

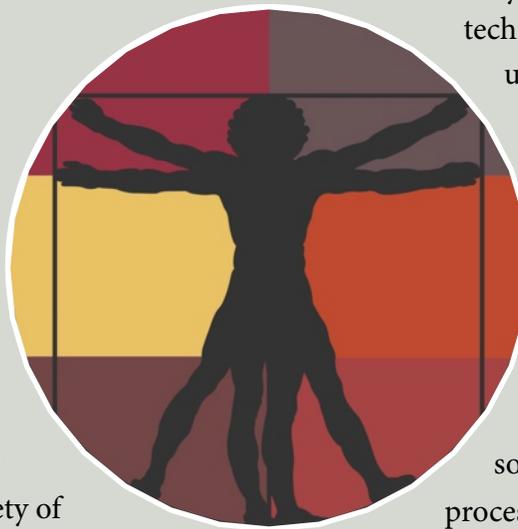
Anthro 139 (60240): Anthropology of the Body

Course Description and Objectives

This course examines human bodies as the products of both biology and culture, exploring the relationship among mind, body, and society in a variety of times and places.

We begin by critiquing notions of the body as a natural, universal object and by examining how bodies are perceived, known, and understood by medical traditions around the world.

Next, we seek to understand the experience of living in and encountering the world through our bodies, and we will explore a variety of ways in which social and symbolic relationships are both shaped by and become inscribed on the body.



The latter portion of the course will examine the regulation and control of bodies and the ways in which bodies resist mechanisms of power. Finally, we end the course by exploring the effects of changing technologies on the way we inhabit and understand our bodies.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the class, students should be able to:

- ◆ Analyze ways in which the human body both shapes and is shaped by sociocultural, historical, and political processes.
- ◆ Identify and critically evaluate key questions and theoretical approaches used in the anthropological study of the body.

PROFESSOR INFO	TIME & LOCATION	REQUIRED BOOKS		
Angela C. Jenks, Ph.D. Office: SBSG 3304 Email: ajenks@uci.edu Phone: 949-824-3188 Office hours: Mon 5-7pm; Wed 11-1pm; or by appointment	Mondays, 7-9:50pm Room: SE2 1306	Murphy, Robert. 2001. <i>The Body Silent: The Different World of the Disabled</i> . WW Norton & Co. ISBN: 0393320421	Teman, Elly. 2010. <i>Birthing a Mother: The Surrogate Body and the Pregnant Self</i> . UC Press. ISBN: 9780520259645	Sharp, Lesley. 2006. <i>Strange Harvest: Organ Transplants, Denatured Bodies, and the Transformed Self</i> . UC Press. ISBN: 9780520247864

Course Requirements

Activities and Quizzes (15% of grade)

The weekly class session is a main source of learning for the course. Please arrive to class on time and plan to stay for the entire session.

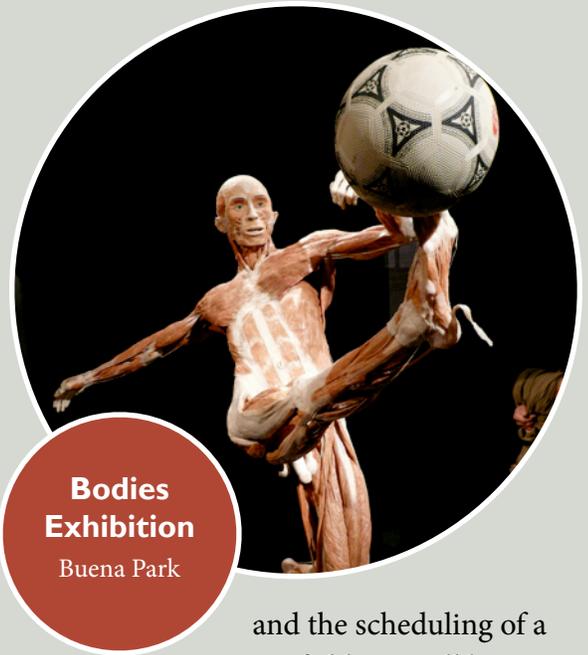
There will be multiple activities during class sessions throughout the quarter. These may include quizzes, reflections, film viewing guides, or other activities. No make-up or late assignments will be accepted, and missing more than one activity will have a negative effect on your grade in the class. If you must miss a class session, check the course website to access any handouts and presentations slides, and ask another student for a copy of the notes.

