

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**ANTH 2070B**  
**WINTER 2025**  
**PSYCHOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

**Instructor: Jared Epp**

**Office: NA**

**Office Hours: Fridays 2-3pm on Zoom, link in Course Brightspace page**

**Email: [jaredepp@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:jaredepp@cunet.carleton.ca)**

**Course Delivery:** This is a synchronous online class. Students are expected to attend the online lectures.

**Course meets:** 6:00-9:00pm Wednesdays. The zoom link to lectures available on course Brightspace page.

**Pre-requisites & Precluded Courses:** There are no pre-requisites for the course.

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**Course Description and Objectives:** In this course we will explore how psychological anthropology provides a unique opportunity to understand the relationship between the individual and their social world. Anthropology focuses on the universal and particular of human experience, the relationship between aspects shared across cultures and how they manifest in unique contexts. In this course we take this fundamental interest to explore individuality amidst our social experience. The goal is to explore the shifting and fluid thresholds between normativity and madness, the outsider and the mainstream and how social concerns shape individuality as well as how divergent individuality creates new social contexts.

Anthropologist Clifford Geertz once argued that anthropology is an interpretive science in search of meaning (1973). In this course, we take this idea as a jumping off point to engage with madness, to understand what it comes to mean as a social reality as well as personal experience. What does madness mean on a societal level, as a category of experience, and social phenomena sometimes requiring institutional intervention. What does it mean on a personal level, how do people who live under the label of madness articulate their experience and their relationship to normativity. Further what does madness mean in different cultural contexts, how is it experienced and understood when situated within spirituality. Through these contexts, we can explore thresholds of difference in which the center and periphery are defined. The second half of the course will look at specific contexts of individuality in relation to social normativity or acceptability. We engage these questions through explorations of addiction, precarity, art and experiences on the border of normalcy. Through these contexts we hope to understand how the construction of social reality, the self, and normativity are lived and negotiated.

**Learning Outcomes**

1) Providing an understanding of how anthropology engages with the intersection of the individual and their social world

- 2) Providing a framework to understand the importance that social context and culture play in the diagnosis, treatment, resistance and experience of mental illness or madness
- 3) Providing a space to explore and unpack situations in which individuals challenge normative assumptions of what it means to be a 'functioning' member of a community

**Reading(s)/Textbook(s):** All course material will be available through the course Brightspace page. The material is located in the content section for each week.

### **Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:**

#### **Reflection Responses: 20%**

There will be 4 short reflection responses assigned throughout the semester, each worth 5%. Each reflection response should be around 250 words or one page double spaced. Responses must be submitted by the following Monday after each class, through the course Brightspace page. Responses are an informal way to demonstrate your thought process and engagement with the course.

#### **Critical Response Take Home Exams: 40%**

There will be two take home exams in the course, each worth 20%. The first, due **Feb. 14**, deals with material from the first half of the course. The second, due **March 25** deals with material from the second half of the course. The take home exams will include two long answer questions that summarize course material. Students are required to connect course material with their own critical thinking. Guidelines and questions will be distributed in class the week before the due date. Assignments must be submitted through Brightspace.

#### **Final Take Home Essay: 30% - Due April 26**

Students must complete a 1500 word essay that deals broadly with a specific week's topic. Students can take that general topic and develop their own unique essay of a topic of interest within that broad theme. Students must use a mix of sources from in class as well as peer reviewed sources of their own choosing. Guidelines and expectations will be discussed in the second half of the course.

#### **Participation 10%**

Students are expected to attend lectures and participate in class discussions, either by asking questions and comments through the zoom chat or by speaking directly during the lecture. The TA will monitor each lecture, documenting participation. Lecture slides will be posted on Brightspace but the lectures will not be recorded. Students will not be required to turn on their cameras but participation in lectures is required.

## **Late Exam and Assignment Policy**

All assignments must be handed in on time. Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the professor. All requests for extensions must be communicated before the deadline. Without discussing with the professor first, marks will be docked, 2% per day, for assignments handed in late. I understand that life happens, please communicate with me before the deadline of an assignment. No extensions will be granted for the 4 short reflection responses.

