

Holos Universtiy Graduate Seminary

882: Foundations for Indigenous Healing Studies

Revised Spring Semester April, 2008 (3 Credit Hours)
(Assignment details: Students will be sent an Assignment Supplement)

Faculty-Student Communications Policy:

- *Faculty and students are to keep one another informed if unable to communicate by E-mail or phone due to traveling or other extenuating circumstances.
- * After the initial contact is made via an E-mail message, wait for three days for a response. If you have not received a response, retransmit your email and make telephone contact. Make sure to leave a voice message.
- * If you have not received a response after two additional days, redirect your transmission to the Dean of Faculty and Academics.
- * Any further action will be determined on an individual basis together with the Dean of Faculty and Academics.

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Telephone: (808) 261-3731

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Kardec, A. (1972). *The Spirits Book*. Kardec Educational Society.
- Harner, M. (1990). *The Way of the Shaman*. San Francisco, C.A.: Harper.
- Dow, C. (1997). *Sarava! Afro-Brazilian Magik*. St.Paul, MN: Liewelln Publications.
- Licauco, J. (1981). *The Truth Behind Faith Healing in the Phillipines*. Manila, Phillipines: Metro National Book Store.
- Walsh, R. (1990). *The Spirit of Shamanism*. Los Angeles, CA: Jerem P.Tarcher, Inc.
- Shaman, Jhankri and Nele Music Healers of Indigenous Cultures. New York: Roslyn, 1997.

A packet of journal articles, publications and transcripts or oral narratives of indigenous healers and practitioners. Provided by Instructor.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

- Eliade, M. (1972). *Shamanism: Archaic Techniques of Ecstasy*. Translated by Willard R. Trask. Princeton University Press.
- Lamb, B. (1971). *Wizard of the Upper Amazon*. Berkeley, CA: North Atlantic Books.
- Managing Distress: Possession and Therapeutic Cults in South Asia*. New Delhi: Manoha. (1999).
- Phillipines Society for Psychical Research Foundation. (1983). *Faith Healing and Psychic Surgery*, part 2. Manila, Republic of the Phillipines.

Note on Text and Materials: Due to the nature of the subject and ways in which much of the indigenous teachings are recorded, some of the reading and research materials may

not be easily accessible. Please direct any problems obtaining reading and research materials to the instructor in the beginning of the semester.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will focus on basic principles of indigenous healing with special emphasis on specific traditions selected by faculty for each semester. Selected indigenous traditions include, but are not limited to Native American, Hawaiian, Chinese, Brazilian, Central American, Australian, and others. Students will engage in extensive reading of classical and modern indigenous healing literature, field notes or respected scholars, and oral narratives of indigenous healers and practitioners. Experiential application of the knowledge acquired will be encouraged as students will be required to select two specific traditions of interest, and engage in field observation/participation of healing traditions selected by each student. Following the field observation/participation assignment, an experiential journal or project and scholarly paper will be required.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- 1- To provide a basic introduction to indigenous healing studies.
- 2- To understand the cosmology of the traditions being studied.
- 3- To identify indigenous paradigms of illness, health, and healing.
- 4- To Explore the role of family, friends, and the community in the indigenous treatment models.
- 5- To understand preventive health care and life style choices from the indigenous healing perspective.
- 6- To develop guidelines and protocols in which indigenous healing techniques can establish a connection with one's own spiritual guides and protectors.
- 7- To explore the place of indigenous healing theories and techniques within the modern medicine holistic movement.

COURSE AUDIENCE:

This course is open to all graduate students in the Holos University Graduate Seminary Spiritual Healing Program (Th.M.or Th.D.). It is designed to be taken at any time in the program.

FACULTY-STUDENT COMMUNICATION:

- 1- Students are encouraged to have an active email account, and it is recommended that, for the purposes of optimum feedback, students check their account at least every other day during the course. As sometimes an email account experiences problems, students are asked to initiate contact with the professors if they have not had email contact with professors during the previous week. Do not assume that the emails have been received unless you receive a response in words.
- 2- Students are invited and encouraged to telephone the instructor if email communication does not satisfactorily answer questions. Students will need to arrange by email beforehand for all telephone communications. Telephone interaction will be at the student's expense.

COURSE DELIVERY STATUS:

This course is offered in a long-distance format and begins and ends in accordance with regular term schedule.

COURSE GRADE:

Final course grades will be given in accordance with school guidelines. The course grade will be based subjectively upon the clarity, originality, quality, and promptness of written assignments and verbal communication/participation with the instructor.

All assignments will be returned with comments and/or guidance for improvement. If the assignments are not all completed by the specific semester end date, an Incomplete will be assigned unless the Incomplete is more than two semesters old. In this case and Unsatisfactory will be assigned. Materials sent electronically after the specific semester end dates will not be considered.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignment #1: Read all references under required reading materials for the term and completion of a ten (10) page literature review paper.

Assignment #2: Select two healing traditions of interest of the student for field observation/participation. Make arrangements to interview and observe a traditional healer of each of the traditions selected and set-up a field observation of the healer's work. During these two field observations, the student will be required to interview and take notes of the work of the healer. If selecting a local traditional healer in your area becomes difficult, the student has a choice of discussing with the instructor the option of choosing from a few indigenous healers who have volunteer to be available for phone/email interviewing and observation. If the student chose this second option, a phone/email project documentation style for data collection will be utilized. During these two field observations, the student will be required to interview and take notes of the work of the healer.

Assignment #3: Select a field project documentation style for data collection during the field observation. If students chose to select indigenous healers from the instructors volunteer list, a phone/email project documentation style for data collection will then be utilized. The data collected during either the field or the phone/email observation assignment, will then be summarized into a five (5) page paper comparing and contrasting the two traditions observed.

Assignment #4: Write a scholarly paper, fifteen (15) to twenty (20) pages, on topic selected in consultation with faculty.

Final Assignment: You will receive a course evaluation form before the end of the semester. Complete and return the form by the deadline, immediately after the end of the semester. You will be notified of your final grade only after you have submitted an evaluation for this and all other courses you have completed this semester.

Students who have been granted an Incomplete in a course should wait until finishing the course before filing out the form.

Transcripts will be provided only to students who have, on file, an evaluation form for each course they have completed during the academic program.

COMPLETING THE ASSIGNMENTS:

In the first week of each semester, students will receive via email from the instructor the specific dates each assignment is due. If unable to fulfill the assignment by the required date, students should negotiate and put in writing all deviations from the syllabus to accommodate any handicap or special educational goals or circumstances. Feel free to recommend, in writing, any changes we can negotiate by the end of the second week of the first month of the semester to assure that the role this course plays in your learning contract will be as effective as possible.

GRADE DETERMINATION:

Final Course evaluation will be determined based upon the following formula:

Assignment#1 -----	20%
Assignment #2 -----	10%
Assignment #3 -----	20%
Assignment#4 -----	30%
Assignment#5 - (Final Assignment, Consultation, Conference Calls ----	20%

GRIEVANCES:

If you are unable to come to an acceptable understanding with Dr.Tavares on any issue related to the course, you should address your concerns to the Dean of Faculty and Academics.
