

**Department of Anthropology, University of British Columbia
Anthropology 227.001 Winter 2007**

**Culture, Health and Illness
(Introduction to Medical Anthropology)**

Instructor

Dr. Vinay R. Kamat
Class: Mon, Wed, Fri 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
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Office: ANSO 2319; Office phone 604-822-4802
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Teaching Assistant

Stephen Robbins
Office: ANSO 0305
Office hours: Mon, Wed, 11:00-12:00
Email: s_robbins@telus.net

Course Description

This is an introductory course in medical anthropology which includes the study of health, illness and healing from a cross-cultural perspective. The course examines aspects of health and illness from a biocultural perspective. In reading ethnographic materials from Western and non-Western settings, we will explore how medical anthropologists creatively use different theoretical and methodological approaches to understand and highlight how health, illness and healing practices are culturally constructed and mediated. The case studies and other required readings will help us learn to appreciate the contribution of medical anthropology to the study of international public health problems including specific life-threatening diseases such as HIV/ AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Topics covered by this course include cultural interpretations of sickness and healing, medical systems as social systems, medical pluralism, belief and ethnomedical systems, medical decision making, social relations of therapy management, cultural construction of efficacy and “side-effects,” pharmaceuticalization of health, explanatory models, cultural competence, narrative representation of illness, the body and debate surrounding female genital mutilation/cutting, the political economy of HIV/AIDS in Africa, structural violence and social suffering, the New Genetics and social stigma.

There is no required textbook for this course. As such, the course is mainly organized around a series of interrelated journal articles and book chapters. The required and recommended articles have been placed on the reserve shelf (under ANTH 227.001) at the Koerner Library. A master copy of the folder (“Coursepack”) containing all the articles is with the instructor. You may borrow it to make copies of the articles on your own.

Exams and Grading

Your final grade will be determined by in-class exams, a mini-ethnography project (details will be announced in the first week), and class participation which includes regular, punctual class attendance, and a group class presentation.

Mid-term Exam	→	Friday, September 28	20%
Final Exam	→	TBA	40%
Mini-Ethnography	→	Friday, November 30	20%
Class Participation	→	~~~~~	20%

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Details

Exams and Grading

Your final grade will be determined by a Mid-Term Exam (true/false, multiple choice, and two short essays worth 2 ½ points each), a Final Exam (in class, true/false, multiple choice worth 20 points and two essays worth 10 points each; both essays should each be 3-4 pages max, handwritten, double-spaced), Class Participation (regular, punctual attendance, group class presentations/discussions), and a Mini-Ethnography on a topic negotiated with the instructor. The mid-term exam will be relatively easy for those who have done the assigned readings, for those who have attended the lectures, and for those who have actively participated in class discussions. For the final exam, you will be given several study essay questions two weeks in advance of the final exam date. Of these study essay questions, three questions will appear on the exam, and you will be asked to answer any two of the three essay questions. As such, you will have the opportunity to develop your final exam essays over several days by integrating assigned readings, lectures, library research, videos shown in class, and perhaps your own fieldwork experience.

Mini Ethnography

This project entails writing an essay that draws on the data you personally collected by engaging in 4-6 hours of “fieldwork” depending on the nature of your project. We will discuss the specific details of this assignment in class sometime after the first mid-term exam. The length of your write-up should be 6-7 pages (typed, double-spaced).

Guidelines for the mini-ethnography will be given to you, with examples, during the first week of October 2007. A one-page (double-spaced) outline/abstract of your mini-ethnography is due three weeks before the last day of class, via email. You will receive preliminary comments and suggestions from the instructor on your proposed mini-ethnography within three days after you have emailed your outline/abstract.

Class Participation

This is a significant portion of your grade, and it is measured in various ways. Most importantly it includes keeping up with your readings and thoughtful contributions to class discussions; therefore regular, punctual class attendance is very important. Repeated absences will adversely affect your grade. There is a fair amount of dense reading to do for this course! Everyone is expected to have read the week’s readings before class. We will be dividing the class into small reading and discussion groups. Also, we will spend Week 8. (Oct 22/24/26) on group class presentations. Details regarding the format, length of the presentation, expectations, and points assigned, will be conveyed to you in class during week 7.

