

Creativity and Health: Foundations of Arts in Medicine

HUM 5357 – Sections 11936 (GRAD), 11937 (GCAM), & 15985 (COMB)

Course Information

Academic Term: Spring 2026

Instructor: Anna Carapellotti, PhD

Location: Online in Canvas

Meeting Times: Online asynchronous (Tuesdays 12:00 am EST – Mondays 11:59 pm EST)

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 12:00-2:00 pm EST via Zoom and by appointment

Email: Canvas email (preferred); or UF email (as needed) a.carapellotti@ufl.edu

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Phone Number: 352-846-3053

Course Description

This online course explores the theoretical foundations that facilitate an understanding of the relationships between creativity and health and that inform the field and practice of arts in health. Course learning objectives will be introduced through video lectures, readings, writing, research, discussions, and presentations. This course is appropriate for graduate students and professionals of the arts, humanities, sciences, human services, and health-related professions.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize historical practices and theoretical perspectives that offer context for arts in health
- Recognize ethical frameworks that guide the field of arts in health
- Define core issues in the field of arts in health including:
 - Field definitions
 - Ethics and standards of practice
 - Purposes and functions of the arts in relation to health
 - Links between creativity and health
- Summarize program models and contemporary trends in arts in health

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites

While there is no required pre/co-requisite course, students will benefit from accessing **Graduate Central: Arts in Medicine** in Canvas. Specifically, students should actively engage with information in the “Start Here”, “New Student Orientation”, and “Resources” modules to be successful in this course. Graduate Central: Arts in Medicine can be accessed by logging into Canvas and then navigating to this link: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/357343>

Required Textbooks and Software

American Psychological Association. (2019). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington: DC: American Psychological Association.

Fancourt, D. (2017). Arts in Health: Designing and researching interventions. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Dissanayake, E. (1990). What is Art For? University of Washington Press.

Additional learning materials, including readings, lectures, and online resources are shared in Canvas.

Recommended Textbook

Turabian, K. (2019). *Student's guide to writing college papers* (5th ed.), G.G. Colomb, J.M. Williams, and the University of Chicago Press (Eds.). Chicago: Illinois, University of Chicago Press.

Additional Learning Materials

Desktop or laptop computer for coursework (a tablet or phone will not be adequate for navigating Canvas or completing coursework).

- Canvas works most functionally on a laptop or desktop computer. Being a fully online program, it is *essential* that you have access to one of these in order to view the course and submit assignments. Tablets and phones will not work for participation in the graduate program as Canvas is not fully functional on these types of devices and this can negatively impact your learning experience.
- Internet connection and speed are vital for accessing Canvas, viewing multimedia materials, and uploading video content. These tasks are required for the program. Canvas recommends a minimum of 2 mbps for uploading materials and 4.5 mbps broadband for streaming course lectures and videos.

Creative Practice materials such as:

- Smartphone, camera, tablet, or computer with video recording and basic editing capabilities for Creative Practices
- Visual art materials

Course Schedule

	Topic	Module	Assignments	Deadlines
Week 1: Introduction to Arts in Health				
1	Introduction to the field of arts in health, UF CAM, and UF AIM	Review all learning materials in Module 1	1. Discussion 1 2. Course Toolkit Review 3. Creative Practice Blog Set Up	1. 1/9, 1/12 2. 1/9 3. 1/9
Week 2: Mapping the Field				
2	Ethics, competencies, and scope of practice	Review all learning materials in Module 2	1. Discussion 2 2. Academic Writing Quiz	1. 1/16, 1/19 2. 1/16
Week 3: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives				
3	The development of arts in health models and perspectives	Review all learning materials in Module 3	1. Discussion 3 2. Creative Practice 1	1. 1/23, 1/26 2. 1/23
Week 4: Foundations in Health Sciences				

