

**Spring 2006**  
**Multi-cultural Health**  
Course Credit: 3 units

**ANTH 3540**  
**SLC 248**  
**MWF 11:15-12:05**

**Instructor: Tammy Watkins**  
**Ph.D. Candidate**  
**Department of Anthropology**  
**Office: Baldwin 251-A**  
**MW 12:30-2:30pm**  
**tywatkins@gmail.com**

**Teaching Assistants:**  
Kevin Jernigan, Ph.D. candidate  
office: Baldwin ###/ day and time  
[baraka@uga.edu](mailto:baraka@uga.edu)  
Lisa Chaudhari  
Office: Baldwin ###/ day and time  
e-mail

**Objectives:**

To learn the history and evolution of medical anthropology.  
To explore differences in the patterns of diseases in various cultural and ethnic groups.  
To apply one framework for the analysis of illness.  
To critically analyze healthcare practices across cultures, environments and delivery systems.

**Brief Outline of course:**

**Part I** (Weeks 1-5) Introduction to Medical Anthropology theories and approaches  
**Part II** (Weeks 6-10) Cultural case studies in health, wellness and healing practices  
**Part III** (Weeks 11-15) Multicultural healthcare in the United States

**UGA Policy on Academic Honesty**

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty."  
Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The link to more detailed information about academic honesty can be found at: <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>.

**Required Course material:**

1998 Brown, Peter Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology  
1997 Fadiman, A. The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down

Other readings will be available on WebCT

**Grading:**

In class work (quizzes and assignments)– 25%  
Group project – 20% (due February 27, 2006)  
Final individual paper – 20% (due April 28, 2006)  
Participation (average of Instructor, TA, peer and self evaluation) – 15%  
Final – 20% (scheduled Monday, May 8, 2006, 12-3pm)

**In class work and make-ups:**

Quizzes will be unscheduled, pop quizzes for which makeup will be unavailable.  
Assignments based on video can be made-up by scheduling a viewing at the

discretion of the TA's (during posted office hours or at their convenience). There will be a final exam during finals week, with questions taken from previous in class work. University policies regarding final exams will be followed (<http://www.curriculumsystems.uga.edu/FinalExamConflicts/FinalExamConflicts.html>).

*This course syllabus is a general plan for the course: deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

## **Part I** Introduction to Medical Anthropology theories and approaches

Week 1: Theory of Medical Anthropology: Cultural Approaches

Readings: Brown (1998) Understanding Medical Anthropology: Biocultural and Cultural Approaches pp. 10-19.

Brown (1998) Cultural Approaches: Belief and Ethnomedical Systems pp. 108-143.

Week 2: Theory of Medical Anthropology: Social Construction of Illness and Health  
MLK Holiday

Readings: Brown (1998) Cultural Approaches: The Social Construction of Illness and the Social Production of Health pp. 133-168.

Week 3: Theory of Medical Anthropology: Biocultural Approaches

Readings: Brown (1998) Biocultural Approaches pp. 21-32

Brown (1998) Human Biological Variation pp. 39-57.

Week 4: Theory of Medical Anthropology: Evolutionary and Medical Ecology

Readings: Brown (1998) Evolution, Health and Medicine pp. 33-37.

Article: Lederberg, J. (1997) Infectious Disease as an Evolutionary Paradigm. Emerging Infectious Diseases Vol 3, Number 4:417-423.

Article: McElroy, Ann (1990) Biocultural Models in Studies of Human Health and Adaptation. Medical Anthropology Quarterly 4(3, Steps toward an Integrative Medical Anthropology): 243-265.

Brown (1998) Cultural and Political Ecologies of Disease pp. 77-97

Townsend or McElroy

Week 5: Theory of Medical Anthropology: Critical Medical Anthropology

Readings: Brown (1998) pp. 98-107

Brown (1998) Critical Medical Anthropology pp. 207-239.

Farmer, Paul (1999) Infections and Inequalities: The modern plagues.  
Introduction

## **Part II** Cultural case studies in health, wellness and healing practices

Week 6: Applied Medical Ethnography: The Race Question and Explanatory Models

Readings: http: ?????

Brown (1998) Applying Medical Anthropology: Case Studies in Explanatory Models pp 242-258.

Week 7: Applied Medical Ethnography: Folk Illness and Healing

Readings: ???

Film:

Week 8: Applied Medical Ethnography

Student presentations

Week 9: Applied Medical Ethnography

Student presentations

Film:

### **Spring Break**

Week 10: Applied Medical Ethnography: Ancient Medicine

Readings: articles ???

Articles???

Articles???

Film:

### **Part III Multicultural healthcare in the United States**

Week 11: Multi-cultural Health: Culture and Nutrition

Readings: Brown (1998) Culture and Nutrition: Fat and Thin pp. 388-413.

Articles ???

Film:

Week 12: Multi-cultural Health: Ethnicity and Health

Readings: Brown (1998) Ethnicity and Health Care pp. 259-309.

Book: Fadiman, A. (1997) The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down.

Week 13: Multi-cultural Health: Alternative Medicines (Pluralism in healthcare)

Readings: Articles ???

Articles???

Week 14: Multi-cultural Health: Gender and Women's Health

Readings: Brown (1998) Gender and Women's Health pp. 343-387.

Week 15: Multi-cultural Health: ???Grand Finale

Readings: ????

**Final individual paper due IN CLASS on April 28<sup>th</sup>!!!**

**Final Exam Monday May 8<sup>th</sup> – 12:00-3:00pm**