Policies

All papers must be turned in on time. Only hard copies of all your assignments are accepted. Please submit all your assignments to Stephen Robbins (your TA) or via Mrs. Michelle Jayasinha, Main office Secretary, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, on or before the deadline date. Assignments submitted as email attachments will **NOT** be accepted. In fairness to all students who have met the deadline, late papers will be marked down by half a letter grade for

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every day they are late, with exceptions made only for severe illness or emergency. If extraordinary circumstances prevail that make it impossible for you to meet a deadline, please contact me as soon as possible (prior to turning in late work for review). Deferrals and incompletes will be given only in accordance with UBC policy as set forth in the catalogue. Unless you are already familiar with UBC's Office of Equity and its policies, I would urge you to do so. Also please revisit UBC's policy on plagiarism. And for grading practices, please familiarize yourself with UBC's **GRADING PRACTICES AND STANDARDS** at: <http://www.arts.ubc.ca/doa/grades.htm> If you have any specific questions or concerns regarding grading policies etc., please do not hesitate to ask me.

General Schedule/Topics

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Week 1 (Sept 5/7) | Medical Anthropology: An Overview and Key Concepts |
| 2. Week 2 (Sept 10/12/14) | Sickness and Healing in Cross-cultural Context |
| 3. Week 3 (Sept 17/19/21) | Therapy Management in Cross-cultural Context |
| 4. Week 4 (Sept 24/26/28) | Illness Narratives |
| 5. Week 5 (Oct 1/3/5) | Anthropology of the Body |
| 6. Week 6 (Oct 10/12) | Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting – The Debate |
| 7. Week 7 (Oct 15/17/19) | Reproductive Health and New Reproductive Technologies |
| 8. Week 8 (Oct 22/24/26) | Survival Sex, Real Sex and Risk of HIV Infection |
| 9. Week 9 (Oct 29/31/Nov 2) | Anthropology of Pharmaceuticals |
| 10. Week 10 (Nov 5/7/9) | Structural Violence and Social Suffering |
| 11. Week 11 (Nov 14/16) | Structural Violence and Social Suffering cont'd... |
| 12. Week 12 (Nov 19/21/23) | The Global Politics of Organ Transplants |
| 13. Week 13 (Nov26/28/30) | The New Genetics – to Tell or Not to Tell |

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**Required Readings and Lecture Schedule
(In Coursepack)**

Week 1. Medical Anthropology: An Overview and Key Concepts

Wednesday, September 05, 2007

Introduction and necessary preliminaries: overview of the course, syllabus, instructor's and students' expectations. No readings.

Friday, September 07, 2007

Brown, Peter J., Ronald L. Barrett, and Mark B. Padilla

1998 Medical anthropology: an introduction to the fields. *In* Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology. Pp. 10-19: Mountain View: Mayfield.

Csordas, Thomas J.

2002 The sore that does not heal. *In* Body/Meaning/Healing. Thomas J. Csordas. Pp.194-218. New York, Palgrave Macmillan.

Week 2. Sickness and Healing in Cross-cultural Context

Monday, September 10, 2007

O'Neil, John D.

1989 The cultural and political context of patient dissatisfaction in cross-cultural clinical encounters: a Canadian Inuit study. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 3(4):325-344.

Garro, Linda C.

1990 Continuity and change: The interpretation of illness in an Anishinaabe (Ojibway) community. *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 14:417-454.

Wednesday, September 12, 2007

Rekdal, Ole Bjorn

1999 Cross-cultural healing in east African ethnography. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 13(4):458-482.

Friday, September 14, 2007

Finkler, Kaja

1994 Sacred healing and biomedicine compared. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 8(2):178-97.

Week 3. Therapy Management in Cross-cultural Context

Monday, September 17, 2007

Nichter, Mark

2002 The social relations of therapy management. *In* New Horizons in Medical Anthropology. Mark Nichter and Margaret Lock, ed. Pp. 81-110. London and New York: Routledge.

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

Castle, Sarah E.

1994 The (Re)negotiation of Illness Diagnosis and Responsibility for Child Death in Rural Mali. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 8(3):314-335.

Friday, September 21, 2007

Rebhun, Linda Anne

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1994 Swallowing frogs: anger and illness in Northeast Brazil. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 8(4):360-382.

