

SYLLABUS
891: MULTICULTURAL PERSPECTIVES IN HEALING

Distance Learning

FACULTY: Mei-fei Elrick, PhD

Date Revised: 7/30/10

COURSE DESCRIPTION

All societies have developed cultures of healing. Interestingly, while we humans are the same, healing practices vary from society to society. This course systematically examines similarities and differences in cultural conceptions of illness and healing. The interconnections among a society's culture, its understandings of illness/disease and its healing practices will be examined to illuminate basic healing principles.

FACULTY BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Elrick is a Professor at Holos University Graduate Seminary. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, an MA in Sociology from the University of Guelph, and a PhD in Education from the University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario. She was a Social Worker with the Guelph Children's Aid Society, a Research Assistant in the Department of Economics at the Australian National University, a Lecturer in Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Guelph, and an Instructional Developer at the University of Guelph. As a member of the Ontario Therapeutic Touch Network (TTNO), she practices Therapeutic Touch as developed by Dora Kunz and Dolores Krieger, PhD. For the past five years she has been the TTNO's Research Chair.

FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION

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Course Delivery Style and Action Plan

The format of the course is distance/open learning. When students register for the course, the faculty member immediately will contact them to discuss the course and the students' specific interests in multicultural healing. Students and faculty will maintain contact through Skype/email/ phone and written assignments. If students wish feedback on the first assignment before it is assessed for a grade, they may submit it a week before its due date, i.e., October 11, 2010. When they receive feedback on the assignment they may revise it and submit it for assessment. Assignments #2 and # 3 also will be returned with feedback. It is Holos policy for students to complete the Course Evaluation before receiving a grade on their work.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will develop depth and breadth in understanding the links among and between a society's norms and values and its definition of illness and its healing practices. While completing the assignments for this course students will:

- Discuss and describe various understandings of the etiology of illnesses.
- Describe healing modalities practiced in various societies.
- Assess reasons individuals might utilize healing methods incongruent with their society's usual healing practices, e.g., use Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) in Western societies.
- Examine the internal congruence of a society's values and norms, its understanding of illness and its healing practices.
- Analyze and assess principles of healing.

Grades: The following criteria will be used to assess students' assignments:

A thorough understanding of the material and the ability to compare and contrast, organize, analyze, and synthesize ideas.

Resources

There are no required texts. However the following books and journals are useful resources. You may have resources you have discovered and wish to use as you complete your assignment. If so, please discuss them with the instructor.

Aldridge, David. *Spirituality, Healing and Medicine*. London and Philadelphia: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2000.

Backman, Louise and Ake Hultkrantz. *Studies in Lapp Shamanism*. Stockholm: Almqvist & Wiksell International, 1978.

Coyle, J. Kevin and Steven Muir, eds., *Healing in Religion and Society, From Hippocrates to the Puritans*. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 1999.

Easthope, Gary. *Healers and Alternative Medicine*. Brookfield, VT: Gower Publishing Co. Ltd., 1986.

Fabrega, Horacio and Daniel Silver. *Illness and Shamanistic Curing in Zinacantan*. Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA 1973.

Feierman, Steven and John Janzen. *The Social Basis of Health and Healing in Africa*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992.

Fuller, Robert. *Alternative Medicine and American Religious Life*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989.

Frank, Jerome. *Persuasion and Healing*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1961.

Frank, Jerome, Anthony Stone, Rudolph Hoehn-Saric, Stanley Imber, and Bernard Liberman. *Effective Ingredients of Successful Psychotherapy*. New York: Brunner/Mazel, 1978.

Freeman, Lyn and Frank Lawlis. *Mosby's Complementary & Alternative Medicine A Research-Based Approach*. St. Louis: Mosby, 2001.

Hultkrantz, Ake. *Shamanic Healing and Ritual Drama*. New York: The Crossroad Publishing Co, 1992.

Kaptchuk, Ted. *The Web That Has No Weaver*. Chicago: Contemporary Books, 2000.

Kinsley, David. *Health, Healing and Religion*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1996.

Landy, David. *Culture, Disease, and Healing*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co. Inc., 1977.

Levinson, David and Laura Gaccione. *Health and Illness*. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc, 1997.

Mattingly, Cheryl and Linda Garro. *Narrative and the Cultural Construction of Illness and Healing*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

Moerman, Daniel "Anthropology of Symbolic Healing." *Current Anthropology* Vol 20, no 1, March (1979): 59-80.