Reading Reflections (25% of grade)

Written, 300-word reflections on weekly readings are required for at least **FIVE** weeks throughout the

class. These reflections can respond to one or several of the assigned readings. They should not simply summarize the readings, but should offer critical comments and raise questions or possible topics for discussion. Reflections should be posted to the course MessageBoard on EEE by midnight on Sunday evening of each week. Reflections posted after this time will not receive credit. Please read through the reflections that have been posted to prepare for class discussion the next day. You are welcome to respond to other students or post additional thoughts and comments on the board.

One reflection may be on the Bodies Exhibition in Buena Park. More information about this exhibition



and the scheduling of a group field trip will be distributed in class.

Final Exam (30% of grade)

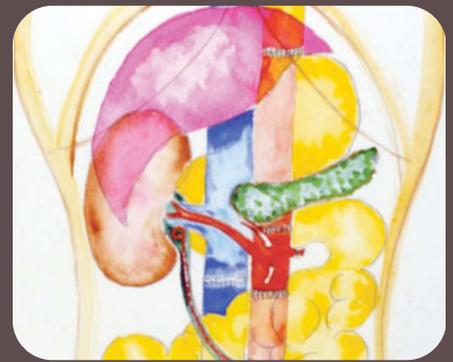
A cumulative, take-home final exam with short answer and essay questions will be due on the scheduled final exam date. Late exams will only be accepted in extraordinary (and well documented) situations.



Body Map, Bongiwe, self portrait, 2008, South Africa. [MAA](#)



Prosthetic Arm, Pringle & Kirk, 1920, Belfast. [MAA](#)



Multiple Transplant, Roy Caine, 1990s, [MAA](#)

Course Requirements, continued

Research Paper (30% of grade)

There are two options for this research project:

a. **Field Project:** Engage in a new-to-you form of bodily practice throughout the quarter. For example, you may choose to take a class in yoga, tai-chi, meditation, aerobics, a martial art, a form of dance, or ASL; you may engage in a new exercise or sport such as running, swimming, soccer, or weight training; or you may participate in a new healing practice such as massage or acupuncture. Participate in at least 5 sessions over the course of the quarter, keeping field notes to record your observations and experiences.

b. **Library Project:** Using library resources, write a literature review on any topic of your choice related to the anthropological study of the body.

Complete the project in three stages:

1. **Proposal (20 points):** Write a 1-paragraph (~150 words) description of your research topic. If you are planning to complete the field project, include a tentative schedule for

your activities. If you are planning to complete the library project, include the references for at least 3 scholarly sources you plan to use to begin research.

2. **Outline (30 points):** Write a 1-2 page outline of your paper, identifying your thesis statement and the arguments/evidence you will use to support it.
3. **Paper (70 points):** Write a 1,500 word (~6 double-spaced pages plus a bibliography) paper analyzing and presenting your findings.

This project and each of the options will be discussed more during class sessions, and a grading rubric will be posted to the course website.

Please respect deadlines: 5 points a day will be deducted for each day a portion of this assignment is late.

Feel free to talk with me about your topic ideas, and remember that there are a variety of other resources available: the Anthropology Reference Librarian, Ms. Pauline Manaka, has developed an [online guide to Anthropology scholarship](#), and the [UCI Writing Center](#) offers drop-in peer consultations for students at any stage of the writing process.

GRADING

ACTIVITIES & QUIZZES 60 PTS

READING REFLECTIONS 100 PTS

FINAL EXAM 120 PTS

RESEARCH PROJECT
Proposal 20 PTS
Outline 30 PTS
Final Paper 70 PTS

TOTAL 400 PTS

GRADING SCALE

(PTS)

A+ ≥ 386 A ≥ 374 A- ≥ 360
B+ ≥ 346 B ≥ 334 B- ≥ 320
C+ ≥ 306 C ≥ 294 C- ≥ 280
D+ ≥ 266 D ≥ 254 D- ≥ 240
F ≤ 240

COURSE WEBSITE

A course website can be found through the EEE system at <https://eee.uci.edu/13f/60240>

The site includes links to readings, assignment info, lecture slides and handouts, and information about campus resources.

Course Policies

Disability Services

The UCI Disability Services Center ensures access to educational programs and resources for all students.