Price, Laurie

2003 Illness management, social alliance, and cultural identity in Quito, Ecuador. *In Medical Pluralism in the Andes*. Koss-Chioino Joan, Thomas L. Leatherman, and Christine Greenway, eds. Pp. 209-233. London and New York: Routledge.

Week 4. Illness Narratives

Monday, September 24, 2007

Hunt, Linda M.

2000 Strategic suffering: illness narratives as social empowerment among Mexican cancer patients. *In Narrative and the Cultural Construction of Illness and Healing*. Cheryl Mattingly and Linda C. Garro, eds. Pp. 88-107. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

Kirmayer, Laurence J.

2000 Broken narratives: Clinical encounters and the poetics of illness experience. *Narrative and the Cultural Construction of Illness and Healing*. Cheryl Mattingly and Linda C. Garro. Pp. 153-180. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Friday, September 28, 2007

 **Mid-Term Exam** 

Week 5. Anthropology of the Body

Monday, October 01, 2007

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy

1987 The mindful body: A prolegomenon to future work in medical anthropology. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1:6-41.

Wednesday, October 03, 2007

Paul, Sweetman

1999 Only Skin Deep? Tattooing, Piercing and the Transgressive Body, pp. 165-187 *In Michele Aaron (ed.), The Body's Perilous Pleasures: Dangerous Desires and Contemporary Culture*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Lock, Margaret, and Patricia Kaufert

2001 Menopause, local biologies, and cultures of aging. *American Journal of Human Biology* 13:494-504.

Friday, October 05, 2007

Gordon, Deborah

1990 Embodying illness, embodying cancer. *Culture Medicine and Psychiatry* 14:275-297.

Kaufert, Patricia A.

2000 Screening the body: The pap smear and the mammogram. *In Living and Working with the New Medical Technologies : Intersections of Inquiry*. Margaret M. Lock, Allan Young, and Alberto Cambrosio, eds. Pp. 165-183. Cambridge, UK; New York, New York: Cambridge University Press.

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Manderson, Lenore

2005 Boundary breaches: the body, sex and sexuality after stoma surgery. *Social Science and Medicine*, 61, 405-415.

Week 6. Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting – The Debate

Monday, October 08, 2007

NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING DAY

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Female Circumcision: Movie “Rites”: Female Circumcision and Infibulation

Obermeyer, Carla Makhlouf

1999 Female genital surgeries: The known, the unknown, and the unknowable. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 13:79-106.

Mackie, Gerry

2003 Female Genital Cutting: Harmless Practice? *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 17(2):135-158.

Friday, October 12, 2007

Obermeyer, Carla Makhlouf

2003 The health consequences of female circumcision: Science, advocacy, and standards of evidence. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 17(3):394-412.

Bell, Kirsten

2005 Genital cutting and western discourses on sexuality. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 19(2), 125-148.

Week 7. Reproductive Health and New Reproductive Technologies

Monday, October 15, 2007

Lazarus, Ellen S.

1994 What do women want: Issues of choice, control, and class in pregnancy and childbirth. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 8(1):25-46.

O'Neil, John D, and Patricia Leyland Kaufert

1995 *Irniktakpunga!* Sex determination and the Inuit struggle for birthing rights in Northern Canada. In *Conceiving the New World Order*. Faye D. Ginsburg and Rayna Rapp, ed. Pp. 59-73. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Inhorn, Marcia C.

2003 Global infertility and the globalization of new reproductive technologies: Illustrations from Egypt. *Social Science and Medicine* 56:1837-1851.

Friday, October 19, 2007

Kahn, Susan Martha

2002 Rabbis and reproduction: The uses of new reproductive technologies among ultraorthodox Jews in Israel. In *Infertility around the Globe*. Marcia C. Inhorn and Frank van Balen, ed. Pp. 283-297. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Week 8. Survival Sex, Real Sex and Risk of HIV Infection

Monday, October 22, 2007 **GROUP CLASS PRESENTATIONS**

Wojcicki, Janet Maia

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2002 "She drank his money": Survival sex and the problem of violence in taverns in Gauteng Province, South Africa. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 16(3):267-293.

Gilbert, Leah and Liz Walker

2002 Treading the path of least resistance: HIV/AIDS and social inequalities -- a South African case study. *Social Science and Medicine* 54:1093-1110.

