

ABSOLUTE ANTHROPOLOGY

THE MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY OF ALCOHOL USE

Anthropology 154

Janet Chrzan
jchrzan@sas.upenn.edu
(215) 898-7461

Julie Lyzinski
lyzinski@pobox.upenn.edu
(215) 573-3525

- September 6th:** **Introduction to Medical Anthropology and Alcohol Studies**
Outline of the Medical Anthropology method
Why Alcohol?
- September 11th:** **History: Archeological Models**
Katz and Voigt: Bread and Beer
Sherratt: Alcohol and its Alternatives
Optional: McGovern: A Beverage for King Midas
- September 13th:** **History: Early European Models: The Greek Symposium**
Vetta: Symposia and Poetry
Davidson: "Drinking"
- September 18th:** **History: Social History of Europe**
Engs: Do Traditional Western European Drinking Practices have Origins in Antiquity?
Schivelbusch: 'The Industrial Revolution, 'Beer and Liquor', and 'Rituals'
- September 20th:** **American Social History of Alcohol Use**
Rorabaugh: 'A Nation of Drunkards', 'A Good Creature' and 'The Pursuit of Happiness'
- September 25th:** **The Meaning of Alcohol in European Cultures today**
Barthes: Wine and Milk
Garvey: Drunk and (Dis)Orderly
Turmo: Drinking: An almost silent language
- September 27th:** **Biology**
Braun (Buzz): Chapters 1-5
- October 2nd:** **Current American Use of Alcohol**
Gusfield: Passage to Play
Shachtman: "Going Away"
- October 4th:** **Cross-Cultural Use: Conviviality**
Gariné: An ethnographic account of the many roles of millet beer....
Suggs: Mosadi Tshwene
Topper: Drinking as an Expression of Status: Navajo Male Adolescents
- October 9th:** **Cross-Cultural Use: Religion**
Eber: Chapter 5, Women and Alcohol in a Highland Maya Town
Johnson: Drinking the God
- October 11th:** **Cross-cultural Identification of problems**
Singer and Baer: Confronting Juan Garcia's Drinking Problem
Ambler: Drunks, Brewers and Chiefs: Alcohol Regulation in Colonial Kenya
- Movie: Dry Days in Dobbagunta**
- October 16th:** **FALL BREAK!**
- October 18th:** **Cross-Cultural Treatment: Indigenous Treatments**
Singer and Borrero: Indigenous Treatment for Alcoholism

Garrity: Jesus, Peyote and the Holy People
Brady: Stimulating Action – Getting People Going

October 23rd: **The American Status System and Drinking; Semiotics of Advertising**
Ortner: Generation X: Anthropology in a Media-Saturated World
Berger (John): Chapter 7, Ways of Seeing
Berger (Arthur Asa): Analyzing Print Advertisements

Paper Due: Alcohol in Religious Ritual and/or Alcohol Use in Another Culture

October 25th: **Advertising: The Nitty-Gritty of Alcohol Ads**
Thorson: Studies of the Effects of Alcohol Advertising
Stockdale: The Role of the Media
Rozik: Pictorial Metaphor in Commercial Advertising
Snyder et al.: Effects of Alcohol Advertising Exposure on Drinking Among Youth

Take-Home Midterm Distributed

October 30th: **American Models of Identification of Problems**
Room: The Cultural Framing of Addiction
Stein: Ethanol and its Discontents

November 1st: **American Models of Identification of Problems**
Bennett and Ames: American Beliefs about Alcoholism
Room: Preventing Alcohol Problems
Nichols: Attack of the Giant Martini

Take-Home Midterm Due

November 6th: **American Discourses of Drinking and Recovery**
Cain: Personal Stories
Knapp: Drinking: A Love Story
Jersild: Teenage Girls and College Women

November 8th: **American Treatment Models I**
Antze: Symbolic Action in Alcoholics Anonymous
Singer: Chapter 1 (Battling Sobriety)
Ringwald: Our God, No God: Religious Methods and Secular Approaches

Movie: Clips from Addiction, HBO Series

November 13th: **American Treatment Models II**
Fleming and Manwell: Brief Intervention in Primary Care Settings
O'Brien and McLellan: Myths about the Treatment of Addiction
Pettinati et al.: The Status of Naltrexone in the Treatment of Alcohol Dependence
(Blackboard)
Recommended: Ringwald: Harm Reduction: Challenging Tradition on the Street with Transcendence

Speaker: Kyle Kampman, Medical Director of the Treatment Research Center

Paper Due: Alcohol Advertising

November 15th: **College Use Patterns**
Giles: Student Drinking in the Third Reich
Engs: Drinking Practices and Patterns Among Collegians
National Advisory Council on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA): *A Call to Action: Changing the Culture of Drinking at US Colleges* (Blackboard)

