**Anthropology 2l5a**

Advanced Seminar in Medical Anthropology

UC Berkeley, Fall l99l, Tu l2-2, 2220 Piedmont, Seminar Room

Prof. N.M. Scheper-Hughes

Course Description.

As the field of medical anthropology has grown (exponentially) over the past two decades it has come to challenge the earlier "four fields" definition of anthropology. Medical anthropology can no longer be considered merely a field of application. Rather, it is a theoretical, analytic, and "critical" field of inquiry, one that crosses and breaches , as well as unifies, social, cultural, physical, and linguistic anthropology.

This graduate seminar will explore the development of the field of medical anthropology from its origins in socio-cultural, symbolic, psychological and applied anthropology. It will examine some of the substantive issues and debates in the field over the past twenty years including: the nature of belief systems: sorcery, witchcraft and magic; magic, science and "rationality"; the efficacy of symbols; the possibility of translations between ethnomedical and biomedical disease categories; the universality of psychiatric diagnostic categories; the relations of mind, body, self and society; the cultural shaping of emotion; the social meanings of illness; the cultural constructions of biomedicine; power/knowledge and medical practice; the political economy of sickness and of health care in the industrialized and the "developing" and "third worlds". The course will outline a particular approach to the field -- a "critical-interpretive" medical anthropology (see Lock and Scheper-Hughes l990) -- that focuses of meaning, experience, interpretation, and social practice.

Goals: It is expected that students will emerge from the course with a general grasp, a lay of the land as it were, of the field of medical anthropology , and that they will be able to read and evaluate the works of contemporary medical anthropologists, to situate them in terms of the theoretical positions of the author, and to develop a critical response to that position.

The seminar is limited to fifteen students. It is the required core course for first year students in the UCB-UCSF Medical Anthropology program. Space permitting, graduate students in socio-cultural anthropology, medical students in the joint UCSF-UCB health sciences program, and graduate students in the social sciences, humanities, and in public health may enroll with permission of the instructor. The format of the seminar includes both discussion and lecture.

Requirements: Active participation in the seminar discussions and in co-leading one of the sessions. Co-leading requires additional preparation including the reading of both required and suggested readings and consultation with the instructor. Each student is expected to write a brief (3-5 pages) critical reaction paper each week reflecting on some part ( or all) of the required readings in advance of the seminar meeting. These are to be left in triplicate in my mail box by 3pm each Monday. They will be read in advance by me and by the student co-leaders of the seminar for the week. Each student will write a research paper (20 -25 pages maximum) on a substantive topic related to the course. A brief one page research proposal/abstract and a list of readings is due in class on l0/l. Final paper is due on Friday December 6th. No exceptions.

Texts: The following books can be purchased from the ASUC bookstore:

Stanley J. Tambiah. l990. Magic, Science, Religion, and the Scope of Rationality. NY: Cambridge University Press.

Kleinman, Arthur. l986. Social Origins of Distress and Disease. Yale University Press.

Foucault, Michel. The Birth of the Clinic. l975. NY: Vintage.

Bahr, Donald. Piman Shamanism and Staying Sickness. l9 . University of Arizona Press.

Cradon-Malamud, Libbet. From the Fat of Our Souls. l99l. University of California Press.

K. Finkler. Spiritist Healers in Mexico. l985. Bergin and Garvey.

Estroff, Sue E. Making it Crazy. l980. University of California Press.

Brandt, Allen. No Magic Bullet. l987. Oxford University Press.

There is also a coursepack of required articles. Where indicated, certain books and articles have been placed on reserve at the Anthropology Library.

Recommended:

M. Lock and D. Gordan, eds. Biomedicine Examined . l988. Kluwer.

D. Landy, ed. Culture, Disease and Healing: Studies in Medical Anthropology. l977. NY: Macmillan.

Thomas Johnson and Carolyn F. Sargent. l990. Medical Anthropology : Contemporary Theory and Method. New York: Praeger.