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Gysels, Marjolein, Robert Pool and Betty Nnalusiba

2002 Women who sell sex in a Ugandan trading town: life histories, survival strategies and risk. *Social Science and Medicine* 54(2):179-192.

Friday, October 26, 2007

Lockhart, Chris

2002 *Kunyenga*, "real sex," and survival: Assessing the risk of HIV infection among urban street boys in Tanzania. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 16(3):294-311.

Parkhurst, Justin O. and Louisiana Lush

2004 The political environment of HIV: lessons from a comparison of Uganda and South Africa. *Social Science and Medicine* 59: 1913-1924.

Week 9. Anthropology of Pharmaceuticals

Monday, October 29, 2007

Van der Geest, Sjaak, and Susan Reynolds Whyte

1989 The charm of medicine: Metaphors and metonyms. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 3(4):325-344.

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Etkin, Nina L.

1992 "Side effects": cultural constructions and reinterpretations of Western pharmaceuticals. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 6(2):99-113.

Friday, November 02, 2007

Lexchin, Joel

1989 Doctors and detailers: therapeutic education or pharmaceutical promotion? *International Journal of Health Services* 19(4):663-679.

Kamat, Vinay and Mark Nichter

1997 Monitoring Product Movement: An Ethnographic Study of Pharmaceutical Sales Representatives in Bombay, India. *In*. S.Bennett, B. McPhake and A. Mills, eds. *Private Health Providers in Developing Countries*. Pp.121-140. London: Zed Press.

Week 10. Structural Violence and Social Suffering

Monday, November 05, 2005

Nations, Marilyn K, and Christina G. Monte

1996 "I'm not dog, no!": Cries of resistance against cholera control campaigns. *Social Science and Medicine* 43:1007-1024.

Wednesday, November 07, 2007

Farmer, Paul

2003 On suffering and structural Violence: Social and economic rights in the global era (Chapter 1). *In* *Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor*. Pp. 29-50. Berkeley: University of California Press.

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Friday, November 09, 2007

Video: The Washing of Tears

Week 11. Structural Violence and Social Suffering cont...

Monday, November 12, 2007

NO CLASS: REMEMBRANCE DAY

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Kleinman, Arthur

1997 The violence of everyday life: The multiple forms and dynamics of social violence. *In Violence and Subjectivity*. Veena Das, Arthur Kleinman, Mamphela Ramphela, and Pamela Reynolds, eds. Pp. 226-241. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Friday, November 16, 2007

Adelson, Naomi

2001 Reimagining aboriginality: An indigenous people's response to social suffering. *In Remaking a World: Violence, Social Suffering, and Recovery*. Veena Das, Arthur Kleinman, Margaret Lock, Mamphela Ramphela and Pamela Reynolds. Berkeley, University of California Press: 76-101.

Week 12. The Global Politics of Organ Transplants

Monday, November 19, 2007

Lock, Margaret

1997 The quest for human organs and the violence of zeal. *In Violence and Subjectivity*. Veena Das, Arthur Kleinman, Mamphela Ramphela, and Pamela Reynolds, eds. Pp. 271-295. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy

2002 Min(d)ing the body: On the trail of organ-stealing rumors. *In Exotic No More: Anthropology on the Front Lines*. Jeremy MacClancy, ed. Pp. 33-63. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press.

Friday, November 23, 2007 **The New Genetics – to Tell of Not to Tell**

Finkler, Kaja, Cecile Skrzynia, and James P. Evans

2003 The new genetics and its consequences for family, kinship, medicine and medical genetics. *Social Science and Medicine* 57:403-412.

Polzer, Jessica, Shawna L. Mercer, and Vivek Goel

2002 Blood is thicker than water: genetic testing as citizenship through familial obligation and the management of risk. *Critical Public Health* 12(2):153-168.

Week 13.

Monday, November 26, 2007 **The New Genetics – to Tell of Not to Tell cont...**

Rapp, Rayna

2000 Extra chromosomes and blue tulips: medico-familial interpretations. *In Living and Working with the New Medical Technologies : Intersections of Inquiry*. Margaret M. Lock, Allan Young, and Alberto Cambrosio, eds. Pp.184-208. Cambridge, UK ; New York, New York: Cambridge University

Wednesday, November 28, 2007

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Press, Nancy., Susan Reynolds, Linda Pinsky, Vinaya Murthy, Michael Leo, and Wylie Burke

2005 'That's like chopping off a finger because you're afraid it might get broken':

Disease and illness in women's views of prophylactic mastectomy. *Social Science & Medicine*, 61(5), 1106.

