



ANTH224

Mad, Bad, Sad: The Anthropology of Deviance

S1 Day 2014

Anthropology

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

12cp or ANTH106 or ANTH150 or admission to GDipArts

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Madness, deviance and other forms of social difference are culturally constructed and have moral implications that are dramatically entwined within people's life-worlds. How do cultures in different parts of the world determine and understand who is mad, bad or sad? This unit will examine cultural and social construction of normality and what happens when people find themselves outside these bounds. Working from both a comparative perspective and an analytic position moving between social structures and individual experiences and meanings, this unit focuses on the processes and experiences of social marginalisation through examining themes such as mental illness and culture, 'sanity', desire and addictions, emotions, gender norms and their transgressions, melancholy and depression, sorcery and witchcraft, criminality, homelessness, and the processes of representation, medicalisation, and stigmatisation associated with these experiences. Ultimately, students will understand and reflect on how difference is constructed and embodied, and become aware of how deviance is surveilled, managed, and constrained in a variety of cultural contexts.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.

To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.

To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and site of surveillance within societies.

To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.

To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.

To understand the cultural and socio-political dynamics present within sorcery and witchcraft practices and related accusations of socially deviant behaviour.

Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.

Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Participation</u>	10%	Weekly
<u>Midterm Mini-Exam</u>	15%	Week 7
<u>2 Short Essays</u>	30%	6 April and 18 May
<u>Portfolio and Analysis</u>	30%	Week 12
<u>Final Mini-Exam</u>	15%	Exam Week

Participation

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **10%**

Active attendance and engagement with lecture, tutorial materials, and discussions. Completion of 10 tutorial discussion guides.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.

- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.
- To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.
- To understand the cultural and socio-political dynamics present within sorcery and witchcraft practices and related accusations of socially deviant behaviour.

Midterm Mini-Exam

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **15%**

A short midterm exam (consisting mostly of short essay questions) that will be completed on-line.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.
- To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and site of surveillance within societies.
- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.
- To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.
- Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.

2 Short Essays

Due: **6 April and 18 May**

Weighting: **30%**

Two essays of 1,000-1,500 words each that focus on a specific assigned topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social

body and the body politic.

- To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.
- Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.

Portfolio and Analysis

Due: **Week 12**

Weighting: **30%**

Compilation and discussion of a portfolio of media and other representations of madness, badness, or sadness. An analysis of no more than 2,000 words will accompany your assemblage of materials.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.
- To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and site of surveillance within societies.
- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.
- To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.
- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Final Mini-Exam

Due: **Exam Week**

Weighting: **15%**

A short final exam (consisting mostly of short essay questions) that will be completed on-line.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.
- To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and

site of surveillance within societies.

- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.
- To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.
- To understand the cultural and socio-political dynamics present within sorcery and witchcraft practices and related accusations of socially deviant behaviour.
- Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.

Delivery and Resources

The unit guide that is available in iLearn will be the final and best version. Do not rely on this unit guide.

For lecture and tutorial times and classrooms please consult the MQ Timetable website: <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au>. This website will display up-to-date information on your classes and classroom locations. Tutorial locations sometimes change in the weeks before class. Be sure to check. Tutorials start on week 2.

Tutorial attendance is mandatory. The lectures will be one of your primary sources of material for this unit. I bring together a range of concepts from a variety of sources, present the central theories and ideas, model anthropological thinking, adapt the material to your background, integrate contemporary events, and provide a framework to help make sense of the readings. It is unlikely that you will pass this class if you focus on the readings and tutorials alone.

Physical attendance is not required in lecture. While the ECHO system records most lectures, I strongly encourage everyone to attend the lectures in person. ECHO has been known to fail and I have a tenuous (at best) relationship with the system. I will not offer notes or repeat lectures due to a system failure. The best approach is to attend lecture in person. Use the ECHO system only when unavoidable circumstances arise. I attempt to make lectures as dynamic as possible and interact with students. You will also have the opportunity to share experiences and ask questions during and after the lecture. Attending in person is a unique and engaging experience. Moreover, honestly, the lectures are much more engaging for everyone if people are actually present.

