

University of California, Berkeley
Department of Anthropology
Office: 307 Kroeber
clbriggs@berkeley.edu
510.643.2012

Spring Semester 2017
Charles L. Briggs
Office hours: Mondays 9:30-12:00
(sign up sheet at office)



Anthropology 189
Language and Global Health

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:30
2251 College, Room 101

Health is an area in which dreams and aspirations—as well as acute inequalities—come to be deeply, sometimes fatally, located in bodies, real and imagined, individual and collective. The emerging field of global health brings together scientific and technocratic claims to knowledge, vast amounts of state and non-governmental funding, and struggles for social justice. This course strives to create an innovative dialogue between two anthropological traditions in order to face the many complexities that arise in researching and intervening in global health. Medical anthropologists have scrutinized global health scholarship and practice, critiquing its dominant modes of knowledge production, evidence, and statistical techniques. Linguistic anthropologists look closely at language, including how patients and caregivers negotiate knowledge and power and the stories that people tell and the songs they sing about wellbeing, illness, and death. Rather than summarizing established approaches, the course invites students from a variety of backgrounds to join in placing these analytics in conversation in such a way as to produce novel ways of thinking and acting in global health.

Requirements

1. **Participation:** This will be a small class, where you can greatly benefit from discussions as well as lectures; participation will be an important part of the learning process. Material presented in class and readings will appear on examinations; concepts and content will be included that do not appear in the readings. Please do the readings before coming to class so that we can discuss them. The class will include presentations in which small groups of students choose an object (such as a news broadcast or article, website, object circulating in social media, etc.), meet together to discuss it, and give an in-class presentation. Given the focus of the readings, such topics as migration, the opioid addiction and death, indigenous health, public health policy debates, and epidemics (such as Ebola, Zika, dengue, etc.) are particularly relevant, but groups may select the topic of their choice. 10% of grade.
2. **Midterm examination,** given in-class on 16 March 2017, consisting of short-answer identifications and essay questions, focusing on both lectures and readings: 30% of grade.
3. **Final examination,** Thursday, 11 May 2017, 8-11am, consisting of short-answer identifications and essay questions, on both lectures and readings, focusing on material covered in the second half of the course: 30% of grade.
4. **Research paper.** A 7-10 page research paper due on 1 May 2017. The paper should use readings from the course and other courses in analyzing a specific issue related to one of the course's foci, engaging some dimension of global public health. You must come and see the instructor to discuss your ideas for the project by 22 March. Please submit electronically at clbriggs@berkeley.edu. I will acknowledge receipt. The paper will count for 30% of grade.

Texts

(Will be available at the CalStore & University Press Books, 2430 Bancroft Way)

Adams, Vincanne, ed. 2016. *Metrics: What Counts in Global Health*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Briggs, Charles L. and Daniel C. Hallin. 2016. *Making Health Public: How News Coverage Is Remaking Media, Medicine, and Contemporary Life*. Abingdon, UK: Routledge.

Briggs, Charles L., and Clara Mantini-Briggs. 2016. *Tell Me Why My Children Died: Rabies, Indigenous Knowledge and Communicative Justice*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Garcia, Angela. 2010. *The Pastoral Clinic: Addiction and Dispossession along the Rio Grande*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Giordano, Cristiana. 2014. *Migrants in Translation: Caring and the Logics of Difference in Contemporary Italy*. Oakland: University of California Press.

Additional required and *some* recommended readings are on bCourse. Note that some of the files may include pages that are not required.

Themes and Readings

1. Structural Violence, Global Health, and Problems of Knowledge

17 January

Introduction

19 January

Readings:

Farmer, Paul. 2004. An Anthropology of Structural Violence. *Current Anthropology* 45(3):305-25.

Biehl, João, and Adriana Petryna, 2013. Critical Global Health. In *When People Come First: Critical Studies in Global Health*, João Biehl and Adriana Petryna, eds. Pp. 1–20. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Lovell, Anne M. 2016. "God Isn't Finished with this City Yet": Disputing Katrina-Related Deaths in Postdisaster New Orleans. In Veena Das and Clara Han, eds., *Living and Dying in the Contemporary World: A Compendium*, pp. 559-575. Oakland: University of California Press.

Recommended readings:

Farmer, Paul. 1992. *AIDS and Accusation: Haiti and the Geography of Blame*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

———. 2003. *Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Livingston, Julie. 2016. The Social Phenomenology of the Next Epidemic: Pain and the Politics of Relief in Botswana's Cancer Ward. In Veena Das and Clara Han, eds., *Living and Dying in the Contemporary World: A Compendium*, pp. 185-204. Oakland: University of California Press.