Friday, November 30, 2007

SUMMING UP Last Day of Class

ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE including Mini Ethnography!!

Final Exam Date to be Announced

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**Recommended Readings
(On Reserve Shelf at Koerner Library)**

Week 1. Medical Anthropology: An Overview and Key Concepts

Hahn, Robert A.

1984 Rethinking "illness" and "disease." *Contributions to Asian Studies* 18:1-18.

Leslie, Charles M.

2001 Backing into the future. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 15(4):428-439.

Week 2. Sickness and Healing in Cross-cultural Context

Hahn, Robert A.

1985 Culture-bound syndromes unbound. *Social Science and Medicine* 21:165-171.

Simons, Ronald C, and Charles C. Hughes

1993 The culture-bound syndromes (Chapter 3). *In Culture, Ethnicity, and Mental Health*. Albert C. Gaw, ed. Pp. 75-99. Washington, D.C.: American Psychiatric Press.

Week 3. Therapy Management in Cross-cultural Context

Janzen, John M.

1978 *The Quest for Therapy in Lower Zaire*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Janzen, John M.

1987 Therapy management: Concept, reality, process. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1:68-84.

Week 4. Illness Narratives

Mattingly, Cheryl, and Linda C. Garro, eds.

2000 *Narrative and the Cultural Construction of Illness and Healing*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Miczo, Nathan

2003 Beyond the "fetishism of words": Considerations on the use of the interview to gather chronic illness narratives. *Qualitative Health Research* 13(4):469-490.

Week 5. Anthropology of the Body

Csordas, Thomas J.

1999 The body's career in Anthropology. *In Anthropological Theory Today*. Henrietta L. Moore, ed. Pp. 172-205. Malden, MA: Polity Press.

Gurevich, Maria, Scott Bishop, Jo Bower, Monika Malka, Joyce Nyhof-Young

2004 (Dis)embodying gender and sexuality in testicular cancer. *Social Science and Medicine* 58:1597-1607.

Kaufert, Patricia A.

1998 Women, resistance, and the breast cancer movement. *In Pragmatic Women and Body Politics*. Margaret M. Lock and Patricia A. Kaufert, eds. Pp. 287-309. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Lock, Margaret, and Patricia Kaufert

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2001 Menopause, local biologies, and cultures of aging. *American Journal of Human Biology* 13:494-504.

Martin, Emily

1988 Medical metaphors of women's bodies: menstruation and menopause. *International Journal of Health Services* 18(2):237-254.

Martin, Emily

1992 The end of the body? *American Ethnologist* 19(1):121-140.

Nichter, Mimi

2000 *Fat Talk : What Girls and Their Parents Say About Dieting*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

Week 6. Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting – The Debate

Gruenbaum, Ellen

2001 *The Female Circumcision Controversy: An Anthropological Perspective*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Gruenbaum Ellen

2006 Sexuality Issues in the Movement to Abolish Female Genital Cutting in Sudan. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 20(1):121-138.

Jones, Heidi, Nafissatou Diop, Ian Askew, Inoussa Kabore

1999 Female Genital Cutting Practices in Burkina Faso and Mali and Their Negative Health Outcomes. *Studies in Family Planning* 30(3):219-230.

Larsen, Ulla, and Sharon Yan

2000 Does Female Circumcision Affect Infertility and Fertility? A Study of the Central African Republic, Cote d' Ivoire, and Tanzania. *Demography* 37(3):313-321.

Shell-Duncan, Bettina, Walter obungu Obiero, and and Leunita Auko Muruli

2000 Women without Choices: The Debate over Medicalization of Female Genital Cutting and Its Impact on a Northern Kenyan Community. *In Female "Circumcision" in Africa: Culture, Controversy, and Change*. Bettina Shell-Duncan and Ylva Hernlund, ed. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

Shell-Duncan, Bettina, and Ylva Hernlund, eds.