Movies: Clip from Animal House / Greeks ABC Family/ YouTube

- November 20th:** **College Use patterns/Culture of Sexuality on Campus**
 Keeling: The Political, Social, and Public Health Problems of Binge Drinking
 Abbey: Attitudinal, Experiential, and Situational Predictors of Sexual Assault Perpetration
 NPR Morning Edition: *Smoking, Alcohol Pose Unique Risks for Teens*, 5/31/2005.
Podcast on Blackboard:
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4673056>
- Movies: Clip from Marie Antoinette / College Binge Drinking and Sober Reflections
- November 22nd:** **Thanksgiving!**
- November 27th:** **College – Interventions**
 Parks: Engaging College Students: Motivational Enhancements Strategies for Use in Brief Alcohol Interventions and Prevention Programming
 Perkins: Social Norms and the Prevention of Alcohol Misuse in Collegiate Contexts
- Speaker: Stephanie Ives, UPenn Director of Alcohol Policy Initiatives**
- November 29th:** **Student Presentations on Iversen and Zailckas**
- December 4th:** **College – Legal Drinking Age: In-Class DEBATE---Come equipped with 4-5 points from both websites**
 McCardell: <http://www.chooseresponsibility.org/> (McCardell's Perspective)
 White: <http://www.duke.edu/~amwhite/Adolescence/index.html>
 Pedersen-Green: McCardell proposes a new legal drinking age (Blackboard)
 US Dept. of Justice: Youth Drinking Rates and Problems: A Comparison of European Countries and the United States (Blackboard)
- December 6th:** **Why Do People Drink?**
 Robinson: Liquid Magic – Birth of Wine Lover
 Kladstrup: The Fete, Chapter 7, Wine and War
 Donaldson: Bon Sante: is wine good for your health?
- Paper Due: College Party Paper**
Take-Home Final Distributed

Course Materials

A bulkpack is required for the course and is available for purchase at Wharton Reprographics, in the basement of Steinberg-Dietrich Hall. The books 21, by Jeremy Iverson, and Smashed: Diary of a Drunken Girlhood by Koren Zailckas are available from the Penn Book Center located at 34th and Sansom Streets. Two recommended texts, for those who wish to learn more about wine, are The New Short Course in Wine by Lynn Hoffman and The Wine Chronicles by Greg Moore.

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| Course Requirements | Regular class and recitation attendance
Class preparation
Class participation
2 short (5 page) papers – choose from 3 listed below
Enthusiastic participation in a group class presentation
Midterm and final |
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Class Preparation

This course is a lecture with some in-class discussion –you will be expected to be able to discuss the readings and assignments during the course of the class period. We expect you to have read the material and prepared to discuss the articles and ideas. We suggest that you prepare for this format in a number of ways: you may want to outline the article, write down questions that you have about the author's argument and prepare questions based on similar yet competing readings. We want this class to be a safe place where we can experiment, try out new ideas, and take risks in our thinking. If you find it difficult to talk in front of others we suggest coming to class prepared with outlines and questions to guide your arguments. Please let us know **early** in the semester if the seminar format is particularly hard for you since you will be

graded on class participation. Whatever your capacity for public speaking, careful attention to others' arguments is always appreciated and noted.

We also encourage you to bring in any items related to class that you come across in your day-to-day experiences in newspapers, magazines, and other media sources as well as encounters with other students and community members.

Short Papers

You will be required to write two short papers (5 pages) on the topics listed below. There are three topics and three due-dates; you will choose which two you wish to complete. Each paper may require library research, thinking, analysis, and participant-observation, and you will be expected to utilize appropriate readings from class in your discussion of each topic.

Paper: Alcohol in Religious Ritual and/or Alcohol Use in Another Culture **(due October 11th)**

Paper: Alcohol Advertising **(due November 13th)**

Paper: Observe and write about a college party **(due December 6th)**

Group Project

There will be a group project assigned at the end of September. Groups will be chosen by the professor (randomly) and will be required to produce a short presentation on either the book 21 by Iverson or Smashed, by Zailckas. Full instructions for this project will be given out in class. The presentation will occur on November 29th.

Midterm and Final

A take-home midterm will be handed out October 25th and will be due in class on November 1st. The final will be take-home as well; it will be handed out in class at the end of the semester and will be due on the day that an in-class final would have been held for the class. These tests are designed to test three elements: your knowledge of the assigned readings, your attention to class and section discussion and lecture, and your capacity to analyze the themes of the class. As such, they will consist of a series of essay questions, and you will be expected to refer to the bulk-pack readings and lectures in your answers. It will not be appropriate for you to use readings from other courses in your answers, unless they allow you to more cogently argue a particular theoretical point. As such they will serve as secondary references to your explanation of the course readings.

Sections

Discussion sections (recitation) are required attendance. TAs will take attendance and a primary part of the class participation grade (10%) will be dependant on section attendance (the other part of the participation grade will be determined based on lecture attendance and appropriate class participation).

Grading:

Two short papers: 30%

Group Project: 10%

Midterm: 20%

Final: 25%

Class Participation: 15%