_____. *Meaning, medicine and the 'placebo effect'*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Porter, Roy. *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1997.

Porter, Roy. *Blood and Guts*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2003.

Rosen, George. *Madness in Society*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1969.

Sharma, Pandit Shiv. *Ayurvedic Medicine Past and Present*. Varanasi: Krishnadas Academy, 1987.

Waldram, James. "The Efficacy of Traditional Medicine: Current Theoretical and Mythological Issues." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 14, no. 4 (2000): 603-625.

Journals of Interest

Annals of Internal Medicine

Current Anthropology

Medical Anthropology Quarterly

Shaman Journal of the International Society for Shamanistic Research

HOLOS FACULTY-STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Students and instructor communicate frequently via email, and phone conferences create a collegial forum for sharing ideas among class participants. Telephone conferences and calls with instructors are the student's expense. Faculty should inform students of any times that they are not available for email or phone communication. Students should inform instructors if they will not be available for scheduled phone conferences. Students should allow three days for a response after emailing an instructor. If you have not received a response after three days, re-send the email, call the instructor and leave a voice message. If you have still not received a response after two more days, forward your email communications with the instructor to the Dean of Faculty. Further action will be determined by the Dean of Faculty.

ASSIGNMENT FORMATS

- All written assignments must be **Microsoft Word** documents sent by email as attached files.
- All papers should be **double-spaced**.
- **FONT:** Times or Times New Roman.
- **E-MAIL SUBJECT LINE:** Always include your name and the Assignment number in the subject line of your E-mail and on the title page of your assigned papers.
- **END NOTES:** All referenced material must be cited using endnotes. Include the Author's name, the publication name, the publisher, the date of publication, and the page number.
- **FILE NAME:** When you "save" your document, you MUST use the following format to name your Word file: Or your file will be returned so that you can add the proper file name and format: The document you attach to your e-mail should be in the following format:

SmithJ_887#1.doc. (Last Name, First Initial_Course #, Assignment#.doc) Use Times, Times New Roman, or Helvetica fonts, 12 pt. and cite all referenced material using *Chicago Manual of Style* endnotes.

OUTLINE OF ASSIGNMENTS & PERCENTAGE OF COURSE

Assignment #1: Comparison of two societies	30%
Assignment #2: Choose and analyze a healing modality	30%
Assignment #3: In-depth study of a specific society	40%

DETAILS OF ASSIGNMENTS

ASSIGNMENT #1

Due Date: October 18, 2010.

Percentage of Grade: 30%

Learning Outcomes of Assignment:

- Students will compare and contrast various understandings of the etiology of illnesses.
- Assess reasons individuals might utilize healing methods incongruent with their society's usual healing practices, e.g., use Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) in Western societies.

Assignment Description: Compare and contract a society which continues to practice its traditional healing culture e.g., China as well as allopathic [Western] medicine with a society where allopathic medicine is the norm, e.g., the United States, England, Germany, France, Canada. As you compare and contrast the two societies consider where they believe the locus of the illness resides and how that thinking influences the societies' healing practices

ASSIGNMENT #2

Due Date: November 29, 2010

Percentage of Grade: 30%

Learning Outcomes of Assignment:

- Students will describe healing modalities practiced in various cultures/societies.
- Students will analyze a healing modality from a multi-cultural perspective paying particular attention to the internal congruence of the healing practice and the society's culture.

Assignment Description: Choose a healing modality and explain how it encourages healing in two geographically separate societies e.g. Peru and Russia.

ASSIGNMENT #3

Due Date: January 21, 2011.

Percentage of Grade 40%

Learning Outcomes of Assignment:

- Students will demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of a society and the interconnections of the society's norms and values i.e., its culture, and its concepts of illness and of healing.
- Students will identify, analyze and assess principles of healing.

Assignment Description: Choose a society that interests you and examine the congruence between the society's culture and its understanding of illness and healing. Also address the question of how healing practices may or may not have changed in the last 100 years. If they have changed, how has the society's understanding of illness changed? Using this society you have chosen and the other societies you have considered in Assignments 1 and 2, what have you found to be commonalities in healing practices? Analyze and assess these practices to determine basic principles of healing.

FINAL ASSIGNMENT:

Complete and return the course evaluation form you will receive a course evaluation form in August and February. You will receive notification of your final course grades only after you have submitted an evaluation for all courses you completed this semester. Students who plan to take an Incomplete in a course must wait until finishing a course before returning the evaluation form for the course.