

# Course Expectations Letter

**Subject:** ANTH 115 Introduction to Medical Anthropology

**E-Mail Contact Information:**

Professor Pfeiffer: [jpfeiffer@riohondo.edu](mailto:jpfeiffer@riohondo.edu)

**Catalog Course Description:**

Medical anthropology explores the perceptions of disease, health, and healing in different cultures around the world. Sociocultural, biological, and ecological perspectives will be used to understand the origins of illness and disease and medical practices across cultures. Topics include diagnosis and therapies, the role of healers like witch doctors and shaman, stress and mental health, unequal access to medical care, and medical anthropology applied to global health problems. This course is intended for nursing and health care professionals seeking continuing education credit and students interested in the cultural aspects of healing and treating disease.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students will understand:

- The discipline of anthropology and the specialized area of medical anthropology.
- The biocultural, evolutionary, ecological, and cultural perspective in medical anthropology.
- The role of healers and their healing techniques as well as alternative medicine in our Western society.
- Diet and nutrition and growth and development in health and disease.
- Reproductive health, aging, and historical and contemporary cases of infectious disease.
- The role of stress, mental health, and socioeconomic disparities in healthcare.
- The relevance of medical anthropology in the world today and especially in development work.

By logging into Canvas you affirm that you are the student who enrolled in the course(s) and are the person who will complete the assigned work. Furthermore, you agree to follow the regulations regarding academic integrity, personal identification and the use of student information as described in [BP 5500 \(Standards of Conduct\)](#) and [AP 5520 \(Student Conduct Procedures\)](#) which are the Rio Hondo College student conduct codes that govern student rights and responsibilities. You acknowledge that failure to abide by the regulations set forth in BP 5500 and AP 5520 may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the college.

This is **NOT** a self-paced course. There are firm deadlines in this class. There are assignments due on a regular basis. Please plan your time carefully!

**Textbook:** Please consult the Bookstore for information at (562) 463-7345 or go to [Rio Hondo College Online Bookstore](#)

**This course will include regular instructor student contact. Methods of regular instructor student contact include:**

Weekly Emails, Discussion Board postings, Office hour visits if needed or phone calls, or through the announcements at Canvas

***The instructor may drop you for non-participation.***

There will be a one to three business day delay after an add code is used before a student may be able to log on to Canvas.

For students new to online classes, it is highly recommended that you take the Online Orientation through our Online Education website. This will help explain what online classes are like and familiarize you with how the class is laid out. The orientations can be found at: <http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation//>

Email Responses: Instructors will make every attempt to respond to students in a timely fashion. Responses can take up to 48 hours before a response is received, excluding weekends and holidays.

Disability: A Student with a verified disability may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact your instructor and/or the [Disabled Students & Programs](#) office at 562-908-3420 for more information.

*Modifications and Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to modify the content of the course or any course procedure. It is the responsibility of the student to keep apprised of all changes. If the student wishes to drop the class he/she is responsible for initiating the drop. Do not take it for granted that you will be dropped. If you stop working and do not drop the course, you may get an undesirable grade.*