

**San José State University**  
**College of Social Sciences/Anthropology**  
**ANTH 108, Medical Anthropology, Fall 2010**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Guadalupe Salazar
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesday / Thursday 9:00 - 11:15 am
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tuesday / Thursday 12:00 – 1:15 pm
<b>Classroom:</b>	Clark Hall 204

**Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging (Optional)**

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/guadalupe.salazar> .

**Course Description**

This is an introductory course in medical anthropology focusing on health, illness and healing from a cross-cultural perspective. This course examines the theoretical orientations important to the discipline. Through the examination of diverse case studies focusing on cultural beliefs and practices surrounding experiences of illness and disease, this course will explore biological, socio-economic, political and cultural contributors to health, illness, and healing. Ethnographic material from Western and non-Western settings will be used to explore how medical anthropologists use different theoretical and methodological approaches to understand how health, illness and healing practices are culturally constructed and mediated.

This survey course is designed to introduce students to the main theoretical approaches and major themes that shape medical anthropology. Due to the broad topical scope of interest in the field, it is not comprehensive. The course is divided into two sections – Part 1: Epistemology deals with ways of knowing. It focuses on major themes, key concepts, terms, and theoretical orientations in medical anthropology. Part 2: Topical Scope of Medical Anthropology explores different areas of concern to medical anthropologists. Two ethnographies, Monique and the Mango Rains and AIDS and Accusation, will be read and analyzed to render the material tangible.

**Goals of the Anthropology Department**

1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution;
2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity;
3. Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline;
4. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history;
5. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomenon shaping global society;
6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature;
7. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues;
8. Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and the ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline;
9. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences;
10. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

### **Course Content Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Think critically, especially using comparative frameworks, analyze processes and identify assumptions;
2. Distinguish major theoretical approaches to medical anthropology;
3. Identify and define major themes and key concepts;
4. Recognize and analyze the forces that foster social cohesion and fragmentation in health related social movements;
5. Understand the complexities of social life both locally and globally in their communities as they reflect different points of view.

### **Required Texts/Readings**

- 1) Helman, Cecil (2007) Culture, Health and Illness (5<sup>th</sup> Edition)
- 2) Farmer, Paul (2006) AIDS and Accusation: Haiti and the Geography of Blame
- 3) Holloway, Kris (2007) Monique and the Mango Rains: Two Years with a Midwife in Mali

The books are available through the Spartan Bookstore and Amazon.com.

## Classroom Protocol

- No electronic submission of work – **DO NOT email me your papers!**
- You **MUST** turn in a hard copy of your paper.
- **Late papers:** Will **ONLY** be accepted **IF** you have spoken with me and gotten permission for a late submission **BEFORE** the assignment is due. **Ten (10) points** will be subtracted for **each day** the paper is late.
- **Classroom Etiquette:** Please arrive on time. If you come late to class or leave early, please enter and exit quietly. Please **turn off and put away cell phones**. **No text messaging during class**. Computers may be used **only** for class purposes and **if** they are not disruptive to other students.

## Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/) web page located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/academic\\_programs/calendars/academic\\_calendar/](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

## Assignments and Grading Policy

**Undergraduates:** Grades are determined by pop quizzes (10%), a midterm examination (30%), an ethnographic comparison (30%), and a final exam (30%).

**Graduates:** Grades are determined by pop quizzes (10%), a midterm examination (25%), an ethnographic comparison (25%), critical analysis (15%) and a final exam (25%).

**Pop Quizzes:** There will be 5 pop quizzes based on the readings to be covered on the day of the quiz.

**Midterm:** The midterm will consist of take home essay questions. The exam will ask you to demonstrate your understanding of topics, concepts and arguments covered in the readings and class discussions. More details will be provided closer to the date of the midterm.

**Ethnographic Comparison:** Compare and contrast two medical anthropology ethnographies written in different time periods. Compare and contrast their theoretical perspectives. How has anthropological thinking changed in the ethnographies? The paper must be 5 pages (double spaced), size 12 font. More details will be provided in a handout.

**Final:** The final will be a take home essay exam. The final is cumulative and will ask you to demonstrate your understanding of topics, concepts and arguments covered in the

readings and class discussions. More details will be provided closer to the date of the final.

**Graduate Students:** Write a critical analysis of three medical anthropological articles using an applied perspective. More details will be provided in a handout.

**Grading Distribution**

100-97 A+	89-87 B+	79-77 C+	69-67 D+
96 - 93 A	86-83 B	76-73 C	66-63 D
92 - 90 A-	82-80 B-	72-70 C-	>63 F

I assign plus and minus grades at my discretion and use participation to adjust marginal grades.

