

SYLLABUS

CULTURE AND AIDS (ADI)

ANT 317.01 Spring 2008
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Dr. Douglas A. Feldman
Professor
SUNY College at Brockport
Department of Anthropology
dfeldman@brockport.edu
(585) 395-5709

Course Description:

Explores the cultural, social, epidemiologic, political, psychological, philosophical, economic, public health, and public policy dimensions of HIV/AIDS on a global level, especially in the United States and sub-Saharan Africa. Focuses upon women and children with AIDS, men who have sex with men and other at-risk populations, HIV prevention strategies, theoretical issues, social stigma and discrimination, the influence of the pandemic on other aspects of society and culture, and the meaning and importance of HIV/AIDS.

Required Texts:

Feldman, Douglas A. and Wang Miller, Julia (eds.) (1998) [TAC]
The AIDS Crisis: A Documentary History. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.

Barnett, Tony and Whiteside, Alan (2006) [A21C]
AIDS in the Twenty-First Century: Disease and Globalization (Second Edition).
New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Additional reading packet (to be distributed in class).

Course Topics:

The basics of anthropology. Introduction to AIDS as a cultural and public health issue. The importance of AIDS. The epidemiology of HIV/AIDS in the United States. The AIDS crisis. The origin of HIV/AIDS. An epidemic emerges. The shaping of public opinion. The situation in the United States. The global crisis. The epidemic takes its toll. Teenagers. Women. Children. The gay community. Commercial sex workers. The homeless. Persons with hemophilia. Injecting drug users. Correctional facilities. The African pandemic. The growing crisis in Asia. AIDS in Latin America and the

Caribbean. China. Latin America. Traditional medicine. Uganda. South Africa. Breast feeding. The many faces of AIDS. Psychosocial needs of persons with AIDS. The role of families, partners, and friends of people with AIDS. The role of health care providers and caregivers. Community responses to the crisis. Political apathy. Political activism. Immigration policy. Political economy. Promoting awareness and education. Producing behavioral change. Barebacking. Gay politics. Patient adherence. Risky and less risky sex. Club drugs. AIDS in the workplace. Legal issues. Ethics and AIDS policy. Mandatory reporting. Mandatory testing. Partner notification. The future of AIDS.

Reading Schedule:

- January 29: Welcome and Introduction.
The basics of anthropology.
- January 31: WebMD with AOL Health. "Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection," http://www.webmd.com/hw/hiv_aids/, packet pp. 1-24. Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, "Introduction," in *The AIDS Crisis: A Documentary History (TAC)* (Eds.: D.A. Feldman and J. Wang Miller); pp. xxv-xxxix, Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1998.
- February 5: Quiz.
Eric Jaffe, "Infectious Disease: Chimps lead way to HIV birthplace," *Science News*, 169(23):365, June 10, 2006, packet p.25.
HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, Revised June 2007, Vol. 17, selected pages, packet pp. 26-46.
"Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS – United States, 1981-2005," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 55(21): 589-592, packet pp. 47-50.
- February 7: "Global summary of the AIDS epidemic, December 2007," UNAIDS, selected pages, packet pp. 51-66.
Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 1, "Disease and Denial," in *A21C*, pp. 3-26.
- February 12: Quiz.
The CIA World Factbook, "Rank Order - HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate," www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/, January 3, 2008, packet pp. 67-72.
The CIA World Factbook, "Rank Order - HIV/AIDS - people living with AIDS," www.odci.gov, January 8, 2008, packet pp. 73-78.
Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 1, "The History of HIV/AIDS," in *TAC*; pp.1-29.
- February 14: Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 2, "The Disease and Its Epidemiology," in *A21C*, pp. 27-67.
- February 19: Quiz.
Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 2, "The Impact of the Epidemic," in *TAC*; pp.30-53.

- February 21: Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 3, "HIV/AIDS Within Communities and Populations," in *TAC*; pp. 54-116.
- February 26: Quiz.
Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 3, "Epidemic Roots," in *A21C*, pp. 71-100.
- February 28: Kate Traynor, "News: 25 years into AIDS epidemic, HIV prevention remains inadequate," *Am J. Health-Syst Pharm*, 63: 1107-1108, June 15, 2006, packet pp. 79-80.
"Twenty-five years of AIDS: Unhappy anniversary," *The Economist*, 379(8480):24-25, packet pp. 81-84.
U.S. Agency for International Development. "The ABCs of HIV Prevention," www.usaid.gov, June 2003, packet pp. 85-87.
Douglas A. Feldman, "Federal Relief Program Does Poor Job at Fighting Disease," *Buffalo News*, December 18, 2007, p.A14, packet p. 88.
Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 4, "AIDS in the Developing World," in *TAC*; pp. 117-134.
- March 4: Quiz.
Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 4, "Cases," in *A21C*, pp. 101-138.
- March 6: Guest speaker or general discussion.
- March 11: Quiz.
Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 5, "Is Africa Exceptional," in *A21C*, pp. 139-168.
- March 13: Midterm exam.
- March 18: No class – Spring break.
- March 20: No class – Spring break.
- March 25: Video.
- March 27: Video.
- April 1: Quiz.
Anthony D. Harries, Erik J. Schouten, and Edwin Libamba. "Scaling up antiretroviral treatment in resource-poor settings," *The Lancet*, 367: 1870-1872, June 3, 2006, packet pp. 89-91.
Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report. "Companies Worldwide Fail to Adequately Address HIV/AIDS, Survey Finds," January 20, 2005, packet pp. 92-93.
Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 5, "The Human Side of AIDS," in *TAC*, pp. 135-158.
- April 3: Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report. "Brazil to Distribute 11M Condoms During Carnival Festivities to Prevent Spread of HIV, Other STDs," January 21, 2005, packet p. 94.
B. Perera and M. Reece. "Sexual behavior of young adults in Sri Lanka: Implications for HIV prevention," *AIDS Care*, 18(5): 497-500, July 2006, packet pp. 95-98.