2000 *Female "Circumcision" in Africa: Culture, Controversy, and Change*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Week 7. Reproductive Health and New Reproductive Technologies

Handwerker, Lisa

2002 The politics of making modern babies in China. *In Infertility Around the Globe*. Marcia C. Inhorn and Frank van Balen, ed. Pp. 298-314. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Inhorn, Marcia C., and Frank van Balen, eds.

2002 *Infertility Around the Globe: New Thinking on Childlessness, Gender, and Reproductive Technologies*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Week 8. Survival Sex, Real Sex and Risk of HIV Infection

Abdool, Karim Salim S.

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- 2005 The African Experience. *In* The AIDS Pandemic: Impact on Science and Society. Kenneth H. Mayer and H.F. Pfizer, ed. Pp. 351-373. London: Elsevier Academic Press.
- Dunkle Kristin L, Rachel K. Jewkes, Heather C. Brown, Glenda E. Gray, James A. McIntyre, & Sioban D. Harlow
- 2004 Transactional sex among women in Soweto, South Africa: prevalence, risk factors and association with HIV infection. *Social Science and Medicine*, 59, 1581-1592.
- Gisselquist David, et al.
- 2003 Let it be sexual: how health care transmission of AIDS in Africa was ignored. *International Journal of STD and AIDS* 14:148-161.
- Green, Gill, Robert Pool, Susan Harrison, Graham J. Hart, Joanie Wilkinson, Stella Nyanzi, James A.G. Whitworth
- 2001 Female control of sexuality: illusion or reality? Use of vaginal products in south west Uganda. *Social Science and Medicine* 52:585-598.
- Kaler, Amy
- 2004 AIDS-talk in everyday life: the presence of HIV/AIDS in men's informational conversation in Southern Malawi. *Social Science and Medicine* 59: 285-297.
- Koenig, Michael A, Tom Lutalo, et al.
- 2004 Coercive sex in rural Uganda: Prevalence and associated risk factors. *Social Science and Medicine* 58: 787-798.
- Liddell, Christine, Louise Barrett, and Moya Bydawell
- 2005 Indigenous representations of illness and AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Social Science and Medicine*, 60, 691-700.
- Lowy, Ilana
- 2000 Trustworthy knowledge and desperate patients: clinical tests for new drugs from cancer to AIDS. *In* Living and Working with the New Medical Technologies: Intersections of Inquiry. Margaret M. Lock, Allan Young, and Alberto Cambrosio, eds. Pp. 49-81. Cambridge, UK ; New York, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Lupton, Deborah
- 1993 Risk as moral danger: The social and political functions of risk discourse in public health. *International Journal of Health Services* 23(3):425-435. Manjate, Rosa
- Marlene, Rachel Chapman, and Julie Cliff
- 2000 Lovers, hookers, and wives: unbraiding the social contradictions of urban Mozambican women's sexual and economic lives. *In* African Women's Health. Meredith Turshen, ed. Pp. 49-68. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, Inc.
- McIntyre, and Sioban D. Harlow
- 2004 Transactional sex among women in Soweto, South Africa: prevalence, risk factors and association with HIV infection. *Social Science and Medicine* 59: 1581-1592.
- Oppong, Joseph R. and Ezekiel Kalipeni
- 2004 Perceptions and misperceptions of AIDS in Africa. *In* HIV & AIDS in Africa: Beyond Epidemiology. Ezekiel Kalipeni et al. Pp.47-57. Malden, MA. Blackwell Publishing
- Poku, Nana K.

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2001 Africa's AIDS crisis in context: 'how the poor are dying'. *Third World Quarterly* 22(2):191-204.

Poku, Nana K.

2003 The global AIDS fund: Context and opportunity. *Third World Quarterly* 3(2):283-298.

Putzel James

2004 The politics of action on AIDS: A case study of Uganda. *Public Administration and Development* 24:19-30.

Schiller, Nina Glick, Stephen Crystal, and Denver Lewellen

1994 Risky business: The cultural construction of AIDS risk groups. *Social Science and Medicine*, 38(10), 1337-1346.

Schneider, Helen

2002 On the fault-line: The politics of AIDS policy in contemporary South Africa. *African Studies* 61(1) 145-167.

Schoepf, Brooke Grundfest

1998 Inscribing the body politic: Women and AIDS in Africa. *In Pragmatic Women and Body Politics*. Margaret M. Lock and Patricia A. Kaufert, eds. Pp. 98-126. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Whiteside, Alan