Nichter, Mark. 2008. *Global Health: Why Cultural Perceptions, Social Representations, and Biopolitics Matter*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 1992. *Death without Weeping: The Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

2. Healing, Language, and the Politics of Knowledge

24 January

Lévi-Strauss, Claude. 1963. The Effectiveness of Symbols. In *Structural Anthropology*. C. Jacobson and B. G. Schoepf, trans., pp. 186-205. New York: Basic Books.

Evans-Pritchard, E. E. 1958. *Witchcraft, Oracles and Magic among the Azande*. Oxford: Clarendon, pp. 63-83.

26 January

Woolard, Kathryn 1998. Introduction: Language Ideology as a Field of Inquiry. In *Language Ideologies: Practice and Theory*, edited by Bambi Schieffelin, Kathryn A. Woolard, and Paul V. Kroskrity, 3–47. New York: Oxford University Press.

Gordon, Deborah R. 1988. "Tenacious Assumptions in Western Medicine." In *Biomedicine Examined*, edited by Margaret Lock and Deborah Gordon, 19–56. Dordrecht: Kluwer.

Recommended readings:

- Laderman, Carol, and Marina Roseman, eds. 1996. *The Performance of Healing*. New York: Routledge
- Kroskrity, Paul, ed. 2000. *Regimes of Language: Ideologies, Politics, and Identities*. Santa Fe: SAR Press.
- Bauman, Richard, and Charles L. Briggs. 2003. *Voices of Modernity: Language Ideologies and the Politics of Inequality*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Menéndez, Eduardo L. 2009. *De sujetos, saberes y estructuras: Introducción al enfoque relacional en el estudio de la salud colectiva*. Buenos Aires: Lugar Editorial.



The Santo Niño de Atocha in the Santuario de Chimayó

3. Care as a Problem of History, Violence, and Mourning

31 January

Freud, Sigmund. [1917]1957. Mourning and Melancholia. In *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*, translated by James Strachey, 14: 243–258. London: Hogarth.

Fanon, Franz. [1952]1967. The Negro and Psychopathology. In *Black Skin, White Masks*, Charles Lam Markmann, transl., pp. 141-209. New York: Grove.

2 February

Garcia, *The Pastoral Clinic*, pp. 1-68

7 March

Garcia, *The Pastoral Clinic*, pp. 69-182

Du Bois, W. E. B. [1903]1990. Of the Passing of the First Born. *The Souls of Black Folk*, pp. 150-155. Chicago: A. C. McClurg.

9 February

Garcia, *The Pastoral Clinic*, pp. 183-210

Recommended readings:

Butler, Judith. 2004. *Precarious Life: The Powers of Mourning and Violence*. London: Verso.
 Das, Veena. 2007. *Life and Words: Violence and the Descent into the Ordinary*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

9-10 February (Thursday afternoon and all day Friday)

Circulating Health conference (optional but highly recommended)

Townsend Center

4. Critical Perspectives on Language and Biomedicine

14 February

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1991. *Language and Symbolic Power*. Translated by Gino Raymond and Matthew Adamson. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Pp. 32-65. (Recommended 66-89)
 Briggs, Charles L. 2005. Communicability, Racial Discourse, and Disease. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 4:269-91.

16 February

Clarke, Adele E., Jennifer Fishman, Jennifer Fosket, Laura Mamo and Janet Shim. 2003. Biomedicalization: Technoscientific Transformations of Health, Illness and U.S. Biomedicine. *American Sociological Review* 68:161-194.
 Carr, E. Summerson. 2010. Enactments of Expertise. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 39:17-32.

Recommended readings:

Goodwin, Charles. 1994. Professional Vision. *American Anthropologist* 96(3):606-33.
 Hanks, William F. 2005. Pierre Bourdieu and the Practices of Language. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 34:67-83.
 Scarry, Elaine. 1985. *The Body in Pain: the Making and Unmaking of the World*. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp. 3-23.
 Kleinman, Arthur. 1988. *The Illness Narratives: Suffering, Healing and the Human Condition*. New York: Basic.
 Pigg, Stacy Leigh. 2001. Languages of Sex and AIDS in Nepal: Notes on the Social Production of Commensurability. *Cultural Anthropology* 16(4):481-541.
 Mattingly, Cheryl and Garro, Linda, eds. 2000. *Narrative and the Cultural Construction of Illness and Healing*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
 Mitchell, Timothy. 2002. Can the Mosquito Speak? In *Rule of Experts: Egypt, Techno-Politics, Modernity*, pp. 19-53. Berkeley: University of California Press.



