Welcome!
Welcome to the UConn Pre-College Summer Medical Anthropology and Global Health Course. In this course we will be examining national and global health inequality, and reflecting on the following questions:

- How does inequality effect the lives and health status of people around the globe?
- Who is more likely to get sick and die from treatable diseases, and why?
- How do sexism, racism, homophobia, and poverty impact the health status of people around the world?
- What can physicians, public health workers, medical anthropologists, and global health volunteers do to help?
- What kinds of careers are available for individuals who want to tackle health inequality?

We are going to explore these questions through case studies of one of the most pressing global health issues of our time: the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

During this course we will use readings, group discussion, individual reflection time, in-class research assignments, journal clubs, video clips and documentaries, and other in-class activities to learn about health, inequality, and social justice.

At the end of the week we will work together as a team to form our own health task force on the HIV/AIDS epidemic in New Orleans. You will work in pairs, as a group, and with me to identify the causes, effects, and possible solutions to the current HIV/AIDS epidemic in New Orleans. We will conclude with a mock presentation to a community health organization (Anne) on your findings.

Looking forward to our conversation!

Basics:
Instructor: Anne Kohler
Anne’s Email: anne.kohler@uconn.edu

A Few Miscellaneous Things:
- There will be short homework assignments. These assignments will help prepare you for our activities and discussion the next day. I promise to keep them short, but do please try to complete them before we meet. If you do not have access to a computer/a place to watch videos/read links that I provide, please let me know. I will always provide paper copies of readings whenever it is possible.
Please try to keep cellphone usage to a minimum. If you need to make a phone call please step outside. You are encouraged to bring your laptops and phones to class for research purposes.

I am happy to make myself available for a short meeting before or after class if you have any questions about the material or pursuing a career in medical anthropology, global health, public health, or medicine.

Here is a list of great introductory medical anthropology and/or global health texts that you may wish to browse on your own if you have a continuing interest in this topic after our time together is over. There is a HUGE amount of material published on these topics, but I’m including ones I’ve found particularly useful and enjoyable.

Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World by Tracey Kidder.

Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues by Paul Farmer

To Repair the World: Paul Farmer Speaks to the Next Generation by Paul Farmer, edited by Jonathan Weigel

The Human Right to Health by Jonathan Wolff

The Face of Social Suffering: Life History of a Street Drug Addict by Merrill Singer

A Heart for the Work: Journeys through an African Medical School by Claire Wendland

The Health Gap: The Challenge of an Unequal World by Michael Marmot

The Illness Narratives: Suffering, Healing, and the Human Condition by Arthur Kleinman

A few favorite documentaries on topics of health and inequality:

Code Black
Living in Emergency: Stories of Doctors Without Borders
The Waiting Room
How to Survive a Plague
We Were Here: The AIDS Years in San Francisco
Pandemic: Facing AIDS
Course Schedule:

Monday: Introduction to Medical Anthropology

Introductions

Group Activity:
What is Health?

Short Lecture:
Introduction to Medical Anthropology and Global Health

Small Team Research Projects:
- What are the social determinants of health?
- What is structural violence and how is it related to health?

** Each team will be provided with links and other materials to carry out their research. At the end of your information gathering session you will present your findings to your peers.

Homework for tomorrow:
READ:
   a. Homework: please come in with one discussion question about the interview

Tuesday Morning: HIV and Inequality

If needed: wrap-up poster presentations

Discussion of homework reading and prepared student questions

Introduction to Case Study Topic: HIV/AIDS

Group Activity:
What is HIV/AIDS?

Short Lecture:
HIV/AIDS and Inequality
If time:

Read and Discuss:
1.) How Did A Small Midwest Town End Up With America’s Worst HIV Problem? (http://digg.com/2016/austin-indiana-hiv)

Tuesday Afternoon: Media Representations of HIV/AIDS—Why Medical Anthropologists Care

Watch and Discuss:
The Age of Aids (http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/aids/)
Pt One:
Clip One: A Deadly New Disease
Clip Two: The Spread Escalates
Clip Three: Politics and Tracking Aids: A History
Pt Two:
Clip One: Political Indifference
Clip Two: A Radical New Treatment
Clip Seven: 40 Million Infections and 40 Million to Come

Wednesday: Health as a Human Right

Brainstorm:
What are human rights?

Watch and Discuss:
“First Principles of Health Justice: A Human Right to be Healthy” by Sridhar Venkatapuram (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ex1AqnM6U9Y)

Short Lecture:
Health and Human Rights: Key Issues in Medical Anthropology

Small Team Research Projects:
Team One: Partners in Health and HIV
Team Two: WHO and the Millennium Development Goals

Thursday Morning: Clinicians—Addressing Health and Social Justice

If needed: wrap up poster presentations

Brainstorm:
What makes a good doctor?
**Short Lecture:**
Career opportunities in health and social justice

**Journal Club:**

**Thursday Afternoon: Guest Speaker**

Prepare questions for guest speaker

2:30PM: Guest Speaker TBA (Medical Anthropologist or Medical Student)

**Homework for Tomorrow:**

**Friday: New Orleans HIV/AIDS Health Task Force**

Everyone will be assigned a specific research role on the task force to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in New Orleans.

As a team, you will compose a small report and presentation to give to a community health organization on the causes, outcomes, and potential remedies to the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic in New Orleans post-Katrina.

I will compile information packets with readings, links, and hints for everyone on the team. I will also be available for consultation, questions, and help with resource gathering.

**Wrap-up:**
- Task Force presentation
- **Snacks!**
- Reflections and feedback