

COURSE OUTLINE		
<b>TERM: FALL 2025</b>	<b>COURSE NO: ANTH 203</b>	
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE: Medical Anthropology</b>	
<b>OFFICE: LOCAL:</b> <b>E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca</b>	<b>SECTION NO(S):</b>	<b>CREDITS: 3.0</b>
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>		
<b>COURSE WEBSITE:</b>		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lilwat7úl (Lil'wat), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) people on whose territories our campuses are located.

### COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

### COURSE PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES

None

### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to medical anthropology, examining the cultural, social, and biological aspects of health and illness in a global context. It explores how different societies understand and respond to health, with attention paid to different ethnomedical systems such as biomedicine, Ayurveda, and traditional medicine from Indigenous communities globally. This course emphasizes the role of culture, power, and inequality in shaping health practices and access to care. Students will learn theories and methods of medical anthropology, critically reflecting on their own and others' experiences with disease, healing, and health technologies. This course is ideal for those interested in science, healthcare, public health, cultural studies, anthropology, or critical theory.

### COURSE NOTE

ANTH 203 is an approved Self and Society Course for Cap Core requirements.

### REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

Assigned readings will be at the discretion of the Instructor and will be communicated to students, such as an up-to-date medical anthropology textbook recently published by a reputable scholarly press. For example, select chapters from: Singer, Merrill, Pamela I. Erickson, and Cesar E. Abadia-Barrero. 2022. *A Companion to Medical Anthropology, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*. Oxford: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

**COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:**

- Identify the ways that medical anthropologists approach various issues of health, illness, and healing across cultures
- Explain the central concepts and methods of medical anthropology, such as biocultural perspective, ethnomedical systems, structural violence, and illness narrative
- Synthesis how biological and cultural factors interact to influence health and disease, emphasizing the significance of a biocultural approach to studying health, illness, and human survival
- Describe examples of diverse cultural ideas of health and illness, with an understanding of how they have been studied within medical anthropology
- Analyze how political and economic systems shape health and illness patterns globally

**Students who complete this Self and Society course will be able to do the following:**

- Identify potential root causes of local/global problems and how they affect local/global cultures, economies, politics, and policies
- Assess and evaluate individual and collective responsibilities within a diverse and interconnected global society
- Analyze the impact of colonialism and racism on Indigenous peoples
- Synthesize a range of differing community perspectives on ethics and justice and explain how these perspectives can inform structural change
- Explain how contexts (e.g. cultural, historical, colonial, economic, technological) shape identity formation and social structure

**COURSE CONTENT**

Course content will be determined by the Instructor. Individual lecture topics may include but are not limited to ethnographic methods, biocultural perspective, biomedicine, the body, illness narratives, culturalism, ethnomedical systems, biopolitics, critical medical anthropology, medical metaphors, datafication, pharmaceuticals, medical pluralism, global health, structural violence, public health, health and colonization, decolonizing health systems, health inequity. Weeks 14-15 are the final exam period.

**EVALUATION PROFILE**

The evaluation profile will be determined by the Instructor and may include but are not limited to the following items:

Participation*	0 – 10%
Assignments	0 – 35%
In-class activities	0 – 35%
Presentations	0 – 35%
Midterm Examination	0 – 35%
<u>Final Examination**</u>	<u>0 – 35%</u>
Total	100%

\*In the case where an Instructor chooses to include a participation grade as part of their evaluation profile, the Instructor will provide clear details to students about how their participation will be evaluated. For example, participation marks may be based on frequency or quality of a student's comments during class discussion.

\*\*A final exam may or may not be administered. However, when the course is taught by multiple instructors within a single term, all sections of the course will either include a final exam or exclude one.

## **GRADING PROFILE**

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

### **Incomplete Grades**

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

### **Late Assignments**

Due dates will be provided to students beforehand, and it is the responsibility of the student to submit their assignments on time. The Instructor's policy for submitting late assignments will be communicated to students.

### **Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.**

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your Instructor. Accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices.

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities.

### **English Usage**

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments, however, the Instructor will communicate to students their specific English usage policies.

### **Electronic Devices**

The electronic device usage policy is at the discretion of the Instructor. Exceptions to this policy will be made for students with a documented disability and/or supported by the Centre for Accessibility Services.

**On-line Communication**

Online communication policies will be determined by the Instructor.

**UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS****Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

**Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)**

**Policy Statement (S2009-06)**

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

**Academic Integrity (S2017-05)**

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information:

<https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

**Academic dishonesty** is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

**Cheating:** Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

**Fraud:** Creation or use of falsified documents.

**Misuse or misrepresentation of sources:** Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or

suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

**Plagiarism:** Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

**Self-Plagiarism:** Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

**Prohibited Conduct:** The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

### **Sexual Violence and Misconduct**

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

**Emergencies:** Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.