5. The Problem of Evidence: Whose Knowledge Counts?

21 February

Adams, *Metrics*; Introduction and chaps. 1, 3

23 February

Adams, *Metrics*, chaps. 4, 5, 8

Recommended readings:

Bowker, Geoffrey C., and Susan Leigh Star. 1999. *Sorting Things Out: Classification and Its Consequences*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Latour, Bruno. 1987. *Science in Action*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Petryna, Adriana. 2009. *When Experiments Travel: Clinical Trials and the Global Search for Human Subjects*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

6. Migration, Translation, Humanitarianism

28 February

Asad, Talal. 1986. The Concept of Cultural Translation in British Social Anthropology. In *Writing Culture: The Poetics and Politics of Ethnography*, James Clifford and George E. Marcus, eds. Pp. 141-164. Berkeley: University of California Press. (156-164 required, the rest is recommended)

Davidson, Brad. 2001. Questions in Cross-Linguistic Medical Encounters: The Role of the Hospital Interpreter. *Anthropological Quarterly* 74(4):170-178.

Giordano, *Migrants in Translation*, pp. 1-26

2 March

Giordano, *Migrants in Translation*, pp. 27-99.

7 March

Giordano, *Migrants in Translation*, pp. 101-166.

9 March

Giordano, *Migrants in Translation*, pp. 203-240

Recommended readings:

- Bohmer, Carol and Amy Shuman. 2008. *Rejecting Refugees: Political Asylum in the 21st Century*. London: Routledge.
- Dick, Hilary Parsons. 2011. Language and Migration to the United States. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 40: 227-240.
- Holmes, Seth M. 2013. *Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Horton, Sarah, and Judith C. Barker. 2009. "Stains" on Their Self-Discipline: Public Health, Hygiene, and the Disciplining of Undocumented Immigrant Parents in the Nation's Internal Borderlands. *American Ethnologist* 36(4):784-798.

14 March

Group presentations and review for midterm examination

16 March

Midterm exam



Photo credit: Mission Barrio Adentro

7. On Patient-Caregiver Interaction

21 March

- Heritage, John, and Douglas W. Maynard. 2006. Problems and Prospects in the Study of Physician-Patient Interaction: 30 Years of Research. *Annual Review of Sociology* 32:351-374.
- Heritage, John, and Douglas W. Maynard. 2006. Transcript Symbols. In *Communication in Medical Care: Interaction between Primary Care Physicians and Patients*. Heritage, John, and Douglas W. Maynard, eds., pp. xiv-xix. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Maynard, Douglas W. 1992. On Clinicians Co-implicating Recipients' Perspective in the Delivery of Diagnostic News. In *Talk at Work: Interaction in Institutional Settings*. Paul Drew and John Heritage, eds., 331-358. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

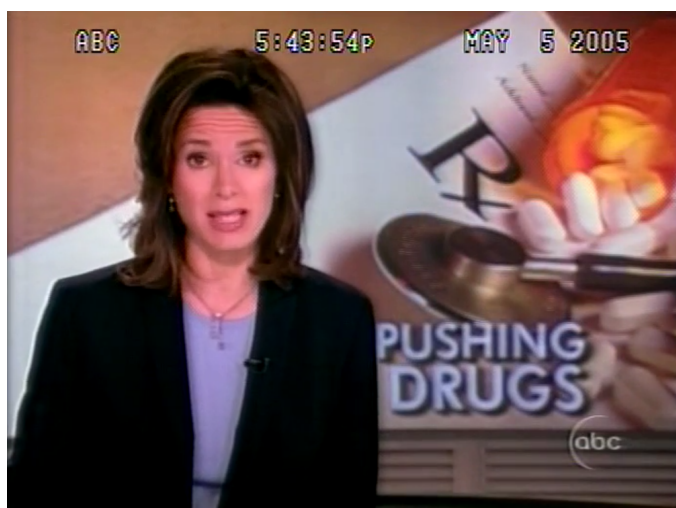
23 March

- Cicourel, Aaron V. 1992. The Interpenetration of Communicative Contexts: Examples from Medical Encounters. In Alessandro Duranti and Charles Goodwin, *Rethinking Context: Language as an Interactive Phenomenon*, pp. 291-310. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Waitzkin, Howard. 1991. *The Politics of Medical Encounters: How Patients and Doctors Deal with Social Problems*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, pp. 11-48.