4	Biological and psychological concepts in arts in health	Review all learning materials in Module 4	1. Discussion 4 2. Outline of paper 3. Annotated Bibliography	1. 1/30, 2/2 2. 1/30 3. 1/30
Week 5: Foundations in Social Sciences				
5	Social science theories relevant to arts in health	Review all learning materials in Module 5	1. Discussion 5 2. Creative Practice 2	1. 2/6, 2/9 2. 2/6
Week 6: Foundations in Arts and Culture				
6	Creative theories and lenses	Review all learning materials in Module 6	1. Discussion 6 2. Practicum Guide Quiz	1. 2/13, 2/16 2. 2/13
Week 7: From Theory to Practice				
7	Using foundational theories to inform and evaluate practice	Review all learning materials in Module 7	1. Paper	1. 2/20
Week 8: Exploring the Evidence				
8	Bridging research, theory and practice	Review all learning materials in Module 8	1. Discussion 7	1. 2/27

***Please note the course calendar and the activities within it are subject to change. The syllabus does not include all details regarding learning materials and activities that students are required to complete each week.**

Course Assignments

- Quiz** (3 quizzes, quiz 1 = 12 points; quiz 2 = 12 points; quiz 3 = 25 points; 5% of grade): An initial quiz is designed to confirm students have accessed and reviewed the course toolkit materials; a second quiz is designed to assess student understanding of academic writing; and a third quiz is designed to confirm students have reviewed and understand Practicum requirements. Students may reference learning materials while completing the quizzes. The quizzes are not timed.
- Discussions** (7 Discussions, 25 points each; 30% of grade): Students will substantively participate in online discussions with their peers and instructor(s) on the Discussion Board in Canvas. Discussion topics relating to course content will be posted by the instructor(s). Each student will post an initial post (**due Friday** by 11:59 pm EST) followed by a response post (**due Monday** by 11:59 pm EST) nearly every week throughout the course. See specific assignment guidelines for each Discussion in Canvas. Be aware that a portion of your Discussion grade depends on your timely participation in both the Friday and Monday posts.
- Creative Practice Blog** (set-up – graded complete/incomplete; 2 posts, 50 points each; 30%

of grade): Students will engage in a multidisciplinary creative practice. In this course, the instructor(s) will provide creative prompts and students will document their practices through an online creative “blog” hosted by [Adobe Express](#). See assignment guidelines outlined in Canvas. It is a requirement to set up your Creative Practice Blog during Week 1; this assignment is graded complete/incomplete and does not count towards your final grade.

4. **Final paper:** (Outline 10 points – graded complete/incomplete; Annotated Bibliography: 25 points graded complete/incomplete; Final Paper 100 points; 35% of grade):

Students will write a 1,200-1,400-word final paper applying **one** theory to an arts in health practice or project. Through the lens of the selected theory, students will explore how we can better understand or frame the impacts of the arts on a specific health condition, symptom, or health-related need. For example, the function of the arts to increase self-efficacy for people living with Parkinson’s disease. The final paper will be formatted using APA style. Please see detailed assignment guidelines in Canvas.

Course Procedures & Policies

Information about university-wide policies and resources can be found here:

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

Expectations

This is an online asynchronous course which means there is no set meeting time each week; however, there *are* set deadlines for discussions and assignment submissions. The course format requires time management and close attention to deadlines. The course is three credits and 8-weeks long, so it is full and fast-paced. **Students can expect approximately 16 hours of work per week for this course.** Each module includes approximately 3-6 hours of learning materials and assignment preparation. Students will invest the remaining time in discussions, creative practice, quizzes, and other assignments.

Attendance

Consistent participation and timely and complete assignment submissions are the online forms of “attending class”. This expectation is consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>). Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the [Graduate Catalog](#) and require **appropriate documentation**. Additional information can be found in [Attendance Policies](#). Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>.

Participation

Participation in all aspects of this course is expected and essential to success. Course materials and activities are integral to learning. It is expected that students will log on to the course website and actively contribute to course activity consistently. The instructor(s) strive for consistent presence and are committed to being available to students both via email and one-to-one via video conferences or phone, as needed.