- April 8: Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 6, "Introduction to Impact," in *A21C*, pp. 171-196.
 Quiz.
 Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 6, "The Politics of AIDS," in *TAC*, pp. 159-182.
 Lisa Richardson and Lee Romney. "Gays' Rising Meth Use Tied to New HIV Cases," *Los Angeles Times*, January 19, 2005, packet pp. 99-102.
 Daniel Q. Haney. "Chat Rooms a Meeting Place for Risky Sex," www.retroconference.org/2003/, February 11, 2003, packet pp. 103-104.
- April 9: Scholar's Day.
- April 10: Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 7, "Education and Behavioral Change," in *TAC*, pp. 183-200.
 "HIV Transmission Among Male Inmates in a State Prison System – Georgia, 1992-2005," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 55(15): 421-426, April 21, 2006, packet pp. 105-110.
 Douglas A. Feldman, "Evaluation of 'HIV Transmission Among Male Inmates in a State Prison System – Georgia, 1992-2005,'" packet pp. 111-112.
- April 15: Quiz.
 Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 8, "Dependants: Orphans and the Elderly," in *A21C*, pp. 210-237.
 Connie Lauerman. "Never Too Old," *Chicago Tribune*, January 12, 2005, packet pp. 113-116
- April 17: Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside, Chapter 13, "Strategies, Tactics and Timing," in *A21C*, pp. 341-373.
- April 22: Quiz.
 Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 8, "Legal and Ethical Issues," in *TAC*; pp. 201-233.
- April 24: Guest speaker or general discussion.
- April 29: Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report. "Alabama to Cut 514 People From State's ADAP Unless State Legislature Provides \$3.5M in Additional Funding, State Official Says," January 14, 2005, packet p. 117.
 Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report. "Complete Adherence to Antiretroviral Drug Regimens Best Way to Avoid Development of Drug Resistant HIV, Study Says," January 14, 2005, packet pp. 118-119.
 Douglas A. Feldman and Julia Wang Miller, Chapter 9, "The Future of AIDS," in *TAC*; pp. 234-251.
- May 1: Guest speaker, or general discussion.
- May 6: Selected class presentations.
- May 8: Summary and review. All papers due today.
- May 12-16: Final exam week.

Course Requirements and Grade

Research Paper:	25%
Midterm exam:	20%
Final Exam:	20%
In-class quizzes	20%
Class participation:	15%
:	
TOTAL:	100%

Students should bring their textbooks and packet with them to class, since we will be discussing the material in the class. Students will prepare an original 10 or more page research paper, plus title page and reference cited pages, on a topic pre-approved by the professor relating to culture and AIDS. See the attached guidelines for doing your paper.

Class participation includes constructive participation in which the student demonstrates having read the assigned readings and has thought deeply about the content. Students are expected to spend at least six hours per week preparing for the class sessions. The professor may call upon students to discuss the assigned readings. The exams are not cumulative. The midterm exam and the final exam will be essay questions. One or more extra credit projects may be assigned during the semester. Each extra credit project is worth up to 0.20; a maximum of 0.40 may be obtained for the semester.

Disability Statement:

Students with documented disabilities may be entitled to specific accommodations. SUNY Brockport's Office for Students with Disabilities makes this determination. Please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at (585) 395-5409 or osdoffic@brockport.edu to inquire about obtaining an official letter to the course professor. Faculty work as a team with the Office for Students with Disabilities to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session, and it is important that you not be late for class. Students who have seven unexcused absences will receive a lowered grade (e.g., B = B-). Each additional unexcused absence thereafter will receive a further lowered final grade (e.g., B = C+, etc.). Absences will be excused for: a)

written documented illnesses of the student, b) official representation of the College, c) death of a close relative, d) religious holiday, and e) other circumstances beyond the control of the student as determined by the professor. Students who arrive late to class must inform the professor at the end of the session to make sure they are not marked absent that day. Students who must leave early on a particular day need to notify the professor before the class.

Academic Integrity and Student Behavior:

Students are expected to maintain the highest level of academic integrity. Academic dishonesty (papers and exams) will not be accepted. Any student engaging in academic dishonesty during this course will receive a lowered grade for the course depending on the nature of the action, and could possibly be referred to the administration for further disciplinary action.

Students are asked not to carry on unrelated conversations during class. You are expected to pay attention and to be courteous. Major breaches of conduct or impropriety, including rudeness or insulting behavior to the professor or other students, disruptive behavior, or unrelated conversations, will receive a lowered grade. You will receive a lowered grade, possibly an E, for the class participation segment of your final grade. In addition, you will also receive an overall reduction of as much as one whole letter grade subtracted from your final grade.

Cell phones and pagers must be turned off while attending class. Laptops may only be used for the purpose of taking notes during the class. Students may not IM (instant message) others during class time.

Office Location and Hours:

Dr. Feldman's office is located at Room C-15 in Cooper Hall. Office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 PM, or by appointment (on Monday through Friday 11-5, as available). Students are strongly encouraged to meet with the professor during office hours, or by appointment.