Seminar Meetings:

**l. August 27**

Introduction to the Seminar. The field of Medical Anthropology as situated within anthropology as a whole.

Background paper: Sherry B. Ortner, "Theory in Anthropology Since the Sixties". l984. Comparative Studies in Society and History. ( copy on reserve, Anthropology Library).

**2. September 3**

Proto-Medical Anthropology: the "rationality" debate. What does a belief in magic and sorcery presuppose? What is the cultural logic underlying witchcraft? How does "belief" function as an analytic category in medical anthropology?

Required Reading:

Evans-Pritchard, E.E. l937. Witchcraft, Oracles, and Magic Among the Azande. Introduction, pp. 8-l2, 63-83, l83-20l, 25l-257, 259-270, 3l3-35l, 387-422, 479-5l0. (original book plus xerox copies of the above pages are on reserve, Anthropology Library).

Recommended:

Robin Horton. l970. "African Traditional Thought and Western Science." In B. Wilson, ed. Rationality, NY: Harper and Row, pp. l3l-l7l. ( book + xerox copy of the article are on reserve, Anthropology Library)

Peter Winch. "Understanding a Primitive Society." In B. Wilson, Rationality, pp. 78-lll. (book + xerox copy of the article are on reserve, Anthropology Library)

**3. September 5**

The rationality debate, continued....

N.B. This is a special meeting to take the place of the seminar meeting of 9/l0.

We will meet in the Faculty Lounge, Kroeber Hall. 3pm - 5pm.

Required Reading:

Stanley Tambiah. Magic, Science ,Religion and the Scope of Rationality (all)

**4. September l7**

Early Medical Anthropology: Medical Systems as functional, adaptive systems of knowledge and practice.

Required Reading:

George Foster and Barbara Anderson. Medical Anthropology. l978. NY: Wiley. Chapters 1-7, Part l and 2. ( copy on reserve, Anthropology Library). Remind me to lend you my copy as well.

Horatio Fabrega. l975. "The Need for an Ethnomedical Science". Science l89: 969-975.

Richard Lieban, "Medical Anthropology" l977. In David Landy, ed. Culture,Disease and Healing, pp. l3-3l. ( Landy book and one xerox copy of the article are on reserve).

C.H. Browner, de Montellano, and Rubel. "A Methodology for Cross-Cultural Research". l988. Current Anthropology, 29(5): 68l-702.

Critical response:

Peter Worsley. l982. "Non Western Medical Systems". Annnual Review of Anthropology ll: 3l5-48.

**5. September 24.**

"Normal" and "Abnormal": a key debate in early psychiatric and medical anthropology.

Required Readings:

Ruth Benedict. " Anthropology and the Abnormal". l934. Journal of General Psychology X(2): 59-82.

G. Obeysekere, "Depression, Buddhism, and the Work of Culture in Sri Lanka." l985. In A.Kleinman and B. Good, eds. Culture and Depression, pp. l34-l52.

Elaine Showalter. l985. "Male Hysteria: W.H.R. Rivers and the Lessons of Shell Shock", from The Female Malady. NY: Random House, pp. l67-l94.

Nancy Scheper-Hughes. l978. "Saints, Scholars and Schizophrenics: Madness and Badness in Western Ireland." Medical Anthropology 2(3): 59-94.

Case Study: Sue E. Estroff, Making it Crazy.

We will divide these readings so that half will read the articles and half will read the Estroff book . In seminar we will devote one hour to each segment.

Recommended:

Murphy, Jane. l976. Psychiatric Labeling in Cross-Cultural Perspective. Science l9l: l019-l028.

Richard Warner. l985. "What is Schizophrenia?" , chapter l from his Recovery from Schizophrenia: Psychiatry and Political Economy. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.,

pp. 7-32.

