

Humans at the Extremes

AANT 416

Spring 2019

Pre-Reqs: AANT 110&211



Class Time: W 4:15-7:05

Location: BB 125

Instructor: Dr. Cara Ocobock

Office Hours:

Office Location: A&S 119

Email: cocobock@albany.edu

Phone: (518) 442-4717

Course Description

The Arctic Circle, Mount Everest, the Sahara Desert, poverty, and obesity, and even space! These are all extremes some humans experience. Using primary literature and pop culture resources, this course will explore how humans have biologically, culturally, and technologically overcome these extremes. Through this use of mixed media we will also discuss how the media misrepresents and misreports scientific studies, making us all more discerning consumers of information. You will be expected to compare and contract different types of resources for each topic covered. You will also be expected to work within a group to explore a human extreme of your own choosing and present it to the class.

Course Text

All readings are made available as pdfs on the course Blackboard website or through links.

Assessment

You will be evaluated in this class on attendance and participation, shorts reports on each topic, your group presentation, and a final paper about your chosen topic. The breakdown for each of these is provided below along with brief descriptions. More detailed rubrics and expectations for each assignment will be provided closer to the due date.

11 SHORT REPORTS! 10 points each + about yourself = 120 pts (see table for due dates)

Topic Due – 10 pts (**due 2-13-19**)

Film & Article Selection Due – 10 pts (**due 3-6-19**)

Participation – 50 pts

Presentation/Discussion – 130 (see table for due dates)

Final Project/Paper Due – 130 pts (**due 5-8-19**)

Total Possible Points – 450 pts

Short Reports – These are due on the discussion day for each topic. Your short reports need to provide 1) a summary of the articles you read, 2) a synthesis of the information, and 3) at least 2 questions you had while reading the articles. Each report should be roughly 500-750 words...do not go under 500 words! This 500-750 words summarizes ALL THE ARTICLES TOGETHER!

You DO NOT have to do a short report for the topic/day you present!

Final Project & Presentation/Discussion: Potential topics are listed at the bottom of the syllabus; you are not limited to this list. You will be given a rubric for each of these as we get further into the semester.

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
1/23	Introduction to Class	SYLLABUS	
1/30	High Altitude Film: <i>Into Thin Air</i>	Beall, 2007 West, 2004 Surugue, 2016 Parker, 2015 Murphy, 2016	Short Report #1 – High Altitude + About Yourself
2/6	Space/Isolation Film: <i>The Martian</i>	Space Williams et al., 2009 LeBlanc et al., 2000 Berger, 2016 Stone, 2015 Isolation Arrigo & Bullock 2006 Bond 2014 Hawkley et al 2010 Khullar 2016	Short Report #2 - Space
2/13	Physical Activity/Heat Film: <i>Running on the Sun</i>	Hori, 1995 Heat & Football, 2016 Pontzer et al., 2012 Ocobock, 2016 Dugas et al. 2011 Seidl et al 2014	Short Report #3 – PA&Hot GROUP & TOPICS DUE
2/20	Body Building Film: <i>Generation Iron 2</i> or <i>Ronnie Coleman: The King</i>	Smith & Stewart 2012 Baghurst & Kissinger 2009 Ghandourah et al 2012 Hall et al. 2016 Probert & Leberman 2009 Spellwin website	Short Report #4 – Body Building
2/27	Cold Climate Film: <i>Wind River</i>	Stegmann, 2007 Tikusis et al., 2000 Cannon & Nedergaard, 2012 Leonard et al., 2005 Ocobock Work	Short Report #5 – Cold

3/6	Stress Film: <i>Race to Nowhere</i>	Williams et al. 1997 White & Perrone-McGovern 2017 Bhujade 2017 Pearlin et al. 2005 Borel 2015	Short Report #6 – Stress Articles & Film Choices DUE
3/13	Obesity & Weight loss Film: <i>My 600lbs Life</i>	Fothergill et al. 2016 Kolata, 2016 Coffey, 2014 Kopelman, 2000 Brolin, 2002 Brewis 2014	Short Report #7 - Obesity
3/20	SPRING BREAK		
3/27	NO CLASS – OCOBOCK AT CONFERENCE		
4/3	Wealth/Poverty Film: <i>Trading Places</i>	Link & Phelan, 1995 Marmot et al., 1997 Assari, 2016 St. John, 2016 Dorman, 2016	Short Report #8 – Wealth/Poverty & Health
4/10	Anorexia Sri Bhattacharya Lea Jones Danielle DeLaMothe Michelle Chen Chris Desrosin		Short Report #9
4/17	OCD Rachel Kearns Olivia Ashley Anthony Savasta Andrew Gariepy Vlad Myshchuk		Short Report #10
4/24	Body Modification Joseph Gilfeather Brittany Carpenter Brianna Ciorca Alec Ettlinger Lindsay Sullivan		Short Report #11
5/1	Sleep Deprivation Chris Corrado Aubrey Stegel Nidhi Shah Pamela Rodriguez		Short Report #12

5/8	Deep Sea Alexis Lott Mikayla Bazicki Marianne Kriger Jack Vignone		Short Report #13 FINAL PAPER/PROJECT DUE
-----	--	--	--

Attendance

Since a large part of this course will revolve around discussion, your attendance is crucial. Excused absences include: 1) U Albany sporting or sanctioned event 2. Death in the family 3. Illness requiring your physical presence at a doctor or hospital. Waking up with a sore throat or upset tummy will not cut it 4. A professional interview. I WILL NOT provide make-up assignments for any excuse other than the 4 listed above. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. For full information on the University’s Standards of Academic Integrity, please see: http://www.albany.edu/elt/academic_integrity.php.

Disability Services

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with documented physical, sensory, systemic, cognitive, learning and psychiatric disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation in this class, please notify the Director of the Disability Resource Center (Campus Center 137, 442-5490). That office will provide the course instructor with verification of your disability, and will recommend appropriate accommodations.

On a Personal Note

Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing or faces a catastrophic event (death or illness in the family for example) and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education ((518) 442-3950, or by email to UGEducation@albany.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable her to provide any resources that she may possess.

Potential Topics for your groups

1. Malnutrition
2. Eating disorders
3. Body modification – plastic surgery, tattoos, synthol, etc.
4. Loneliness
5. Deep Sea Diving - (the Haenyo and Ama)
6. Sleep or lack thereof
7. Light/dark exposure
8. Drugs
9. War
10. Toxin exposure – can be taken many ways – coal miners, lead exposure, radiation exposure, etc.

I reserve the right to change this syllabus at any time!