**University Policies**

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html) is available at [http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial\\_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

## ANTH 108 Fall 2010 Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug. 26	<b>Introduction</b> Introduction to class goals and format, review syllabus, add/drop process and deadlines...
2	Aug. 31  Sep. 2	<b>Part 1: Epistemology</b> <b>Medical Anthropology: An Overview and Key Concepts</b> • Helman, Ch. 1, Introduction: The Scope of Medical Anthropology  • Holloway, Introduction & Woman's Birthing House • <b>Film:</b> <i>Eduardo the Healer</i> (XS0896 / 54 min.)
3	Sep. 7  Sep. 9	<b>Medical Ecology</b> • Helman, Chapter 17, Tropical Diseases: Malaria and Leprosy  • Holloway, Weighing Babies and Eating Dogs & Behind Korotun's Scarf
4	Sep. 14  Sep. 16	<b>Medical Systems</b> • Helman, Ch. 4, Caring and Curing: the sectors of health care  • Holloway, The Old Friend & A Coming Storm • <b>Film:</b> <i>Back from Madness: Struggle for Sanity</i> (XS1629 / 53 min.)
5	Sep. 21  Sep. 23	<b>Magic, Religion and Healing</b> • Helman, Ch. 9, Ritual and the Management of Misfortune  • Holloway, Cutting & Coup d'État
6	Sep. 28  Sep. 30	<b>Healers / Sickness and Healing</b> • Helman, Ch. 5, Doctor-Patient Interactions  • Holloway, Cool Resting Place & The Work Is Good & My Feet Are Dancing • <b>Film:</b> <i>The Split Horn</i> (XD0916 / 58 min.) <i>or</i> <i>Between Two Worlds</i> (XD0129 / 28 min.)
7	Oct. 5  Oct. 7	<b>The Body and Anthropology</b> • Helman, Ch. 2, The Body: Cultural Definitions of Anatomy and Physiology  <b>MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED</b> • Holloway, Return & Postscript
8	Oct. 12	<b>MIDTERM DUE</b> <b>Part 2: Topical Scope of Medical Anthropology</b> <b>Gender</b> • Helman, Ch. 6, Gender and Reproduction

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	Oct. 14	• <b>Film:</b> <i>Margaret Lock</i> (EAJO154 / 29 min.)
9	Oct. 19	<b>Pain, Culture and Healing</b> • Helman, Ch. 7, Pain and Culture
	Oct. 21	• Farmer, Introduction, The Water Refugees & The Remembered Valley • <b>Film:</b> <i>Pain and Healing</i> (TU1187A / 60 min.)
10	Oct. 26	<b>The Social Lives of Medicines</b> • Helman, Ch. 8, Culture and Pharmacology: Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco
	Oct. 28	• Farmer, The Alexis Advantage, The Struggle for Health, & 1986 and After • <b>Film:</b> <i>Health for Sale</i> (XD1473 / 52 min.)
11	Nov. 2	<b>Health Disparities</b> • Helman, Ch. 11, Cultural Aspects of Stress and Suffering
	Nov. 4	• Farmer, Part II: AIDS Comes to a Haitian Village (pp. 59 – 120)
12	Nov. 9	<b>Risk</b> • Helman, Ch. 15, Cultural Factors in Epidemiology • Farmer, Part III: The Exotic and the Mundane: HIV in Haiti (pp. 121-150)
	Nov. 11	<b>Veteran's Day – Campus Closed</b>
13	Nov. 16	<b>AIDS in Transnational Perspective</b> • Helman, Ch. 16, The AIDS Pandemic
	Nov. 18	<b>Ethnographic Comparison Due</b> • Farmer, Part IV: AIDS, History, Political Economy (pp. 151 – 190) • <b>Film:</b> <i>Frontline: The Age of AIDS</i>
14	Nov. 23	• Farmer, Part V: AIDS and Accusation (pp. 191 – 264)
	Nov. 25	<b>Thanksgiving – Campus Closed</b>
15	Nov. 30	<b>Globalization and Emerging Diseases</b> • Helman, Ch. 12, Migration, Globalization and Health
	Dec. 2	• TBD
16	Dec. 7	<b>Future of Medical Anthropology</b> • Helman, Ch. 18, Medical Anthropology and Global Health
	Dec. 9	<b>Review</b> <b>FINAL DISTRIBUTED</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Tuesday Dec. 14</b>	<b>FINAL DUE 9:45 am – 12:00 pm</b> <b>Clark Hall 402 H</b>