2002 Poverty and HIV/AIDS in Africa. *Third World Quarterly* 23(2):313-332.

Zierler, Sally, and Nancy Krieger

1998 HIV infection in women: social inequalities as determinants of risk. *Critical Public Health* 8(1):13-32.

Week 9. Anthropology of Pharmaceuticals

Apparurai, Arjun

1986 Introduction: Commodities and the politics of value. *In The Social Life of Things: Commodities in Cultural Perspective*. Arjun Appadurai, ed. Pp. 3-63. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Heywood, Mark

2002 Drug access, patients and global health: 'chaffed and waxed sufficient'. *Third World Quarterly* 23(2):217-231.

Humphrey, Charlotte

2000 Antibiotic resistance: an exemplary case of medical nemesis. *Critical Public Health* 10(3):353-358.

Kamat, Vinay, and Mark Nichter

1997 Monitoring product movement: an ethnographic study of pharmaceutical sales representatives in Bombay, India. *In Private Health Care in Developing Countries: Serving the Public Interest?* Sara Bennett, Barbara McPake, and Anne Mills, eds. Pp. 124-140. London: Zed Press.

Lexchin, Joel

1999 Hear no secrets, see no secrets, speak no secrets: secrecy in the Canadian drug approval system. *International Journal of Health Services* 29(1):167-178.

Nichter, Mark, and Nancy Vuckovic

1994 Agenda for an Anthropology of Pharmaceutical Practice. *Social Science and Medicine* 39(11):1509-1525.

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Week 10. Structural Violence and Social Suffering

Kohrt, Brandon A, et al.

2004 Distribution of distress in post-socialist Mongolia: a cultural epidemiology of *yadargaa*. *Social Science and Medicine* 58:471-485.

Week 11. Structural Violence and Social Suffering cont...

Jones, James

1993 The tuskegee syphilis experiment: "A Moral Astigmatism". *In The Racial Economy of Science: Toward a Democratic Future*. S. Harding, ed. Pp. 275-286. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Kleinman, Arthur, and Joan Kleinman

1997 The appeal of experience: the dismay of images: Cultural appropriations of suffering in our times. *In Social Suffering*. Arthur Kleinman, Veena Das, and Margaret Lock, eds. Pp. 1-23. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Lee, Shirley, and Avis Mysyk

2004 The medicalization of compulsive buying. *Social Science and Medicine* 58:1709-1718.

Long, Elizabeth Valk

1994 Life and death of Kevin Carter. *In Time Domestic*. Pp. 1, Vol. 144.

Nichter, Mark

1998 The mission within the madness: Self-initiated medicalization as expression of agency. *In Pragmatic Women and Body Politics*. Margaret M. Lock and Patricia A. Kaufert, eds. Pp. 327-353. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Week 12. The Global Politics of Organ Transplants

Das, Veena

2000 The practice of organ transplants: networks, documents, translations. *In Living and Working with the New Medical Technologies: Intersections of Inquiry*. Margaret M. Lock, Allan Young, and Alberto Cambrosio, eds. Pp. 263-287. Cambridge, UK; New York, New York: Cambridge University Press.

Joralemon, Donald

2000 The ethics of the organ market. *In Biotechnology and Culture: Bodies, Anxieties, Ethics*. Paul E. Brodwin, ed. Pp. 224-237. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press.

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy

2002 The global traffic in human organs. *In The Anthropology of Globalization*. Jonathan Xavier Inda and Renato Rosaldo, eds. Pp. 270-308. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

Week 12 – 13. The New Genetics – to Tell of Not to Tell

Petersen, Allan

1998 The new genetics and the politics of public health. *Critical Public Health* 8(1):59-71.

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Rapp, Rayna

1995 Heredity, or: Revising the facts of life. *In* Naturalizing Power: Essays in Feminist Cultural Analysis. Yanagisako Sylvia and Carol Delaney, eds. Pp. 69-86. New York and London: Routledge.