Unit Schedule

Week	Date	Lecture
1	6 March	Introduction: Normality and Abnormality Across Cultures

2	13 March	Deviance, Disorder, and Diagnosis
3	20 March	Social Abandonment: Marginality, Exclusion, and the “Ex-Human”
4	27 March	Madness and Culture I: Sadness, Melancholy, and Depression
5	3 April	Madness and Culture II: Psychosis
6	10 April	Consuming The Body: Cannibalism, Organ Snatching, and Deviant Bodies
7	1 May	Against the Moral and Social Order: Witchcraft, Sorcery, and Possession
8	8 May	Crime and Punishment
9	15 May	Bad Parenting?: Infanticide, Child Abuse, and Neglect
10	22 May	Anthropological Perspectives on Sexuality and Deviant Desires
11	29 May	“Madness is Civilization”: The State and Postcolonial Disorders
12	5 June	A Drug Revolution?: Plant Teachers and Ecology
13	12 June	Anthropological Perspectives on Happiness and Living Well
		Exam Week

Learning and Teaching Activities

1

Lecture Attendance and Participation

2

Tutorial Attendance and Participation

3

Fieldwork Experiences

4

Essay Writing

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.
- To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.
- Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.
- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment task

- Participation

Learning and teaching activity

- Fieldwork Experiences

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue

knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment task

- Portfolio and Analysis

Learning and teaching activity

- Lecture Attendance and Participation
- Fieldwork Experiences

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and site of surveillance within societies.
- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.
- To understand the significance and impact of medicalization, labelling and stigmatization.
- To understand the cultural and socio-political dynamics present within sorcery and witchcraft practices and related accusations of socially deviant behaviour.
- Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.
- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Midterm Mini-Exam
- 2 Short Essays
- Portfolio and Analysis
- Final Mini-Exam

Learning and teaching activities

- Lecture Attendance and Participation
- Tutorial Attendance and Participation
- Essay Writing

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.
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- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment tasks

- Participation

- Midterm Mini-Exam
- 2 Short Essays
- Portfolio and Analysis
- Final Mini-Exam

Learning and teaching activities

- Lecture Attendance and Participation
- Tutorial Attendance and Participation
- Fieldwork Experiences
- Essay Writing

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.
- To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and site of surveillance within societies.
- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.
- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment tasks

- Midterm Mini-Exam
- 2 Short Essays
- Portfolio and Analysis

Learning and teaching activities

- Tutorial Attendance and Participation
- Fieldwork Experiences
- Essay Writing

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Portfolio and Analysis

Learning and teaching activities

- Tutorial Attendance and Participation
- Fieldwork Experiences

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment tasks

- Participation
- 2 Short Essays
- Portfolio and Analysis

Learning and teaching activities

- Tutorial Attendance and Participation
- Fieldwork Experiences

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should

have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.
- To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and site of surveillance within societies.
- To apply critical analytic skills to discover the ways in which desire and deviance transcend individual bodies and are incited, monitored and regulated within the social body and the body politic.
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- Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.
- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Midterm Mini-Exam
- 2 Short Essays
- Final Mini-Exam

Learning and teaching activities

- Lecture Attendance and Participation
- Tutorial Attendance and Participation
- Essay Writing

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To understand and reflect on how normality, abnormality, and difference are constructed and managed within particular social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts.

- To analyse a selection of comparative ethnographic perspectives on themes related to culture and madness, disorder, deviance, addictions, and mental health.
- To identify the social and cultural factors that make madness a powerful metaphor and site of surveillance within societies.
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- Critically evaluate our assumptions about other cultures and cultural differences and what is considered 'natural' or 'normal' human experience.
- Analyse the cultural construction of abnormality and difference within media representations of culture, madness and deviance.

Assessment task

- 2 Short Essays

Learning and teaching activity

- Lecture Attendance and Participation
- Tutorial Attendance and Participation
- Fieldwork Experiences
- Essay Writing