ANT 3462 Medical Anthropology

Section: U01A

Hybrid/Certified

Summer Term 2025

Course Meeting Information

Class meeting times	
Day:	T/TH
Time:	1:30 PM - 3:05 PM
Location:	PC 438

Professor Information

Ann-Renee Clark

Contact: aclark@fiu.edu

Office Hours:

By Appointment

Course Description and Purpose

Welcome to Medical Anthropology. In this course, we'll be exploring human bodies and their relationships with sickness, healing, environment and technology, *and* by

investigating health, disease, healing, and affliction as part of cultural systems of healing and medicine. We'll also examine concepts of sickness and health cross culturally, Western Biomedicine as a cultural system, and our lived experiences of suffering and disease.

Please read this entire syllabus. The syllabus is a contract between students and instructor.* It provides an overview of the expectations for this class, as well as what you can expect for your assignments. It also includes my contact information, technology information for the course, and grading and course policies. By continuing to take this course, you are agreeing to the terms and conditions of this class. I'm looking forward to a productive semester, so please read this syllabus carefully and make sure this is the right section of this course for you.

Course Goals

By the end of this course,

- Students will demonstrate the ability to examine behavioral, social, and cultural issues surrounding health and medical care from local, regional, and global perspectives

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic social science concepts and principles used in the analysis of medical systems, healthcare, and conceptions of health and sickness and how these systems and understandings relate to culture and its construction

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Student learning outcomes allow faculty to assess the level of proficiency in content knowledge and skills that their students acquire in a course.

If the objective meets a special designation, you will see the code after the objective:

University Core Curriculum: UCC
Gordon Rule Writing: GRW
Global Learning: GL
Civic Literacy: CL

- CO1. Identify major concepts in Medical Anthropology and studies of cultural systems of healing

- CO2. Analyze cross cultural concepts and perceptions of health, sickness, and disease

- CO3. Investigate Western Biomedicine, Biotechnology, and modern healthcare systems and practitioners

- CO4. Apply concepts in Medical Anthropology to human experiences with suffering, illness, disease, and transplantation and other biotechnologies

Expectations of the Course

Attendance

You are expected to come to class <u>every</u> day that it meets. A portion of your grade is determined by class participation via your in-class Hybrid Assignments, and attendance is required to accomplish this. Accordingly, all undocumented absences are considered unexcused. I do understand however that cars break down, life opportunities arise, and minor catastrophes must occasionally be attended to in-person. You can have <u>two</u> unexcused absences in the course with no grade penalty (I drop two of the Hybrid Assignment grades; there are eight in total, but you only need a grade in six. Additionally, you do not need to contact the instructor to report an <u>unexcused</u> absence.)

If you have a medical emergency or documented illness, if you must be excused for a religious holiday, if you are active duty military, or if you have a serious family emergency to which you must attend, please bring, or send me, <u>documentation for your absence</u> as soon as possible, so you may be excused as per University policy. Please

provide documentation in your initial email if possible, and then view your Modules on Canvas to see what work you will need to make up. (Please do not ask the instructor if you will "miss anything" in class that day, as the answer is "yes"; the readings and assigned work are on Canvas. The instructor does not post lecture notes online, but students may upload their class notes.) Also, if you're a student athlete, please bring, or send me, documentation of any events that you are required to attend, so you may be excused for these (and only these) event-related absences.

Late Work and Make-Up Policy:

<u>Late work will not be accepted for this class - nor will make-up exams be given</u> - without a documented, university-accepted, excused reason for the absence. See attendance policy for acceptable, excusable absences. If you need to make-up an exam due to an *excused* absence, please provide the instructor with the appropriate documentation for your absence, and ask the instructor, in-person or via email, when the exam can be rescheduled for you (this must be done within one week of the missed exam if you're well enough to contact the instructor, and before the last week of the semester.)

Technology Use

Since this is a **hybrid course**, you'll also need to use the Canvas Learning Management System. Your syllabus, video links, additional readings, online/hybrid assignments, and any other materials beyond the textbook that you'll need for the course will be found on the class Canvas site.

(Difficulties with, or lack of access to, the technologies needed for this class will not be accepted as a reason for not completing an assignment or accessing course materials. If you need assistance with required technologies, please speak with the instructor and/or technology specialists at FIU via the link to Technical Support provided. Access to computers with internet connections can be found on campus; access is free for registered students.)

Assignments

All work for this course must be **original work** intended to address each individual assignment and not work that was previously done for other courses. Each week's readings and films must be viewed or read before that week's class meeting.

Grading

Course Grading Table

Course Activity	Number of Items	Points for Each	Total Points Available	Weight
Essay Exams (in class)	2	300	600	60%
Hybrid Assignments (in class)	6	50	300	30%
Comprehensive Quiz (online)	1	100	100	10%
Total	9	N/A	1000	100%

Letter	Range %	Letter	Range %	Letter	Range %
A	94 or above	B	83-86	C	70-76
A-	90-93	B-	80-82	D	60-69
B+	87-89	C+	77-79	F	59 or less

Textbook and Course Materials

The Anthropology of Health and Healing

Required/Recommended: Suggested / Optional

Authors: Mari Womack

Publisher: AltaMira Press

Publication Date: December 16, 2009

Copyright Date: December 16, 2009

ISBN 10: 0759110441

ISBN 13: 978-0759110441

Notes: Suggested / Optional

Panther Book Pack

The Panther Book Pack rental program provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of $20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack.

