ANTH 4950A: Culture of Health Care, Illness & Wellness

Course Description and Objectives:
This course is designed to introduce students to two main aspects of the health care field, the structural considerations and the cultural considerations. Structural considerations include the way that health care is organized, funded and delivered throughout the world. Cultural considerations include the ways we create meaning for concepts of health and illness and the ways in which different cultures construct notions of what it means to be healthy and sick and how to maintain healthiness.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Aug. 18  Introduction

Aug. 20  Culture

Aug. 25, 27  Cultural Meanings

Sept. 3, 8  Medicalization and Power
Madumo Ch 1-4

Sept. 10, 15, 17  Health Care Funding: US
•  Paper proposal due Sept. 10
15--Guest Speaker: Barry Jordan, M.D., Evans Medical Group

Madumo Ch  5-8

Sept. 22, 24  **Health Care Funding: Abroad**
22nd—Guest Speaker: Ruth McClelland-Nugent, Ph.D., History @ GRU

Madumo Ch 9-12

Sept. 29  **Public Health**
Visit to Richmond County Health Department on Laney-Walker BLVD

Oct. 1  **Essay Exam 1**

Oct. 6, 8, 13, 15  **Health Practitioners**
Film: *Split Horn* (VCT 3567)

Madumo Ch. 13-20

Oct. 20  **Specific Conditions: Bodies For Sale**

Oct. 22  **Specific Conditions: Sickle Cell**
Guest Speaker: Robert Gibson, Ph.D., O.T./Med Anthro @ GRU

Oct. 27, 29  **Specific Conditions: AIDS**

Nov. 3, 5, 10  **Specific Conditions: Reproductive Issues**
Guest Speaker:

Nov. 12, 17  Specific Conditions: Malaria, Vaccinations, Global Epidemics
Film: RX for Survival: How Safe Are We?

Nov. 19, 24, Dec. 1  Student Specific Condition Group Project Presentations
**Nov. 19—Research Paper Due

Dec. 3  Conclusions

Mon., Dec 8 @ 3:30 p.m.  Final Essay Exam

Course Texts:

Website:  I will be posting notes, announcements, articles, study guides, etc. on D2L.  It is the students’ responsibility to check it regularly. If you have trouble accessing D2L then call the IT help desk at 706-737-1676.

Course Requirements:
Grades are based on five reading quizzes, two essay exams, one group presentation, final research project, and participation.  Here is a brief summary of the large assignments, but more details will be given out closer to the due dates.  Assignments are designed to give you hands-on experience of being anthropologists.  You should be able to reflect on what you have learned in class and tie that in with your analyses.  Assignments are due at the beginning of class in 12 pt. Times (New Roman) font, double-spaced with one-inch margins.

Five Random Reading Quizzes:  (10%)  These brief, unannounced short-answer quizzes will be given to assess whether that students are keeping up with the readings and comprehending the material.

Two Essay Exams:  (20%)  Exams where students will be asked to synthesize the material they have learned from lecture and readings.  Open book/notes.

Specific Condition Group Presentation — 20%

Research Paper: (30%)  This project can cover either health care systems or cultural components of health care or notions about illness/wellness.  You will need to collect data through interviews, observation, or surveys, etc. then analyze the data.  This paper will include a literature review, methods section, results, and conclusion.  The 30% is includes a proposal, peer review of research questions, and the actual paper.  You will share your findings with the class.

Class attendance and participation 20%  Participation assumes active learning by paying attention, presenting relevant comments/questions to class, and not distracting other students from learning (as opposed to texting).  Therefore, please respect your fellow classmates by NOT contributing to distracting classroom behavior (e.g., talking when someone else is talking, eating, reading the newspaper, being tardy or leaving early, leaving your cell phone ringer on).  Students who come in after the roll is passed around will not be allowed to sign in and will be counted absent for the day.  Frequent distracting behavior and absences will lower participation grades.  Cell phones and other such electronic devices are not allowed to be used at all during the exams.  As you come into class you should sign only yourself in (and not anyone else).  Students who have more than 3 absences (6 if you use three GOJF passes) will automatically fail the course.  According to the 2013-2014 Georgia Regents University Catalog, “if [a] student has been absent for more than the equivalent of 10 percent of class time, regardless of cause, then
the professor may withdraw the student from the class for excessive absences.” Each class meeting is important. It is your responsibility to maintain a record of your attendance. If you choose to withdraw from the course then it is your responsibility to take care of the paperwork or you will have an F on your transcript. If you miss class because of sports or military obligations then inform Dr. Bratton.

✓ A successful discussion requires your critical thinking about issues raised in class and readings as well as your articulation about your positions, which requires your regular participation. No idea is too simple or silly to communicate. Do not be afraid to ask questions or take a stand or articulate confusion.

