video should tell a story and change class perceptions and perspectives regarding healing and illness. It should aim to enlighten and educate your audience through the use of scientific and anthropological language and explanations in lay terms. It should not contribute to stereotyping a particular population or group. All content should be appropriate for a classroom setting and is due on the date of presentation. Creativity is very important. You will be given some class time to work on the project and organize your group. Your grade will be that of the other group members unless determined otherwise. **If you or you and your group are having an issue with the group dynamic this must be brought to the instructor's attention immediately. The day you present your video you will give a brief two minute explanation of the content and then show the video to class. In addition your team must turn in a 1 page typed report with the plan of action and tasks completed by each person. You will be allowed to choose your group members in an upcoming class, do not miss class as having a group for this project is required. 18% project & 2% page description=(20%)**

Article Search- Provide correct APA format citation and include the following for two scholarly medical anthropology articles with a similar theme: You should identify your theme, include the research problem, research question, research hypothesis, evidence, who was sampled, how variables were measured, conclusions and shortcomings. Each of these sections should be in paragraph form and must be in your own words. Each search should be accompanied by the original article. Plagiarism is not accepted. **(10%)**

Health Matter Analysis Paper: For this assignment you will analyze an epidemic or global health issue. You will present the history of the epidemic, how human populations and the environment have been impacted and finally you will provide a sustainable solution to eradicate said health issue. You must utilize scientific/scholarly sources. This is a scholarly paper and all references must be cited appropriately (APA format). 4 pages double spaced **(18%)**

Syllabus Assignment- Students will have to answer a series of questions based off of a thorough reading of the syllabus for this class. The questions will be given to you during

the second week of class on Tuesday and you are expected to turn them in at the start of class on Thursday. (3%)

Pop Quizzes: In addition you will have the opportunity to earn points by correctly answering questions based on the previous lecture, previous days readings or the present days readings. Each quiz will have 4 questions. **These will be given at either the start or end of class and I will not be announcing when I will give these quizzes. You will not be allowed to make up these points. Therefore please attend class. (5 quizzes=10%)**

Three Exams: Over the course of this class you will have 3 multiple choice exams. The first two exams are 15 % each and the third exam is worth 9% of your final grade. (3 exams = 39% of final grade).

Class Policies

- **Extra Credit:** There is NO extra credit for this course all points will be earned through assignments, participation, and exams.
- **Syllabus:** The syllabus is subject to change according to the Professor's discretion, in subsequent weeks these changes will be shared during scheduled class time.
- **Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to have read the required material, indicated for each day, before entering class. Students are expected to be on time and NOT leave class early, if you do so your grade will be lowered. Students are expected to be attentive and to take notes by notebook. The use of cell phones, i-pods, computers and other electronic devices that could distract the student or others is strongly prohibited and will result in a reduction of your final grade.
- **No late assignments will be accepted! No makeup exams allowed!** Assignments may be turned in at a later date only for documented medical emergencies, family death or other documented extenuating circumstance. On an exam date or date you must turn in an assignment, you must advise the Professor by e-mail message or in person regarding your emergency. There is a 4 hour grace period for notification. This must be followed up with a written excuse with no exception within 24 hours of the actual exam. The Professor will then provide instructions for submission of the assignment or alternative test date. If you are an athlete and you anticipate an absence on a day that an assignment is due you will be expected to turn the assignment in during the class period before your absence with proper documentation.
- **Always hand in assignments directly to the Professor** in the class in which they are due, unless otherwise indicated. Any papers, in class questions or exams will be graded

and maintained in your student folder with the professor until the end of the semester. Should there be a discrepancy in the grading please speak to the professor as soon as possible. **Once final grades are submitted and after all assignments have been completed and graded it is entirely inappropriate to approach the professor for a grade change (unless there is a documented grading error), extra credit, or special request/exception.** You are a student and I, the professor, have the final say and discretion in determining your grade based on your performance, participation and submitted grades.

- Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the professor for this course I will take attendance on random days of my choosing in the form of five quizzes.
- Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required texts, preparing for class and completing assignments. It is unacceptable to believe that you will be able to successfully pass this course without purchasing or reading the required texts and choosing to not attend class lectures.
- Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. see <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>.
- Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ao/fao/>).

Important Information

- Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans*

with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.*

- **Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule 50101*, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

- **Electronic Communication:** As this is a professional environment please use proper language when addressing the professor through email. Regardless of how comfortable you feel you are please correspond with the Professor in a respectful manner. UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.
- **Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>. Your professor will give you time during class to complete the survey.
- **Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week,

classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

- **Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.
- **Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In *Quick Hits* sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information.

Library Information

Library Home Page.....	http://www.uta.edu/library
Subject Guides.....	http://libguides.uta.edu
Subject Librarians	http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php
Course Reserves	http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do
Library Tutorials	http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php
Connecting from Off- Campus	http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus

Ask A Librarian <http://ask.uta.edu>

Lectures and other material used in the classroom are the property of the instructor. Permission is not given for these to be sold by any commercial enterprise or individual. Taping or recording of lectures is not allowed in addition the professor reserves the right to not make powerpoint slides available on-line in the event of student absences.