## KentVision Code and title of the module

SACO8800 Holism, Health and Healing

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Division of Human Social Sciences, School of Anthropology and Conservation

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 7

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

## Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Autumn or Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

None

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

***Optional to the following courses:***

* MSc Ethnobotany
* MA Social Anthropology, Humanitarian and Environmental Crises

Also available as an elective module

## The intended subject specific learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

8.1 Critically assess human nutritional requirements/recommendations from an evolutionary perspective

8.2 Understand how and why medicinal plants affect human physiology in different biocultural contexts

8.3 Rigorously analyse the implications of nature, complexity and richness of human diversity and adaptation in health and wellness

8.4 Critically analyse the diverse strategies that humans have developed for dealing with illness and disease

8.5 Critically engage with the wide range of variation in cultural models and technologies of medicine and health as reported in ethnography

8.6 Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of anthropological debates concerning health inequality, the relationship between health and the body and the historical development of biomedicine.

1. The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

9.1 Demonstrate independent learning and study skills

9.2 Locate relevant sources of data (using library holdings and electronic sources) for particular assignments

9.3 Construct and support a written argument with reference to appropriate scholarly sources

9.4 Engage in constructive group discussions

9.5 Critically synthesise and summarise complex material succinctly.

## A synopsis of the curriculum

The module addresses the causes, effects, treatments and meanings of health, illness and disease for humans and the ecosystems that they live in. The module content will be structured around five broad themes related to holism, health and healing, drawing on ethnographic examples from around the world.

We will begin with a consideration of the evolutionary basis of human medicine and dietary behaviour. Next, we will take a closer look at healing systems, their structure and the various theories of illness and therapeutic techniques that they encompass. This will be followed by a critical examination of the biopolitics of health and healing, including the question of how to define and assess the efficacy of various medical treatments. We will then take a closer look at the spiritual aspects of health and healing before concluding with the final theme of holism, health and healing in the globalized world.

## Reading list

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university’s [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 130

Contact Hours: 20

Total: 150

## Assessment methods

* 1. Main assessment methods
* Essay, 2,000 – 2,500 words (60%)\*
* Presentation, 10 minutes (40%)\*

*\*Both assessments are pass compulsory and must be passed to achieve the learning outcomes of the module.*

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like for like

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods and methods of assessment (section 13)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lectures | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Seminars | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| Presentation | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |

## Inclusive module design

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## Internationalisation

The module offers a multidisciplinary approach to explore the use of plants and other substances in non-Western medical systems. Students will be exposed to the traditional beliefs and practices of a variety of cultures and sub-cultures to explore the different ways in which they use plants for medicinal purposes and for healthy living.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Module record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

| Date approved | New/Major/Minor revision | Start date of delivery of (revised) version | Section revised (if applicable) | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 22.01.18 | Major | January 2019 | 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17 |  |
| 16.11.22 | Minor | September 2023 | 7, 13 |  |
| 16.05.23 | Minor | September 2023 | 5 |  |