✓ It is not my job to summarize the reading for you. You need to do the assigned readings before class and think about them on your own. During class time we will connect the readings to broader anthropological issues. I am depending on you to interact with me and with one another in class during these discussions.

✓ We will frequently talk about current events as examples and to demonstrate anthropology’s relevance to the real world. Also, there is no topic off limits in class, and you do not have to agree with everyone. However, we must learn how to listen and respect people’s rights to their own opinion as well as their right to express those opinions. We will be discussing sensitive or charged issues in class, so please practice cultural relativity as much as possible. The readings and ideas we will discuss in this class may challenge how you look at the world and how you engage in everyday practices, including your thoughts on what you do on a day-to-day basis. All students are expected to commit to the creation of a safe, respectful classroom community in which we are able to enter into productive dialogue. Comments that deny the humanity of anyone inside or outside the classroom are not acceptable.

4950 Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>100 pts. (10%)</td>
<td>1000-900 A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Exams</td>
<td>200 pts. (20%)</td>
<td>899-800 B</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>200 pts. (20%)</td>
<td>799-700 C</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>300 pts. (30%)</td>
<td>699-600 D</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>200 pts. (20%)</td>
<td>599- &lt; F</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 pts. (100%)</td>
<td>0-99 &lt; F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Instructor

Dr. Angela Bratton—Allgood Hall E208
Office hours: W 2:30-4:00 or by appointment
email: abratton@gru.edu
Tel: 706-729-2286

Teaching Methods: This class is lecture based and discussion based. Films and Powerpoint are used as tools—students are responsible for their own note taking and audio recording may take place only with professor’s permission.

You are welcome to visit my office to discuss any problems or questions you have, whether or not they are related to class. I will steer you in the direction of the appropriate campus resources as best I can. For example, those with writing or other tutoring questions are urged to visit the Writing Center (University Hall 235 < http://www.gru.edu/colleges/pamplin/writingcenter/>). For help managing your schedule, dealing with stress, or if you’re just feeling overwhelmed, there is the Counseling Center.
Services are confidential and inclusive in your school fees.

Disabilities note: If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodations, or if you have questions related to any accommodations for testing, note takers, readers, etc. please speak with me and also contact the Testing and Disability Center (737-1469 or http://www.gru.edu/admin/tds/) for additional information about services available at GRU.

Another Anthropology resource is the Anthropology Student Union at GRU. This club promotes interest in anthropology through fieldtrips, lectures, films, etc.

Class Policies and Academic Honesty:

Exam make ups will be allowed only for students with extenuating and documented issues. If you miss a pop quiz there is no way to make it up. You have three (3) “Get Out of Jail Free” passes. These can be turned in for an absence OR attached to an assignment that must be handed in during the NEXT class period. They CANNOT be used to simultaneously count as an absence and a late assignment or for exams. If you are two classes late with an assignment then you must use two passes to turn it in. Once these three are used up there will be no more excused late assignments or absences; therefore, you will earn a zero for those not turned in. Use wisely.

Please note that all forms of dishonesty including cheating, collusion, plagiarism, or attempts at such are not tolerated in this course. All work that is turned in should be your own work. Instances of academic misconduct will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures outlined in the GRU Academic Conduct Policy 3.1.4 (available at http://policy.gru.edu/3-1-4-academic-conduct-policy/) and may include failing the assignment, the course, or even expulsion from GRU.

Plagiarism is presenting the work, words or ideas of another person as though they were one’s own, without giving the originator credit. For example, it is plagiarism to paraphrase material from another source without proper citation. Consider the following statement from Barbara Myerhoff’s 1980 ethnography Number Our Days: “Thus, in addition to being an intrinsic good, learning was a strategy for worldly gain.” It is plagiarism for the student to write the following in a paper: “Learning was not only inherently good, but a way to acquire worldly things.” Although a few words have been changed, the sentence is basically the same, and Myerhoff is not given credit. An acceptable sentence in a student paper would be, “Myerhoff (1980:92) notes that although learning was valued for its own sake, it was also “a strategy for worldly gain.” Here, Myerhoff is given credit for the idea, and her exact words are placed in quotation marks. The same rules apply to material from websites, and student work may be subject to online plagiarism searches1.

You may discuss assignments with classmates, but you should note their ideas you use just like you would cite a book. If you use published or web sources, whether you are quoting or directly paraphrasing, you should acknowledge this using standard citation practices (e.g., Chicago, MLA). See D2L for more information on citing online resources. Citations should appear in-text where the material is being discussed (through in-text citation, as seen in the example above, or in a footnote style like Turabian). In-text citations also require a full works cited section. See D2L for more information on citing online resources.

---

1 Taken from Miami University’s Anthropology Majors’ Handbook (Feb. 2004).