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy l979. Saints, Scholars and Schizophrenics: Mental Illness in

Rural Ireland. Berkeley: University of California Press. (paperback ed., l982)

Scheper-Hughes, N. and AM Lovell, eds. l987. Psychiatry Inside Out. NY: Columbia University Press.

Arthur Kleinman. l988. Rethinking Psychiatry. NY: Free Press.

**6. October l.**

The Diagnosis of Misfortune: Early Ethnomedical and Cognitive Approaches; Explanatory Models.

Required Readings:

W.H. R. Rivers, Magic, Science, and Religion, chapters l,2. ( book plus one xerox copy of the chapters are on reserve, Anthropology Library).

Charles Frake. l96l. "The Diagnosis of Disease among the Subanum of Mindanao. American Anthropologist 63: ll3-32. Reprinted in David Landy, ed. l977 (Landy is on reserve, Anthropology Library).

Case study: Donald Bahr, Piman Shamanism and Staying Sickness. (all).

Film: "Pomo Shaman". To be screened the last half hour of class.

N.B. Research paper proposal due today in seminar .

**7. October 8.**

Mind, Body, Self, Society: Existential, Experiential, and Phenomenological Approaches. Embodied Knowledge: embodiment as a paradigm in Medical Anthropology.

Required Readings:

Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Margaret Lock. l987. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology. Medical Anthropology Quarterly l(l): 6-4l.

We will divide up the following readings for seminar presentation/discussion:

a. the individual body/self:

Gelya Frank. l986. "On Embodiment: A case Study of Congenital Limb Deficiency in American Culture". Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry l0: l89-2l9.

Sacks, Oliver. l985. "The Disembodied Lady", From, The Man Who Mistook his Wife for a Hat. pp. 42-52.

b. the representational and social body :

Joseph Bastien. l985. "Qollahuaya-Andean Body Concepts: a Topographical-Hydraulic Model of Physiology". American Anthropologist. 87: 595-6ll.

Thomas Ots. l990. "The Angry Liver, the Anxious Heart and the Melancholy Spleen: the Phenomenology of Perceptions in Chinese Culture", Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry l4: 2l-58.

c. the social/ political body

Robert Crawford. l984. "A Cultural Account of 'health': control, release, and the social body." In J. McKinlay, ed. Issues in the Political Economy of Health.

Recommended:

A.Irving Hallowell. "The Ojibwa Self and its Behavioral Environment". l955. Culture and Experience, pp. l72-l82

John Blacking, ed. The Anthropology of the Body. l977. NY: Academic Press.

J. O'Neill. l985. The Five Bodies: The Human Shape of Modern Society. Cornell University Press.

C. Herzlich and Janine Pierret. l987. Illness and Self in Society. Johns Hopkins Press.

Victor Turner and Edward Brunner. l986. The Anthropology of Experience. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

Michel Feher, ed. Fragmanats for a History of the Human Body. (three volumes) l989. New York: Zone Books.

**8. October l5.**

Making Sense of Suffering: Language , Discourse, Illness Narratives.

Required Readings:

Joel Kuipers. l989. " 'Medical Discourse' in Anthropological Context: Views of Langauge and Power". Medical Anthropollgy Quarterly 3(2): 99-l24.

Jeanne Favret-Saada. l977. "The Way Things are Said" and "Between 'Caught' and 'Catching'" from Deadly Words, pp. 3-24.

Byron J. Good. l977. "The Heart of What's the Matter: the Semantics of Illness in Iran". Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry l (l): 25-58.

Mark Nicter, " Idioms of Distress: Alternatives in the Expression of Psychsocial Distress: a Case Study from India". l98l. Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry 5: 379-408.

Margaret Lock. l989. New Japanese Mythologies: Faltering Discipline and the Ailing Housewife". American Ethnologist l5(l): 43-6l.

Recommended:

Paul Farmer. "Bad blood, spoiled milk: bodily fluids as moral barometers in rural Haiti".

l988. American Ethnologist l5(l): 62-83.

