

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT

**ANTH 341**  
**MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**WINTER 2014**  
**MWF 11:00 – 11:50 P.M.**  
**EEEL 161**

Instructor	Charles Mather	TA	Edith Potvin-Rosselet
Office	ES754	Office	ES 722
Phone	220-6426	Phone	
E-mail	cmmather@ucalgary.ca	E-mail	epotvinr@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours	TR 1:00 – 2:30 PM	Office Hours	1:00 to 3:00 pm W

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will introduce students to medical anthropology. Particular case studies, drawn from the course text, will serve as examples for the diversity of methods and theories found within medical anthropology. We will follow the text and divide medical anthropology into 3 broad approaches: biocultural, social-cultural, and applied.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

Brown, Peter J. and Ron Barrett

2010 *Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology*. Second Edition. Boston: McGraw Hill.

**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:

1 <sup>st</sup> mid-term exam	30%
2 <sup>nd</sup> mid-term exam	30%
Registrar scheduled final exam	40%

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:

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

## Schedule of Lecture Topics

Please note that lectures will generally take more than one class. There are definite dates for mid-terms.

Lecture 1. Course Introduction

Lecture 2. Chapter 1  
Medical anthropology an introduction to the fields.

Lecture 3. Chapters 2 and 3  
Biosocial Approaches: Evolution, Health, and Medicine

Lecture 4. Chapters 4 – 6  
Biosocial Approaches: Human Biological Variation

Lecture 5. Chapters 7 and 8  
Biosocial Approaches: Bioarchaeology and the History of Health

Lecture 6. Chapters 9-11  
Biosocial Approaches: Cultural and Political Ecologies of Disease

Lecture 7. Chapters 12-14  
Cultural approaches: Ethnomedicine and Healers  
Film: The Return of Dr. Fritz

Lecture 8. Chapters 15-17  
Cultural approaches: Belief and Healing

Lecture 9. Chapters 18-20  
Cultural approaches: The Meaning and Experience of Illness

Lecture 10. Chapters 21-24  
Cultural approaches: Biomedicine, Technology, and the Body

Lecture 11. Chapters 25-27  
Cultural approaches: Culture, illness, and mental health

Lecture 12. Chapters 28-29  
Applied approaches: Case studies in explanatory models  
Film:

Lecture 13. Chapters 30-33  
Applied approaches: Working with the Culture of Biomedicine

Lecture 14. Chapters 33-36

Applied approaches: Ethnicity and health care

Lecture 15. Chapters 37-40

Applied approaches: Stigma and coping with chronic illness

Lecture 16. Chapters 41-43

Applied approaches: Gender Health

Lecture 17. Chapters 44-45

Applied approaches: Culture and nutrition: Fat and thin

Lecture 18. Chapters 46-48

Applied Approaches: International health issues and programs

### Important Dates

Reading Break – February 16 to 23

Mid-term One - February

Mid-Term Two - March

### **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 Student Access Center, please contact their office at 220-8237. You are required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Students who have not registered with the Student Access Center are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

### **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>

### **USRI:**

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 ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys.

### **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 ICT Food Court and the secondary assembly point shall be the Social Science food court.