COURSE DETAIL

MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University – University College Utrecht
Program(s) University College Utrecht
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Anthropology
UCEAP Course Number 110
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
UCEAP Transcript Title MEDICAL ANTHROPOLGY
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

This course engages with central concepts and debates in the anthropology of health, illness and medicine. It considers the specificity of local therapeutic communities as well as the processes that connect such systems of knowledge and practice. The production of medical knowledge and healthcare systems – including biomedicine – are also examined, for they, and their social actors, do not exist outside of culture, society and power relations. Drawing on both classic and contemporary studies, students are introduced to different theoretical approaches and consider their value for specific research topics. Topics addressed include the meaning of disease and healing; theories of embodiment, disability and reproduction; medicalization; new medical technologies; and global health. Finally, the course considers how the study of medical knowledge and practice provide a prism to understand social relations and contribute to more general debates concerning issue such as nature-nurture, structural violence, modernity, globalization or commodification. Weekly sessions include lectures introducing conceptual building blocks and key debates, followed by student lead sessions dedicated to subtopics and case studies. Students are required to come prepared and share insights and questions based on their reading accounts, complete two writing exercises and prepare one presentation and discussion session in teamwork with colleagues. Lectures and readings are occasionally supplemented by documentaries and guest lectures.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
UCSSCANT35

Host Institution Course Title
MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Host Institution Course Details
https://cursusplanner.uu.nl/Curriculum

Host Institution Campus University College Utrecht
Host Institution Faculty Social Science
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Anthropology
Course Last Reviewed 2024-2025

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