Arthur Kleinman, Illness Narratives. NY: Basic Books.

**9. October 22.**

Healing the Mindful Body: Performanace, Meaning, and Power. The Efficacy of Symbols.

Required Readings:

Claude Levi-Strauss. l963a.The Sorcerer and his Magic. In Structural Anthropology. NY:Basic Books. Reprinted in David Landy, ed. l977, pp. 445-464.

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Michael Taussig. l984. "History as Sorcery". Representations 7: 87-ll0.

I. Press, "An Urban Curandero". l977. In David Landy, ed. Culture, Disease and Healing, pp. 454-464.

Donald Joralmon. "The Selling of the Shaman and the Problem of Informant Legitimacy." l990. Journal of Anthropological Research.

Film : "Eduardo the Healer" (to be screened at noon)

Recommended:

Victor Turner. l977. "An Ndembu Healer in Practice." In. David Landy, ed. Culture, Disease and Healing.

Jean Comaroff. l98l. "Healing and Cultural Transformation: the Tswana of Southern Africa". Social Science & Medicine l5B: 367-378.

Michael Taussig. l987. Shamanism, Colonialism, and the Wild Man. University of Chicago Press.

D. Sharon. Wizzard of the Four Winds: a Shaman's Story. New York: Free Press.

Carol Laderman. l99l. Taming the Winds of Desire. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Laurell Kendall. l9 . Shamans, Housewives and Other Restless Spirits: Women in Korean Ritual Life. University of Hawaii Press.

**l0. October 29.**

Medical Pluralism, Hierarchy of Resort, Medical Choice.

Required Readings:

Romanucci- Ross, Lola. l969. "The Hierarchy of Resort in Curative Practice". Reprinted in In D. Landy, ed.Culture, Disease and Healing (book on reserve)

\* Select one for case study and Discussion:

Kaya Finkler. l985. Spiritist Healers in Mexico. Bergin and Garvey.

Libbet Crandon-Malamud. l99l. From the Fat of Our Souls: Social Change, Political Process and Medical Pluralism in Bolivia.

**11. November 5.**

Somatization and Medicalization.

Required Readings:

Arthur Kleinman. l986. The Social Origins of Distress and Disease, ( all, but you may skim chapter 6). Yale University Press.

Michael Taussig. l980. Reification and the Consciousness of the Patient. Social Science & Medicine

Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Margaret Lock. l99l. "The Message in the Bottle: Illness and the Micropolitics of Resistance". Journal of Psychohistory l8(4): 409-432.

**l2. November l2.**

Biomedicine Examined. Medicine's Symbolic Reality: Power/Knowledge and Social Control. The Social Construction/ Invention of Disease.

Michel Foucault. l975. The Birth of the Clinic, chapters l-3, 5, 7.

David Armstrong, The Political Anatomy of the Body, chapters l, 2.( book + one xerox copy of the chapters are on reserve).

Deborah Gordon. l988. "Tenacious Assumptions in Western Medicine". In M. Lock and D. Gordon, Biomedicine Examined, pp. l9-56.

Peter Wright, "Babyhood: The Social Construction of Infant Care as a Medical Problem in England in the Years Around l900." In Biomedicine Examined, pp. 299-329.

Nancy Scheper-Hughes. l99l. "Social Indifference to Child Death" , The Lancet 337: 1144-1147. (See also response to Scheper-Hughes).

Recommended:

Ronald Frankenberg. l988. "'Your Time or Mine?' An Anthropological View of the Tragic Temporal Contradictions of Biomedical Practice". International Journal of Health Services l8(l): 11-34.

Laurence J. Kirmayer. l988. "Mind and Body as Metaphors: Hiden Values in Biomedicine". In M. Lock and D. Gordon, eds. Biomedicine Examined, pp. 57-94.

Emily Martin, The Woman in the Body. l989. Boston: Beacon Press.