Recommended readings:

- Heritage, John, and Douglas W. Maynard, eds. 2006. *Communication in Medical Care: Interaction between Primary Care Physicians and Patients*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Mishler, Elliot G. 1984. *The Discourse of Medicine: Dialectics of Medical Interviews*. Norwood: Ablex.
- Taussig, Michael. 1980. Reification and the Consciousness of the Patient. *Social Science and Medicine* 14B:3-13.
- Waitzkin, Howard. 2001. The Social Context of Patient-Doctor Relationships in the Era of Managed Care. In *At the Front Lines of Medicine*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 79-97.
- West, Candace. 1984. *Routine Complications: Troubles with Talk between Doctors and Patients*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

28/30 March: spring break, no class



Credit: ABC Nightly News, 5 May 2005; Vanderbilt Television News Archive

8. Mediatizing Health

4 April

Briggs and Hallin. *Making Health Public*, Introduction and chap. 1.

6 April

Briggs and Hallin, *Making Health Public*, chap 4-5.

Recommended readings:

- Bauer, Martin. (1998). The Medicalization of Science News-From the "Rocket-Scalpel" to the "Gene-Meteorite' Complex." *Information sur les Sciences Sociales* 37:731-51.
- Klinenberg, Eric. (2002). *Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 185-224.

- Treichler, Paula A. 1999. *How to Have Theory in an Epidemic: Cultural Chronicles of AIDS*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. Pp. 127-148.
- Ungar, Sheldon. (2008). Global Bird Flu Communication: Hot Crisis and Media Reassurance. *Science Communication* 29(4):472-497.



Credit: Bryan Denton for *The New York Times*

9. Selves and Subjectivities in Health Communication

11 April

- Dutta, Mohan J., and Heather M. Zoller. 2008. Theoretical Foundations: Interpretive, Critical, and Cultural Approaches to Health Communication. In Heather M. Zoller, and Mohan J. Dutta, eds. 2008. *Emerging Perspectives in Health Communication: Meaning, Culture, and Power*, pp. 1-27. New York: Routledge. (Required 1-16)
- Reid, Roddey. 2005. *Globalizing Tobacco Control: Anti-smoking Campaigns in California, France, and Japan*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Pp. 88-122.
- Nguyen, Vinh-Kim. 2010. Confessional Technologies: Conjuring the Self. In *The Republic of Therapy: Triage and Sovereignty in West Africa's Time of AIDS*, pp. 35-60. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

13 April

- Dutta, Mohan Jyoti. 2010. The Critical Cultural Turn in Health Communication: Reflexivity, Solidarity, and Praxis. *Health Communication* 25(6-7):534-539.
- Nading, Alex M. 2012. Dengue Mosquitoes are Single Mothers: Biopolitics Meets Ecological Aesthetics in Nicaraguan Community Health Work. *Cultural Anthropology*, 27:572-596.

Recommended readings:

- Rapp, Rayna. 1988. Chromosomes and Communication: The Discourse of Genetic Counseling. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 2(2):143-157.
- Pigg, Stacy Leigh. 2001. Languages of Sex and AIDS in Nepal: Notes on the Social Production of Commensurability. *Cultural Anthropology* 16(4):481-541.

- Carr, E. Summerson. 2011. *Scripting Addiction: The Politics of Therapeutic Talk and American Sobriety*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1-22.
- Nelson, Alondra. 2013. *Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight against Medical Discrimination*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Epstein, Steven. 1996. *Impure Science: AIDS, Activism, and the Politics of Knowledge*. Berkeley: University of California Press.



Inez Rivero and Daughter, El Cocal, Delta Amacuro, Venezuela

10. Knowledge, Inequities, and Communicative Justice in Health

18 April

Briggs and Mantini-Briggs, *Tell Me Why My Children Died*, pp. 1-108

20 April

Briggs and Mantini-Briggs, *Tell Me Why My Children Died*, pp. 109-178

25 April

Briggs and Mantini-Briggs, *Tell Me Why My Children Died*, pp. 179-224 and 245-274

Recommended readings:

Briggs, Charles L., and Clara Mantini-Briggs. 2003 *Stories in the Time of Cholera: Racial Profiling during a Medical Nightmare*. Berkeley: University of California Press, esp. pp. 199-255.

27 April: class rescheduled to 4 May

1 May

Research paper due

4 May, 11:00-12:30 (same place)

Review for final examination

11 May 8:00-11:00: Final examination