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Guidelines for Mini Ethnography

This assignment involves you assuming the role of a student medical anthropologist and actually doing “fieldwork” and reporting on your experience. The main goal of this exercise is to enable you to connect your fieldwork experience with some of the key concepts in medical anthropology that we have been discussing in this course. Please make sure to write your observational “fieldnotes” in a diary (a note book). Your notes can be “dialogic” in that you can take down notes in the first person and use “quotations” and dialogues. Document the difficulties you experienced while carrying out this exercise -- the “travails” you experienced as a student medical anthropologist. Do you think your gender made a difference in how easy or how difficult it was for you to gather the data? Did you experience any discomfort when gathering the data? Did you become self-conscious? Did this assignment teach you anything about what it means to gather data as an anthropologist? Some of you may want to do this as a Pair-Share assignment along with another classmate. This is acceptable and even encouraged. Here are some possibilities for your ethnography project.

1. Engage in an informal conversation with someone who you know has been sick recently. Elicit information on the medical decision-making process that was involved in the sick person’s search for therapy. Identify the patient’s therapy management group. Who all were involved in negotiating the identity of the illness? Who made the most critical treatment-related decisions? Based on the data you gather, spell out the ways in which the “micropolitics” of therapy management might have been at work in the case at hand.
2. Facilitate a group discussion among your friends (preferably both male and female friends) surrounding the concept of “risk” and address the following questions in your writeup: How do people see the concept of “risk” affecting their lives? What are some of the ways in which people deal with “risk” and experience it in everyday life? What risks do people consider most threatening or important to themselves and to members of the society in which they live? What are some of the popular notions and personal experiences of “risk,” “risk taking,” and “risk avoidance?” What are some of the positive and the negative meanings that may be ascribed to risk and risk-taking? What kinds of risks do people chose to take or avoid, and why? What are some of the actions they take to avoid risk? What are some of the deliberate and voluntary risk-taking in which they might engage?
3. Watch a few “weight loss” TV commercials, describe them in brief, reflect on the hype surrounding such commercials, and the consequences you think these commercials have in terms of “behavioral change” among potential customers. Follow this up by going to a restaurant/(SUB for example, hang out there for a couple of hours, make some detailed observations about the kinds of foods people/ students/friends order/eat. Then talk to your friends, engage in an informal group discussion and/or simply “listen” to “fat talk” (dieting, calories, weight watching, etc..) among your women and men friends. What differences do you see in the ways in which men and women respond to the hype surrounding weight?

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Additional Points

If you think your observations or activities might be obtrusive, obtain permission of those in charge. **Important:** You should NOT “interview” any of the participants. Informal conversation is what you should aim for. Use of a tape recorder/video recorder for this exercise is a big NO NO. That would require us to go through a university ethical review process and involve consent forms, etc., a time consuming process. This is only an exercise. Treat it that way. All the data you gather is confidential. No use of proper names. Use pseudonyms if you like. Most importantly, enjoy yourself, but don’t get into any trouble while doing this exercise! Pick up any literature that is available at the event that might be helpful, check out websites, etc, but NO NON-PUBLIC INFORMATION should be used in generating your fieldwork report. Your write-up should include (1) a clear statement of the research problem, (2) your conceptual/theoretical framework, (3) the methodology you followed, (4) a general description of what you found out (your findings), and (5) a conclusion in terms of your data analysis and your learning experience. Again, you may use first person language where appropriate in this assignment. If you are doing this as a Pair-Share, discuss any similarities and differences you can identify, and reflect on “why” the two of you arrived at similar or divergent conclusions.

Length: 6-7 pages max

Format: Typed, double-spaced, using standard fonts (Times New Roman 12 and one inch margins on each side).

Organization: You can organize this several ways:

- 1) Chronologically following the event from start to finish, but being sure to incorporate at least most of the issues listed above, or
- 2) Answer the various questions provided here in order.

Quoting: Ideally you should quote part of the event or from the literature available (websites, pamphlets, anything else). If you use a printed source, be sure to cite it appropriately. If the quote is shorter than three lines, incorporate the quote into the text with “quotation marks” but if it is longer than three lines, offset and single-space.

Typos Edit your write-up thoroughly before turning it in. Excessive typos or grammatical errors will result in points deducted.

If you need any further clarifications regarding this assignment, or if you would like to discuss your preliminary ideas regarding the assignment, please do not hesitate to contact either Vinay or Stephen, your TA.

Good Luck!

Vinay