Cluster Proposal Cover Sheet
2004-2005

Cluster: Healthy People Healthy Places
Title of course: Culture, Health and Healing
Course Number: ANTH 325
Proposing Faculty: Margaret Everett
Cluster Coordinator: 

Cluster Course to New Cluster
Other clusters this course is assigned to:

Non 'U' course proposed to Cluster Removal

UNST Committee-- PASS: Yes ☐ No ☐
If no, reason: 

UCC Committee-- PASS: Yes ☐ No ☐
If no, reason: 


University Studies
Cluster Course Addition
Adding a previously unapproved course to a cluster

(When addressing questions, please attach a separate sheet)

PROPOSING FACULTY (Name, signature, and department)
Margaret Everett, Anthropology

1. THE COURSE

A. COURSE TITLE, NUMBER, AND CATALOG DESCRIPTION
ANTH 325, Culture, Health and Healing
Introduction to the field of medical anthropology. Biocultural aspects of disease and healing.
Comparison of healers and healing professions in Western and Non-western societies. Interactions
among culture, social relations, environment and health. Topics include healers and healing roles,
ethnomedicine and medical pluralism, clinical medical anthropology and nutritional anthropology.

B. DEVELOPMENT
Is the course based upon an existing course, or is it a new course under development?

This is a new course being developed for 2004-2005.

C. AVAILABILITY
With what regularity has the course been—or will the course be—offered?

We intend to offer the course annually.

D. PREREQUISITES
List any course prerequisites beyond the cluster Sophomore Inquiry course.

No prerequisites, Anth 103 (Introduction to Socio-Cultural Anthropology) recommended.

2. COURSE OUTLINE.
Provide a detailed outline of the proposed course, also including its preliminary reading list, and the
name(s) of instructor(s) committed to teaching the course.

Please see attached syllabus.

3. GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS.

A. COURSE CONTENT & SUITABILITY FOR CLUSTER
Discuss the course content in relationship to the thematic focus of the cluster.

The Health People/Healthy Places cluster considers the relationship between environment and human
health. In Culture, Health and Healing, we will emphasize the ecological perspective in medical
anthropology, in other words the impact of environment on health, human behavioral and biological
adaptations to environment, and cultural and political geographies of disease. The impact of both
individual behavior and social policies on health will also be considered. Discussion of applied medical
anthropology will address one of the main themes of the cluster: "ways to solve and prevent problems that may affect the health and wellbeing of the individual, the local environment and/or the global community."

B. UNST GOALS
Indicate what materials and assignments will address those University Studies goals appropriate to the course content and cluster theme (the goals are Inquiry and Critical Thinking, Communication, Diversity of Human Experience, and Ethical Issues & Social Responsibility).

This course fits quite well with the goals of University Studies, especially those of Critical Thinking, Diversity of Human Experience, and Ethical Issues. Diversity is obviously a key theme, as we compare and contrast health systems and the role of healers across cultures. Students will be encouraged to think critically about their own experiences with health and healing and the presumed objectivity of Western science and medicine. Ethical issues are also prominent throughout the course, especially in discussions of applied medical anthropology and in our reading of ethnographies (for example, Dancing Skeletons: Life and Death in West Africa in the current syllabus).

C. CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT
Discuss the teaching strategies employed in the course and how they articulate with the student-centered, active-learning strategies characteristic of University Studies courses.

We anticipate that this course will draw large enrollments (50+). I have therefore not included a group project or other type of student presentations at this time. However, large and small group discussions will be an essential component of the course. Students will be encouraged to contribute materials to the course (such as newspaper articles, websites, etc.) which will be incorporated in class discussion.

PROPOSING FACULTY: Margaret Everett 9/30/03

COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: Anth 325: Culture, Health and Healing

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OBTAIN CHAIR AND CLUSTER COORDINATOR SIGNATURES BEFORE SUBMITTING TO UNIVERSITY STUDIES OFFICE

DEPARTMENT CHAIR(S): DATE: 10/6/2003

DATE:

CLUSTER COORDINATOR: DATE: 10/30/2003

All changes to Clusters must be approved by PSU’s Senate Curriculum Committee.
THE ORIGINAL + 12 COPIES OF THE PROPOSAL
MUST BE RECEIVED AT UNIVERSITY STUDIES (CH 163)
BY OCTOBER 31, 2003

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COURSE APPROVED FOR CLUSTER INCLUSION

CHAIR, CLUSTER COORDINATORS: ___________________________ DATE: __________

CHAIR, UNST COMMITTEE: ________________________________ DATE: __________
Culture, Health and Healing
Anthropology 325

Prof. Margaret Everett
725-3319
everettm@pdx.edu

141q Cramer Hall
Office Hours:

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to medical anthropology – the study of the relationships among culture, social structure, the environment, disease and healing. Generally, medical anthropologists begin from a biocultural perspective, that biology and culture are equally important in the human experience of disease. Through case studies, we will review various approaches to medical anthropology, including critical, interpretive, ecological and ethnomedical perspectives. We will pay special attention to the ecological perspective, that is the impact of environment on health, and the interplay between human behavior, environment and health.

Course Readings

Required texts are available at the PSU Bookstore. There is also a packet of readings at Clean Copy on Broadway.


Evaluation

Course grades will be based on two in-class essay exams (30% each) and two short response papers (20% each). Students will be asked to integrate class discussion with a brief review (3 pages) of the Dettwyler and Fadiman books.

Grading Policies

Students must complete all assignments in order to receive a passing grade in the course. Late papers will be marked down 5% for every late day unless arrangements have been made before the due date.

Schedule

Week 1: What is Medical Anthropology?
Joralemon, Preface and Chapter 1
Brown, Barrett and Padilla, “Medical Anthropology: An Introduction to the Fields” IN Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology, pages 10-19 (course packet)
Week 2: Methods and Theories in Medical Anthropology
Joralemon, Chapters 2, 3, 4
Fadiman, Chapter 4, 5

Week 3: Cultural and Political Ecologies of Disease
Brown, Peter, "Cultural Adaptation to Endemic Malaria in Sardinia" (course packet)
Robert Desowitz, "The Fly that Would be King" (course packet)
Farmer, Paul, "Social Inequalities and Emerging Infectious Diseases" (course packet)

Week 4: Healers and the Healing Professions I
Joralemon, Chap. 5
Brown, Michael, "Dark Side of the Shaman" (course packet)
Video: Eduardo the Healer

Week 5: Healers and the Healing Professions II
Byron J. Good and Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good, "Learning medicine : the constructing of medical knowledge at Harvard Medical School" IN Knowledge, Power and Practice: The Anthropology of Medicine and Everyday Life, Lindenbaum and Lock, eds. (course packet)

Week 6: Ethnomedicine: Explanatory Models
Alan Harwood, "The Hot-Cold Theory of Disease: Implications for the Treatment of Puerto Rican Patients" IN Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology (course packet)
Begin reading The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down

Week 7: Ethnomedicine and Medical Pluralism
Finish The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down
Video: Being Hmong Means Being Free

Week 8: Applying Medical Anthropology
Joralemon, Chap. 6
Trotter, Robert, "A Case of Lead Poisoning from Folk Remedies in Mexican American Communities" IN Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology (course packet)

Week 9: Culture, Ecology and Reproduction
Selection from Medical Anthropology in Ecological Perspective (course packet)

Week 10: Nutritional Anthropology and International Development
Finish Dancing Skeletons