





OUTBREAKS AND THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF EMERGING DISEASE

HUMANITY'S ROLE IN AND RESPONSES TO DISEASE OUTBREAKS

ANTHRO 1560

 @MizzouAnthro

 AnthroMizzou

 anthropology.missouri.edu

 Anthropology
University of Missouri

About this course

Human-environment interactions, and biocultural responses to illness profoundly impact the ways in which diseases evolve, emerge, and spread. Similarly, cultural responses and emic understandings of disease processes can have profound impacts on the evolution of cultural traits. This course will explore the role of humans and cultural variation in emerging infectious diseases and disease outbreaks by focusing on the origins, emergence, spread, and response to Ebola, HIV, rabies, and Covid-19. Additionally this course will explore the cultural evolution of resistance to treatment of infectious disease, including vaccine hesitancy in industrialized and developing countries, as well as stigma, misinformation, and distrust that often accompanies disease outbreaks. This class will also explore on the politics, psychology, and cultural responses to COVID-19, to examine how this pandemic is shaping American culture. By focusing on the interplay between culture, ecology, and biology, this course will highlight the power of anthropological perspectives to understand human health in the context of contemporary infectious diseases.

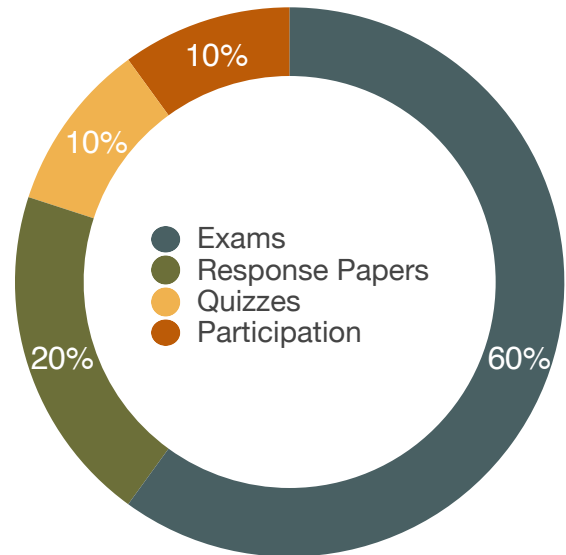
Spring Semester 2021, MoWeFr 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM in Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building 111

Instructor is Dr. Sean Prall. My office is in Swallow Hall 224, and my office hours are Mon and Wed from 1PM to 3PM. You may contact me via email at sprall@missouri.edu

Course Objectives

By the end of this course students will be expected to:

- Understand the role of human-environment interactions in the emergence of disease
- Recognize cultural practices that mediate disease spread and influence the ability to treat disease
- Explain the cultural models that elucidate resistance to treatment, including psychological and cultural mechanisms that promote distrust and stigma
- Be able to trace the natural and social history of the spread of several infectious diseases



Readings

The following textbooks are required for this course:

- *Ebola: The natural and human history of a deadly virus* by David Quammen
- *The chimp and the river: how AIDs emerged from an African forest* by David Quammen

Other readings will be posted to canvas as PDFs. Students will be expected to have completed assigned reading prior to class.

Assignments and grading

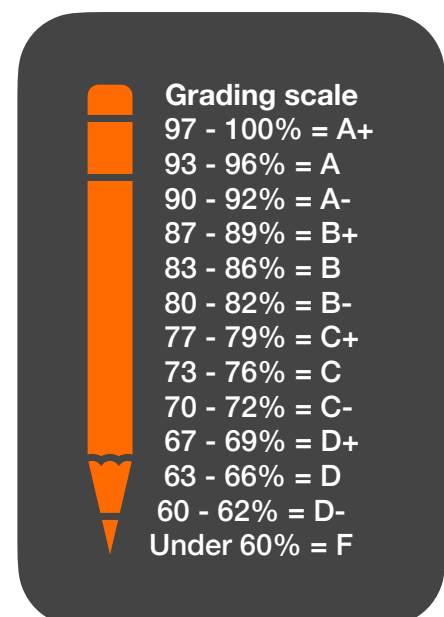
Grading for this class will be broken down into the following requirements and assignments as represented in the graph.

Quizzes - At the discretion of the instructor, students will complete a series of short and unannounced quizzes at the beginning of class sessions. Quizzes may be in any format, but will concentrate on assigned reading materials, and subject matter covered since the previous quiz.

Response papers - Students will be required to complete several response papers over the course of the semester. Response papers will be related to a specific set of readings. See Canvas for subject matter and formatting requirements.

Exams - Students will complete three exams during the semester. Exams will be composed of a mix of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. The last exam will be during finals week. Exams will not be cumulative. Students should refer to questions from the quizzes for style and content.

Participation - Students will be graded by participating on online discussion boards (expected to participate in 80% of online discussions) to ask and answer relevant questions on readings and course material, as well as in-class participation, assignments, and activities.