## **Use of AI Policy**

From ChatGPT to other forms of Generative AI, this technology is everywhere and becoming more and more common place. However, using this technology is an act of plagiarism and will not be tolerated. Cases of AI use will be treated the same as any form of plagiarism and will be dealt with accordingly (see Carleton's policy on plagiarism later in the course outline). Within this class steps will be taken to craft assignments in ways that make the use of AI responses more obvious and easier to detect. Students must write in the first person and draw from their own experience and critical thinking.

## **Additional Information**

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50	WDN = Withdrawn from the course	DEF = Deferred	

## **Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.**

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

### **Academic Accommodations:**

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website ([students.carleton.ca/course-outline](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)).

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at **613-520-6608** or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your ***Letter of Accommodation*** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*).

\*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for February/March examinations is **February 1, 2025** and **March 15, 2025** for April examinations.

### **For Religious Obligations:**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **For Pregnancy:**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **For Survivors of Sexual Violence:**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

### **Accommodation for Student Activities:**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

### **What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?**

A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including but not limited to: a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

### **What are the Procedures?**

All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

### **Assistance for Students:**

**Mental Health:** As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

**Academic and Career Development Services:** <https://carleton.ca/career/>

**Writing Services:** <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

**Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS):** <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

### **Important Information:**

- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
- Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
- Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton's Privacy Office seeks to encourage

the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.

- In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your [MyCarletonOne account](#) through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the [MyCarleton Portal](#).
- Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://students.carleton.ca/>.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE WEEK BY WEEK**

### **Week 1, January 8: (Course introduction)**

-We will go through the syllabus, discuss course plan and expectations

### **Week 2, January 15: An Introduction to Psychological Anthropology from Foundations to the Contemporary**

**Read:** Simon Dein, "Chapter One: Introduction," *Culture and Psyche* 1-18

Tanya Luhrmann, "Introduction" *Our Most Troubling Madness* 1-25

Emily Martin, "Introduction," *Experiments of the Mind* 1-11

### **Week 3, January 22: Socio-Historical Context of Madness**

**Read:** Michel Foucault, "Madness and Civilization," *Madness: Language, Literature* 17-34

Michel Foucault, "Preface" *Madness and Civilization* xi-xiv

**Watch (in class):** *Madness: A History* BBC documentary

**First Reflection Response Due January 27**

**Week 4, January 29: Mad Resistance, Anti-Psychiatry and Challenging the Institution of Madness**

**Read:** “Introducing Mad Studies,” In *Mad Studies Reader* 1-16

-Thomas Szasz “*The Myth of Mental Illness*” *American Psychologist* 15(2) 113-118

- Tanya Luhrmann, “The Culture of the Institutional Circuit in the United States” In *Our Most Troubling Madness* 153-166

**Week 5, Feb. 5: The Individual and the Institution**

The lecture for this week will be pre-recorded. There will be no live lecture.

**Watch:** *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*

**Take home critical response questions distributed**

**Second reflection response Due Feb. 10**

**Week 6, Feb. 12: The Individual and the Institution**

**Read:** Erving Goffman, *Asylum* (The Moral Career of a Mental Patient) 127-169

**Guest Lecture: Robert Artinian** discussing his experiences as a patient in a psychiatric institution

**Take home critical response due midnight Feb. 14**

**Week 7, Feb. 19 Reading Week**

**Enjoy the Break!!!**

**Week 8, Feb 26: Diagnosis and Identity Across cultures**

**Read:** Tanya Luhrmann, “I’m Schizophrenic!”: How Diagnosis Can Change Identity in The United States” In *Our Most Troubling Madness* 27-41

Amy June Sousa, “Diagnostic Neutrality in Psychiatric Treatment in North India,” *Our Most Troubling Madness* 42-54

**Watch:** *The Spirit Possession of Alejandro Mamani* by Hubert Smith and Neil Reichline

**Week 9, Mar 5:  
Madness in Different Cultural Context**

**Read:** Anubha Sood, “Madness Experienced as Faith: Temple Healing in North India,” In *Our Most Troubling Madness* 127-138

Vincent Crapanzano, *Tuhami: Portrait of a Moroccan* (a selection)

**Guest Lecture:** Mark Schemeit, discussing his ethnographic research on Islamic healing and mental illness amongst Turkish youth in Berlin

