

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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