John O"Neill. l986. "The Medicalization of Social Control. The Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology 23 (3): 350-364.

David Armstrong, l989. "The Invention of Infant Mortality". Sociology of Health and Illness.

**l3. November l9.**

Anthropology and Epidemiology: the Social and Political Relations of Illness.

Required Readings:

James Trostle. l986. "Early Work in Anthropology and Epidemiology". In Craig Janes, Ron Stall and Sandra Gifford, eds., Anthropology and Epidemiology , pp. 35-58.

Neil M. Ampel. l99l. "Plagues -- What's Past is Present: Thoughts on the Origin and History of New Infectious Diseases". Review of Infectious Diseases l (l3): 658-665.

Focus on AIDS:

Allen Brandt, No Magic Bullet, Introduction and chapters l, 4, 5, 6.

Richard Parker. l987. "Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome in Urban Brazil." Medical Anthropology Quarterly l(2): l55-l75.

Benedicte Ingstad, "The Cultural Construction of AIDS and its Consequences for Prevention in Botswana". Medical Anthropology Quarterly (MAQ) 4(L) 28-40.

Merrill Singer, et al. l990. "SIDA: The Economic, Social and Cultural Context of AIDS among Latinos. MAQ 4(l): 72- ll4.

Recommended:

Anthropology and Epidemiology. Dordrecht, the Netherlands: D. Reidel.

N. Scheper-Hughes, ed. Child Survival. Dordrecht, the Netherlands: D. Reidel.

Maurice King. l990. "Health is a Sustainable State". The Lancet September l5, l990 :664-667.

Peter J. Brown. Microparasites and Macroparasites. l988. Cultural Anthropology. 155-171.

**l4. November 26.**

Political Economy of Health/ Illness and Medical Care. Critical Medical Anthropology.

Required Readings:

Lesley Doyal. l979. "Health, Illness and Underdevelopment", chapter 3 of The Political Economy of Health, pp. 96-l37. Book plus xerox copy of chapter is on reserve, Anthropology Library.

Lynn Morgan. l987. "Dependency Theory in the Political Economy of Health: An Anthropological Critique." Medical Anthropology Quarterly l(2): l3l-l54.

M. Taussig. l978. "Nutrition, Develoopment and Foreign Aid." International Journal of Health Services 8(l): 10l-2l.

Nancy Scheper-Hughes. l988. "The Madness of Hunger : Sickness, Delerium and Human Needs" Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry l2: 429-58.

Aihwa Ong. l988. "The Production of Possession: Spirits and the Multinational Coporation in Malaysia. American Ethnologist l5(l): 28-84.

Recommended:

Social Science and Medicine : two special issues: l986. vol. 23, no. 2 "Toward a Critical Medical Anthropology"; l990. vol. 30., no. 2 " Political Economy of Illness"

Medical Anthropology Quarterly. l988. (December) Vol. 2, no. 4. "Gramsci, Marxism, and Phenomenology: Essays for the Development of Critical Medical Anthropology".

Nancy Scheper-Hughes. l99l. Death Without Weeping: the Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil. Berkeley: University of California press.

**l5. December 3.**

Wither Medical Anthropology? Potluck/ Discussion / Summary of Research Papers. Home of Nancy Scheper-Hughes, l9l8 Woolsey Street. 6:30 pm.

Recommended Readings: (choose one for discussion)

Ronald Frankenberg. l988. Introduction: "Gramsci, Culture, and Medical Anthropology". Medical Anthropology Quarterly 2(4): 324-337

Merrill Singer. l990. " Postmodernism and Medical Anthropology: Words of Caution." Medical Anthropology. l2: 289-304.

Nancy Scheper-Hughes, "Three Propositions for a Critically Applied Medical

Anthropology". l990. Social Science and Medicine 30(2): l89-l97.

Research Papers Due in my mailbox (Kroeber Hall): Friday December 6th, 5pm. Please, no exceptions. Plan ahead.