**Third Reflection Response: Due Mar. 10**

**Week 10, Mar 12 Anthropologies of Drug Use, Addiction and the City**

**Read:** Philippe Bourgois, “Just Another Night in a Shooting Gallery,” *Theory, Culture & Society* 15(2) 37-66

Erin DeJ, “Psychocentrism and Homelessness: The Pathologization/Responsibilization Paradox,” *Studies in Social Justice* 10(1) 117-135

**Watch:** *Death is Dangerous*



## Fourth Reflection Response due March 14

### Week 11, Mar 19 The Outsider and the Mainstream: Art

**Read:** Colin Rhodes, *Outsider Art Spontaneous Alternatives* (Chapter One) 6-23

Rita Elizabeth Risser, "Insiders Curating Outsider Art," *Museum Anthropology* 40(1) 79-87

**Watch (in class):** *Turning the Art World Inside Out* By Alan Yentob

**Take Home Critical Response #2 Guidelines and Prompts Distributed Due March 25\***

### Week 12, Mar 26 The Outsider and the Mainstream

**Read:** Jean DuBuffet, *Asphyxiating Culture* 7-12

Franz Kafka, *The Hunger Artist*

**Guest Lecture: David Ross**, On Thinking from the Margins and the Musicality of Reality

**Take home Critical Response #2 Due March 25**

### Week 13, April 2: Course Wrap Up and Discussion of Final Essay Due April 26

## WINTER TERM 2025 – Important Dates and Deadlines

Date	Activity
December 30, 2024	Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in full winter and early winter term courses.
January 3, 2025	University reopens.
January 6, 2025	Winter term begins. Full winter and early winter classes begin.

<b>January 10, 2025</b>	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in early winter courses.
<b>January 17, 2025</b>	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full winter and late winter courses.
	Last day to withdraw from early winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
	Graduate students who have not electronically submitted their final thesis copy to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs will not be eligible to graduate in winter 2025 and must register for the winter 2025 term.
<b>January 24-26, January 31- February 2, 2025</b>	Full fall and late fall term deferred final examinations will be held.
<b>January 31, 2025</b>	Last day to withdraw from full winter courses and the winter portion of fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
<b>February 1, 2025</b>	Last day for academic withdrawal from early winter courses.
	Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for Feb/Mar final examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
<b>February 7, 2025</b>	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in early winter term undergraduate courses, before the official Feb/Mar final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
<b>February 14, 2025</b>	Last day of early winter classes.
	Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned in early winter courses, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
	Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for early winter courses.
	April examination schedule available online.
<b>February 17, 2025</b>	Statutory holiday. University closed.

	Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in late winter courses.
<b>February 17-21, 2025</b>	Winter break, no classes.
<b>February 22-23, March 1-2, 2025</b>	Final examinations in early winter undergraduate courses will be held.
<b>February 24, 2025</b>	Late winter classes begin.
<b>March 1, 2025</b>	Last day for receipt of applications to Bachelor of Architecture, Bachelor of Industrial Design, Bachelor of Information Technology (Interactive Multimedia and Design), Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Social Work degree programs for the fall/winter session.
	Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate program for the summer term.
	Last day for receipt of applications for admission from candidates who wish to be guaranteed consideration for financial assistance (including Carleton fellowships, scholarships and teaching assistantships) administered by Carleton University. Candidates whose applications are received after the March 1 deadline may be considered for the award of a fellowship, scholarship or teaching assistantship (Graduate students only).
<b>March 7, 2025</b>	Last day to withdraw from late winter term courses with a full fee adjustment.
<b>March 14-16, 2025</b>	Early winter undergraduate deferred final examinations will be held.
<b>March 15, 2025</b>	Last day for academic withdrawal from full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses.
	Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for April full winter, late winter, and fall/winter final examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
<b>March 25, 2025</b>	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full winter term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official April final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).

<b>April 1, 2025</b>	Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.
	Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the fall/winter session from applicants whose documents originate from outside Canada or the United States, except for applications due March 1.
	Last day for receipt of applications from potential spring (June) graduates.
	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in late winter term undergraduate courses, before the official final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
<b>April 8, 2025</b>	Winter term ends.
	Last day of full winter, late winter, and fall/winter classes.
	Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
	Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for full winter and late winter courses.
<b>April 9-10, 2025</b>	No classes or examinations take place.
<b>April 11-26, 2025</b>	Final examinations in full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.

**Diversity and Inclusion in Learning:** In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

**Land Acknowledgement:** Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.