The Center assists students whose disabilities include, orthopedic, visual, hearing, learning, chronic health, and psychological disabilities.

If you need an accommodation because of the impact of a disability, please contact the Center at 949-824-7494 or <http://disability.uci.edu/> and bring your faculty notification letter to me.

Communication

To speak in person, come to my office hours on Monday or Wednesday afternoons or make an appointment.

Outside of office hours, email

(ajenks@uci.edu) is generally the best way to contact me.

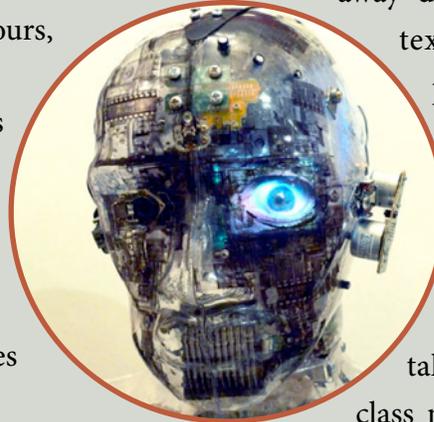
During the week (M-F), I will respond to messages within 24 hours.

To allow me to identify your message and respond in a timely manner, please include the name of the course in the subject line and your full name in your message.

Technology

Electronic devices are useful tools but often distract from learning. Make sure your cell phones and mp3 players are silenced and put away during class. Do not text or make/accept phone calls during class.

You may use a laptop/tablet in class, but only to take notes or access class materials like lecture slides. Do not use your laptop to explore the internet, Tweet, browse Facebook, etc. If you bring a laptop, please sit in the back row or against the side wall to avoid distracting other students.



Academic Integrity

Learning in this class depends on you completing all required assignments yourself. Violations of academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will result in no credit for the assignment and possible course failure and referral for disciplinary action. If you are unfamiliar with UCI's policies on academic integrity, please go to <http://www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue/appx/appx.2.htm>

Grade Change Requests

If you believe there is a mathematical error in the calculation of your grade, please come to my office hours or send me an email. Requests for a regrade should be submitted in writing. Please provide your original assignment and a detailed explanation of how you believe your work meets the requirements of the assignment/rubric.

Course Schedule & Assignments (Changes to this schedule may be made as necessary).

TOPIC	DATE	WHAT TO READ	WHAT'S DUE?
Week 1: Knowing the Body	Mon, 9/30	<p>Armstrong, David. 1983. "The Clinical Gaze" in <i>The Political Anatomy of the Body</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Kuriyama, Shigehisa. 1999. "Preface" and "Muscularity and Identity." Pg. 7-14 and 111-151 in <i>The Expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine</i>. New York: Zone Books.</p>	
Week 2: Mindful Bodies and the Embodied Self	Mon, 10/7	<p>Scheper-Hughes, Nancy and Margaret M. Lock. 1987. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology." <i>Medical Anthropology Quarterly</i> 1(1):6-41.</p> <p>Halliburton, Murphy. 2002. Rethinking Anthropological Studies of the Body: Manas and Bōdham in Kerala. <i>American Anthropologist</i> 104(4):1123-1134.</p> <p>Sachs, Oliver. 1970. "The Disembodied Lady." In <i>The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat</i>.</p> <p>Hahn, Robert A. and Arthur Kleinman. 1983. "Belief as Pathogen, Belief as Medicine: 'Voodoo Death' and the 'Placebo Phenomenon' in Anthropological Perspective." <i>Medical Anthropology Quarterly</i> 14(4): 3+16-19.</p> <p>Murphy, Robert. <i>The Body Silent</i>, pg. xi-111.</p>	Syllabus quiz (online)
Week 3: Social Bodies	Mon, 10/14	<p>Mauss, Marcel. 1973[1936]. "Techniques of the Body." <i>Economy and Society</i> 2:70-88.</p> <p>Turner, Terence. 2012[1980]. "The Social Skin." <i>Hau: Journal of Ethnographic Theory</i>. 2(2):486-504.</p> <p>Conklin, Beth A. 1995. "Thus Are Our Bodies, Thus Was Our Custom": Mortuary Cannibalism in an Amazonian Society. <i>American Ethnologist</i> 22(1):75-101.</p> <p>Murphy, Robert. <i>The Body Silent</i>, pgs. 112-231.</p>	

