

## CODE BSPH-302 MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

### Course Objectives:

After studying this course, you should be able to:

- i. Discuss the ways in which ideas regarding health, illness, and treatment are socially constructed
- ii. Analyze biomedicine as a cultural system and the nature of its spread around the globe
- iii. Recognize the value of anthropology in understanding medicine and healing
- iv. Break down complex academic journal articles into thesis, main points, and supporting evidence
- v. Conduct and present independent research on current popular health topics
- vi. Successfully apply the arguments presented in academic articles to non-anthropological writing

### Course Contents:

- i. Introduction of Medical Anthropology
- ii. Culture and social aspects of the body, health, sickness and illness in the cross cultural prospective
- iii. Effects of culture on health
- iv. Medicalization
- v. Authoritative knowledge and belief
- vi. Global inequities
- vii. The phenomenology of disability, death and role of medical schools
- viii. Understanding interpretive approaches, critical theory and phenomenology

### Recommended Books:

1. Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology Third Edition edited by Peter J. Brown, Svea Closser 2016.
2. Montross, Christine Body of Work: Meditations on Mortality from the Human Anatomy Lab. Penguin Books 2007.
3. Lock, Margaret Twice Dead: Organ Transplants and the Reinvention of Death. Berkeley: University of California Press 2002.
4. Fadiman, Anne 1997 The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux.
5. Murphy, Robert 1990 The Body Silent: The Different World of the Disabled. New York: W.W. Norton.