

Enquire Teaching Timetable

[Return](#)

Course Outcome

ANTH 3360 - The Anthropology of the Body, Love and Emotions

Learning Outcome

1. To expand students' understanding of the cultural, social, political, historical, and commercial characteristics of and interconnections between the body, love, and emotions in cross-cultural perspective.
2. To cultivate students' knowledge of and skill in using ethnographic approaches to the study of the body and emotions, with an emphasis on participant-observation fieldwork methodologies.
3. To enhance students' comprehension of key anthropological concepts, frameworks, and theories integral to the comparative study of the body, love, and emotions.
4. To sharpen students' critical reading, listening, and writing skills, particularly their ability to grasp, articulate, synthesize, and challenge arguments and debates in readings, lectures, films, and discussions.
5. To foster students' critical awareness of significant issues concerning corporeal and emotional life in their own culture and society so that they can better apprehend how local identities are constructed in a globalizing world.

Course Syllabus

This course seeks to denaturalise notions of love, body, and emotions by exploring their historical and cross-cultural diversity. Students will examine systems of meanings and practices that evolved around notions of love, body, and emotions across time and place, and their political significance. In particular, the cross-cultural perspective will demonstrate the intimate associations of these 'private emotions and desires' with social structures such as gender, class, ethnicity, and religion. It examines both the reproductive role of ideologies about love and intimacy in different societies, as well as their transformative potential.

The questions that will be raised in class include: Do bodily and emotional experiences of intimacy differ across cultures? What shape the economic and social formations of intimate relationships such as love and friendship? What does it mean to say that romantic love is an ideology? What have our desires got to do with social order? Why are some emotions and desires taboo? Is our body a product of nature or culture?

Most updated syllabus and assessment will be announced in class.

Assessment Type

	Assessment Type	Current Percent
1	Essays	50
2	Short answer test or exam	50

Feedback for Evaluation

Feedback from students throughout the course
Comments from external examiners
Reflections of teachers
Course evaluation at the end of the semester

Required Readings

- Blaikie Andrew ... [et al.] 2004 *The body: critical concepts in sociology*, edited by the Aberdeen University Body Group
- Brownell, Susan. 1995. *Training the Body for China: Sports in the Moral Order of the People's Republic*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press
- Bourdieu, Pierre. 1977. *Outline of a Theory of Practice*. Ch2 & 4 (pp. 78-95; 159-197) & Ch 3 (pp. 114-123, pp. 143-158 the section on "The body as geometer: cosmogonic practice" and "The habitus and homologies")
- 1989. "Social Space and Symbolic Power." *Sociological Theory* 7(1): 14-25.
- 1990 [1970]. "The Kabyle House, Or the World Reversed." In *The Logic of Practice*, translated by Richard Nice. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Csordas, Thomas. 1990, "Embodiment as a Paradigm for Anthropology", *American Anthropological Association*, Vol. 18, No. 1, pp. 5-47.
- Csordas, Thomas. 1993. "Somatic Modes of Attention." *Cultural Anthropology* 8:2. 135-156
- Comaroff, Jean. 1993. "The Diseased Heart of Africa: Medicine, Colonialism, and the Black Body. In: Shirley Lindenbaum and Margaret Lock, eds. *Knowledge, Power and Practice: The Anthropology of Medicine and Everyday Life*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Das, Veena. 1997. "Sufferings, Theodicies, Disciplinary Practices, Appropriations". *International Social Science Journal*, December, Blackwell Publishers: UNESCO.
- Douglas, Mary. 1970. "The Two Bodies." From *Natural Symbols*. London: Barrie and Rockliff: The Cresset Press. Pp. 65-81.
- Elvin Mark, 1985, *Between the Earth and Heaven: Conceptions of the self in China*, in *The Category of the Person : Anthropology, Philosophy, History*, ed. By Michael Carrithers, Steven Collins, Steven Lukes, Cambridge : Cambridge University Press
- Featherstone Mike, Mike Hepworth, Bryan S. Turner, 1991, *The body : social process and cultural theory*
- Foucault, Michel. 1979. *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Vintage Books.
- Foucault, Michel. 1978. *The History of Sexuality: Volume 1*. New York: Vintage
- Gilman, Sander. 1985. "Black Bodies, White Bodies: Toward an Iconography of Female Sexuality in Late Nineteenth Century Art, Medicine, and Literature." In: Henry Louis Gates Jr., ed. *Race, Writing, and Difference*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Herzfeld Michael 2004 *The body impolitic : artisans and artifice in the global hierarchy of value*

Hirsch, Jennifer S. and Holly Wardlow eds. 2006. *Modern loves : the anthropology of romantic courtship & companionate marriage*. Ann Arbor : University of Michigan Press

Hochschild, Arlie. 1983. *The Managed Heart: Commercialization of Human Feeling*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Jankowiak, William. 1995. *Romantic Passion: A Universal Experience?* New York. Columbia University Press.

Kleinman, A., and J. Kleinman. 1991. "Suffering and its professional transformation: toward an ethnography of interpersonal experience. *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 15(3):275-301.

Lakoff George and Mark Johnson. 1980. "Conceptual Metaphor in Everyday Language." *Journal of Philosophy* 77:8, 453-486.

Lock, Margaret. 1993. "Cultivating the Body: Anthropology and Epistemologies of Bodily Practice and Knowledge." *Annual Review of Anthropology* 22: 133-155.

Lock, Margaret, and Judith Farquhar, eds., 2007. *The Body Proper: Reading the Anthropology of Material life*. Durham [N.C.] : Duke University Press

Lutz, Catherine and Geoffrey M. White. 1986. "The Anthropology of the Emotions." *Annual Review of Anthropology* 15:405-36

Jackson Michael. 1987 "Knowledge of the Body." *Paths toward a Clearing*. Bloomington: Indiana U. Press

Martin, Emily. 1992. *The Woman in the Body: A Cultural Analysis of Reproduction*. Boston: Beacon

Mauss Marcel, 1985, *A Category of the Human Mind: the Notion of Person; the Notion of Self*, in *The Category of the Person : Anthropology, Philosophy, History*, ed. By Michael Carrithers, Steven Collins, Steven Lukes, Cambridge : Cambridge University Press

Mauss Marcel, 2006, *Techniques, Technology and Civilization*, New York: Durkheim Press/Berghahn Books

Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Margaret Lock. 1987. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1, 1-36

Ortner, Sherry. 2005. "Subjectivity and cultural critique." *Anthropological Theory* 5 (31): 31-52.

Overing, Joanna and Alan Passes. 2000. *The anthropology of love and anger : the aesthetics of conviviality in Native Amazonia*. London ; New York : Routledge, 2000.

Rosaldo, Michelle. 1984. "Toward an Anthropology of Self and Feeling." In *Culture Theory: Essays on Mind, Self and Emotion*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Rosaldo, Renato. 1984. "Grief and the headhunter's rage: on the cultural force of emotions." In: E Bruner, ed. *Text, Play, and Story*, pp. 178-95. Washington, DC: Am. Ethnol. Soc

Ryang, Sonia. 2006. *Love in Modern Japan: Its Estrangement from Self, Sex and Society*. London; New York: Routledge.

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy and Margaret Lock. 1987. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1(1):6-41.

Strathern, Andrew. 1996. *Body Thoughts*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press.

Recommended Readings