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TOPIC	DATE	WHAT TO READ	WHAT'S DUE?
Week 4: Normative Bodies I: “Oddities” and Racialized Bodies	Mon, 10/21	<p>Bogdan, Robert. 1990. <i>Freak Show: Presenting Human Oddities for Amusement and Profit</i>. Excerpt.</p> <p>van Dijck. 2001. “Bodyworlds: The Art of Plastinated Cadavers.” <i>Configurations</i> 9(1):99-126.</p> <p>Gilman, Sander. 1985. “Black Bodies, White Bodies: Toward an Iconography of Female Sexuality in Late Nineteenth Century Art, Medicine, and Literature. <i>Critical Inquiry</i> 12(1):204-242.</p> <p>Kaw, Eugenia. 1993. “Medicalization and Racial Features: Asian American Women and Cosmetic Surgery.” <i>Medical Anthropology Quarterly</i> 7(1):74-89.</p>	Research project proposal
Week 5: Normative Bodies II: Sex, Gender, and Beauty	Mon, 10/28	<p>Bloom, Amy. 2002. “Hermaphrodites with Attitude: The Intersexed.” Pp. 113-144 in <i>Normal</i>.</p> <p>Blackwood, Evelyn. 2011. “(Trans)Gender Tomboi Embodiment.” Pg. 207-222 in <i>A Companion to the Anthropology of the Body and Embodiment</i>.</p> <p>Kratz, Corinne A. “Circumcision, Pluralism, and the Dilemmas of Cultural Relativism.” Pg. 261-272 in <i>Applying Cultural Anthropology</i>. Podolefsky, Brown, and Lacy, eds.</p> <p>Edmonds, Alexander. 2007. “‘The Poor Have the Right to be Beautiful’: Cosmetic Surgery in Neoliberal Brazil.” <i>Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute</i> 13:363-381.</p> <p>Teman, Elly, <i>Birthing a Mother</i>, Introduction.</p>	
Week 6: Reproducing Bodies	Mon, 11/4	<p>Wentzell, Emily and Marcia C. Inhorn. 2011. “The Male Reproductive Body.” Pg. 307-319 in <i>A Companion to the Anthropology of the Body and Embodiment</i>.</p> <p>Teman, Elly, <i>Birthing a Mother</i>, Chapters 1-3, 5-6</p>	

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TOPIC	DATE	WHAT TO READ	WHAT'S DUE?
Week 7:	Mon, 11/11	NO CLASS: <i>Veterans' Day</i>	
Week 8: Somatization, Disciplined, and Resistant Bodies	Mon, 11/18	<p>Kirmayer, Laurence J. and Allan Young. 1998. "Culture and Somatization: Clinical, Epidemiological, and Ethnographic Perspectives." <i>Psychosomatic Medicine</i>. 60:420-430.</p> <p>Foucault, Michel. 1980. "Body/Power." Pg. 55-62 in <i>Power/Knowledge</i>. Colin Gordon, ed.</p> <p>Ong, Aihwa. 1988. "The Production of Possession: Spirits and the Multinational Corporation in Malaysia." <i>American Ethnologist</i> 15(1):28-42.</p> <p>Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 1988. "The Madness of Hunger: Sickness, Delirium, and Human Needs." <i>Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry</i> 12:429-458.</p>	Research project outline (for earlier feedback, submit during week 7)
Week 9: Commodified and Fragmented Bodies	Mon, 11/25	<p>Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 2001. "Commodity Fetishism in Organs Trafficking." <i>Body and Society</i> 7(2-3):31-62.</p> <p>Sharp, Lesley, <i>Strange Harvest</i>, Introduction and Parts 1-2.</p>	
Week 10: Hybrid and Cyborg Bodies	Mon, 12/2	<p>Kurzman, Steve. 2007. "Hillbilly Armor and C-Legs: Technologies and Bodies at War." Pg. 164-178 in <i>Bodies in the Making</i>. Nancy Chen and Helene Moglen, eds.</p> <p>Sharp, Lesley, <i>Strange Harvest</i>, Parts 3-4 and Epilogue.</p>	Research paper final draft
Final Exam	Mon, 12/9	Monday, December 9, 7-9pm	Take home final exam due by 9:00pm