Make sure to review the pricing for all materials across your classes this semester and compare the cost to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. The deadline to opt back into the Panther Book Pack is also three days after the add/drop deadline.

If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged $20 per undergraduate credit hour for which you are registered and the course materials will be reserved in your name. For more details and to learn how to access your course materials, visit onestop.fiu.edu/bookpack.

Other Course Materials and Open Educational Resources (OER)

Required readings for each week will be posted in the Modules section on Canvas. The Womack book is recommended for anyone who would like more background on biological principles that apply to Medical Anthropology and/or needs a biology "refresher", or would like a supplementary book with more basic concepts to help them

understand the more advanced/3000-level course concepts we will read about and discuss in this class.

Course Communication

Outside of class meetings, you can contact your Instructor via Canvas mail or FIU email (the address given at the link at the top of this syllabus.) When you send me an email it's important that you include your full name and <u>which course you're in</u> (I have several of them.) State your issue clearly and attach documentation for things such as excused absences. Emails will be answered between 9 and 5 pm, Monday-Friday. Any emails received after 5pm, and emails received on the weekends, will be addressed on the next work day (usually Monday. If there is a true and actual dire emergency, I will address your email immediately, but things like late work, absences, or even missed exams are not actual emergencies.)

Policies

Please review the [FIU's Policies webpage](). The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses. For additional information, please visit [FIU's Policy and Procedure Library]().

As a member of the FIU community, you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the [FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code.]()

Technical Requirements and Skills

One of the greatest barriers to student success is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy, we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course, but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency in using a computer. Please go to the [What's Required webpage]() to find out more information on this subject

Privacy Policy Statements for Partners and Vendors

- [Canvas](#)

- [Microsoft](#)

- [Adobe](#)

- [YouTube](#)

- [LinkedIn](#)

- [ProctorU](#)

- [HonorLock](#)

- [Turnitin](#)

- [OpenStax](#)

- [Zoom](#)

- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)

Please visit our [Technical Requirements webpage](#) for additional information.

Accessibility and Accommodation

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

For additional assistance please contact [FIU's Disability Resource Center](#).

Web Accessibility Statements for Partners and Vendors

- [Canvas](#)

- [Microsoft](#)

- [Adobe](#)

- [YouTube](#)

- [LinkedIn](#)

- [ProctorU](#)

- [HonorLock](#)

- [Turnitin](#)

- [OpenStax](#)

- [Zoom](#)

- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)

Please visit accessibility.fiu.edu for additional information about accessibility at FIU.

Academic Integrity

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Conduct and Honor Code.

Academic Misconduct includes:

 Cheating

- The unauthorized use of any materials, information, study aids or assistance from another person on any academic assignment or exercise, unless explicitly authorized by the course Instructor;

- Assisting another student in the unauthorized use of any materials, information, study aids, unless explicitly authorized by the Instructor; and

- Having a substitute complete any academic assignment or completing an academic assignment for someone else, either paid or unpaid;

Plagiarism

- The deliberate use and appropriation of another are work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the Student's own.

- Assisting another student in the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own.

Use of AI: students are not to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs for any portion of any assignment without explicitly citing and referencing the program (and its creators) as the author of the content, and providing quotation marks for all AI generated content. Failing to cite AI generated content is considered academic dishonesty and will be treated as such (please see FIU policy on academic dishonesty.) The use of AI generated content as a resource is actively discouraged for this course, as such programs essentially are internet "crowd-sourcing" (site-sourcing) programs that often provide incorrect and inaccurate information.

Learn more about the academic integrity policies and procedures as well as student resources that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior

concerns or worries you have, for the classmate's well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with [FIU's Panthers Care website](#).

[Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)](#) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call (305) 348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

Core Principles of this Course

This course will serve all students, encouraging collaboration by preparing students to value the differences in others. We appreciate the multiplicity of the lived experiences and perspectives of all students. We are committed to the ongoing education of our students and their open participation within the course.

Copyright

The following conduct is prohibited by the Student Conduct and Honor Code. A lack of familiarity with University policy is not a defense to a violation of this Code. Unless specifically noted, the intent is not a required element to establish a policy violation. The following conduct violation or any attempt to violate the Code will be used in charging all Students or Student Organizations;

Section 5 | Conduct Violations - g. Computer Misuse

- vii. Unauthorized distribution or downloading of copyrighted materials, including but not limited to, unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing. This is a violation whether the user is using their own personal computer or the University's information technology system for unauthorized distributions.

Copyright Statement: The materials and content in this course are provided solely for student use during the course. Course materials may not be shared outside of the course or with any third party without the explicit permission of the instructor or content publisher. Visit FIU [Library's Copyright Lib Guide](#) to learn more about copyright law and restrictions.

Additional Resources:

- [Student Conduct and Honor Code](#)

- [Digital Millennium Copyright Act Policy](#)

- [FIU - Copyright Guidance for Students](#)

- [FIU Library's Copyright Lib Guide](#)

Proctored Exams

Please note that the information contained in this section applies only if your course requires a proctored exam.

Through a careful examination of this syllabus, it is the student's responsibility to determine whether this online course requires proctored exams. Please visit our [Student Proctored Exam Instructions webpage](#) for important information concerning proctored exams, proctoring centers, and important forms.