Course Schedule

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Daily Topic
Week 1	Wednesday	1/20	Disease ecology	Introduction to the course, What is an EID?
	Friday	1/22	Disease ecology	What primate disease ecology can tell us
Week 2	Monday	1/25	Disease ecology	Social systems and disease risk
	Wednesday	1/27	Disease ecology	Epidemiological Transitions
	Friday	1/29	Disease ecology	How disease shapes societies and institutions
Week 3	Monday	2/1	Disease ecology	Behavioral immunity and stigma
	Wednesday	2/3	Disease ecology	What makes diseases deadly?
	Friday	2/5	HIV	“Bushmeat” and the potential for EIDs
Week 4	Monday	2/8	HIV	<u>Film - Wet Markets</u>
	Wednesday	2/10	HIV	Origins of HIV in the Congo
	Friday	2/12	HIV	The global spread of HIV
Week 5	Monday	2/15	HIV	Stigma and death in the gay community
	Wednesday	2/17	HIV	Culture, Poverty, and HIV Transmission in Haiti
	Friday	2/19	HIV	Infection and biomedicine in Africa
Week 6	Monday	2/22	HIV	Transactional sex, STDs, and sexual networks
	Wednesday	2/24	HIV	<u>Film - HIV</u>
	Friday	2/26		Exam 1
Week 7	Monday	3/1	Ebola	Bats and emerging viral diseases
	Wednesday	3/3	Ebola	The search for Ebola’s origins
	Friday	3/5	Ebola	Ebola’s origins continued
Week 8	Monday	3/8	Ebola	Local understandings of Ebola
	Wednesday	3/10	Ebola	Body contact, burial, and cultural practice
	Friday	3/12	Ebola	<u>Film - Outbreak</u>
Week 9	Monday	3/15	Ebola	Misinformation and distrust
	Wednesday	3/17	Ebola	Misinformation cont
	Friday	3/19	Ebola	Surviving Ebola

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Daily Topic
Week 10	Monday	3/22	Rabies	Rabies infection and ecology
	Wednesday	3/24	Rabies	The rabies virus and other zombie parasites
	Friday	3/26	Rabies	Rabies in Bali
Week 11	Monday	4/5	Vaccination	Wakefield and the spread of scientific misinformation
	Wednesday	4/7	Vaccination	Wakefield continued
	Friday	4/9		Exam 2
Week 12	Monday	4/12	Vaccination	<u>Film - The Vaccine War</u>
	Wednesday	4/14	Vaccination	The decision to vaccinate
	Friday	4/16	Vaccination	Vaccination and decision heuristics
Week 13	Monday	4/19	Vaccination	International vaccine controversies
	Wednesday	4/21	COVID-19	Origins of the outbreak
	Friday	4/23	COVID-19	Politics and the pandemic
Week 14	Monday	4/26	COVID-19	Politics and the pandemic continued
	Wednesday	4/28	COVID-19	Cultural evolution and COVID-19
	Friday	4/30		Parasites and other old friends
Week 15	Monday	5/3		The OneHealth perspective and EIDs
	Wednesday	5/5		Wrap-up
Finals				Exam 3

Course Policies and Expectations

Attendance

Students are expected to be present for class (until otherwise notified). Attendance will not be taken, but students who fail to attend may miss pop quizzes and valuable in-class learning opportunities. Students who have a *legitimate* reason to miss class must alert the instructor BEFORE class (and ideally at least 24 hours in advance). Students who miss class without legitimate reasons and advance warning may not make up missed quizzes, exams, or hand in materials late.

Students who have legitimate reasons not to attend class in person may attend digitally. It is the student's responsibility to be contact with the instructor regarding access to these materials. Every effort will be made to give students unable to attend in-person fair and equitable access to lectures and other course materials.

Weather Policy

As a university policy change for spring of 2021, severe inclement weather will no longer result in class cancelation. In the event face-to-face classes cannot be held due to weather, class will be held on Zoom unless otherwise notified. Students will receive an email with instructions an a link. Do not assume class will be moving to Zoom until you receive announcement on canvas or hear an official announcement from the university that classes will not be held on campus

Decreasing the Risk of COVID-19 in Classrooms and Labs

MU cares about the health and safety of its students, faculty, and staff. To provide safe, high-quality education amid COVID-19, we will follow several specific campus policies in accordance with the advice of the Center for Disease Control and Boone County health authorities. This statement will be updated as information changes.

- If you are experiencing any COVID-related symptoms, or are otherwise feeling unwell, do not attend in-person classes and contact your health care provider and/or student health immediately. COVID symptoms include: fever greater than 100.4 or chills; cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; unexplained muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea.
- We will all wear face coverings while in the classroom, unless you have a documented exemption due to a disability or medical condition.
- We will maintain a 6-foot distance from each other at all times (except in specific lab/studio courses with other specific guidelines for social distancing).
- We will enter the classroom and fill the room starting at the front, filing all the way across a row. When class ends, we will exit the row nearest to the door first; the instructor or TA will give the signal for the next row to exit, in the same manner.
- In any small section or lab class that requires them, additional measures will be listed in the syllabus and be mandatory for class participation.
- Online office hours will be available for all students.
- This course may be recorded for the sole purpose of sharing the recording with students who can't attend class. The instructor will take care not to disclose personally identifiable information from the student education records during the recorded lesson.

Compliance with these guidelines is required for all; anyone who fails to comply will be subject to the accountability process, as stated in the University's Collected Rules and Regulations, Chapter 200 Student Code of Conduct.

If an instructor has concerns about how a student is following COVID-19 policies and protocols, please report those concerns to the Office of the Dean of Students. You can fill out a COVID Safety Measures Reporting Form here: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofMissouriSystem&layout_id=38

By taking the above measures, we are supporting your health and that of the whole Mizzou community. Thank you in advance for joining me and your peers in adhering to these safety measures.

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

If **disability related accommodations** are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please establish an accommodation plan with the MU Disability Center, S5 Memorial Union, 573-882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for persons with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

The University community welcomes **intellectual diversity and respects student rights**. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may

contact the departmental chair or divisional director; the director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities; the MU Equity Office, or equity@missouri.edu.

All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of course activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation under section 240.040 of the Collected Rules. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video recordings of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

Those students who are permitted to record are not permitted to redistribute audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

Please note that course schedule and any deadlines listed are subject to change. Instructor may change course content, assignments, grading, and reading at his discretion. Students will be notified of updates to this syllabus as they occur.