Communication

It is the student’s responsibility to communicate with the instructor promptly concerning any course-related questions or circumstances that might affect their participation in the course. Please contact

the instructor(s) with questions or concerns you have as soon as you have them. It is the instructors' intention to respond to e-mail communication within 48 hours.

If you have a general question related to an assignment, activity or other course material that may be relevant to other class members, you may post it on the Discussion Board under Course Questions. If your question is specific to your own work, progress, circumstances, grade, or is personal in nature, please email the instructor privately using the Mail function in Canvas.

Assignment Submission

All assignments will be submitted through Canvas. Please review course procedures in Canvas for instructions on assignment submission, naming documents, late assignment submission, and where to get help.

If you have computer difficulties submitting any assignments through the Assignment tab on the course website, notify UF Computer Help Desk at helpdesk@ufl.edu or 352-392-4357 **and** email your work as an attachment to your instructor(s). In your correspondence to the instructor, please include the case number provided to you by the UF Help Desk to document your request for assistance.

Late Assignment Submission

As stated above, participation and assignment submission are the online forms of "attending class". Lack of participation or late assignment submission requires appropriate documentation.

Points will be deducted for late assignments by *10 percent per day* during the first 5 days past due.

Assignments will not be accepted if submitted on the sixth day, except in extenuating circumstances and with permission from the instructor. Email your instructor immediately to document any technical difficulty and *attach the assignment* to the email to receive full credit.

Note: This is a fast-paced, graduate-level course, and late assignments may cause students to fall behind in accomplishing learning objectives and requirements; therefore, it is essential to communicate with the instructor to receive support and guidance in assignment completion or modification as necessary. It is the instructor's intention to support students to successfully complete the course objectives.

Course Technology

If you are experiencing technical issues, please contact the Help Desk at <https://it.ufl.edu/helpdesk/> or (352) 392-HELP (4357) or helpdesk@ufl.edu. Please note the case number provided by the UF Help Desk documenting your request for assistance and provide this to the instructor.

Evaluation of Grades

Students will be evaluated and their grade determined in the following manner. Assignment guidelines and grading criteria and rubrics for each assignment can be found within the corresponding assignment on Canvas.

Grades and comments will be posted in Canvas. Comments about your grades appear with the specific assignment in Assignments or in the Gradebook feature under Comments. Please check in both places before inquiring about a grade. Current UF grading policies for assigning grade points

can be found on the following course website:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Quizzes (3)	49 total	5%
Discussions (7)	175 total	30%
Creative Practice (2)	100 total	30%
Outline (10 pts) + Annotated Bib (25 pts) + Paper (100 pts)	135 total	35%
	TOTAL = 459	100%

Grading Policy

Grade	Percent	Grade Points
A	94-100%	4.0
A-	90-93.9%	3.67
B+	88-91.9%	3.33
B	85-87.9%	3.00
B-	81-84.9%	2.67
C+	78-80.9%	2.33
C	74-77.9%	2.00
C- *	71-73.9%	1.67
D+	67-70.9%	1.33
D	63-66.9%	1.00
D-	60-62.9%	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF		0.00

*Please note that a C- is not an acceptable grade for any course in which a 2.0 GPA is required, for example, any course in the major.

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

[UF Graduate Catalog](#)
[Grades and Grading Policies](#)

UF Center for Arts in Medicine Resources

[Graduate Central](#): Includes New Student Orientation, Registration and Course Requirements, Practicum and Capstone Guides, and other helpful resources.

UF Center for Arts in Medicine Graduate Advisor: Phillip Herr-Klepaki
(pklepaki@arts.ufl.edu)

[UF Arts in Medicine Library Guide and Research Resources](#)

[UF Center for Arts in Medicine Research Database](#)

[UF Center for Arts in Medicine Website](#)