

**Clara Mantini-Briggs MD. MPH
Ethnic Studies SECTION ID: 655672
Special Topics/Ethnic Studies 189**

Racial Profiling and "Cultural Competency" in Public Health

**Location: Solis Hall 110
ENRL LIMIT: 46
Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 to 3: 20pm
Office hours: Wednesday from: 9:00 - 10:30 am
Thursday from: 10:00 - 11:30 am
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Course description

As you know, liberal multiculturalism has now been institutionalized as “cultural competency”—the requirement (legally compulsive in California) that physicians become familiar with the perspectives on disease associated with racialized minorities. Doctors can thus carry in their white coat pockets a small book that will tell them that “Mexicans” conceive of diarrheal diseases, for example, as caused by the “evil eye.” The texts that support this movement provide an excellent initial focus for two reasons. First, they provide one of the most striking examples of the essentialization of discourses of culture in producing notions of racialized minorities as infected by what I referred to as “chronic cultural impossibility,” the transformation of racial stereotypes into “risk factors” that seem to explain how people of culture are to blame for their own purportedly pathological bodies. Agency and ethical superiority are thus reserved for health institutions, the state, and unmarked white subjects as racialized minorities appear to be ethno-culturally incompetent to deal with issues of their own health. This course draws on ethnographic, theoretical, and critical perspectives in enhancing students' ability to critically analyze public health programs and discourses. films, media reports, and public health journal articles supplement the lectures.

Prerequisite: No prior background in anthropology, medical anthropology, medicine or public health is necessary. Students will be given opportunities to draw on their own experience throughout the course

Required Texts

Briggs, Charles with Mantini-Briggs, Clara. (2003). Stories in the Time of Cholera: Racial Profiling During a Medical Nightmare. Berkeley: University of California Press

Fadiman, Anne. (1997). The Spirit Catches you and you Fall Down: A Hmong Child her American Doctors and the Collision of two Cultures

Farmer, Paul. 2005. Pathologies of Power; Health, Human Rights, and The New War on the Poor. University of California Press.

Recommended Texts

Conrad, Peter. (2007). The Medicalization of Society: On the Transformation of Human Conditions into Treatable Disorders. The John Hopkins University Press

Assignments and Evaluation

Your grade will be based on preparation for and participation in class (15%), midterm made up of: A paper of 5 pages in length that critically looks at the class material; choose one theme and work through course material using these tools. Provide an original and insightful analysis with a theoretical approach (45%).

A 7-10 pages maximum final paper addressing social dimensions of a public health prevention program/or health problem, drawing analytically with theoretical approach on the material in the class (40%). Final papers are due after the last day of class

Class Participation: Students will be evaluated for their familiarity with required readings, their preparation and their general class participation. Students will be given opportunities to draw on their own experience/concern about Public health problem or program throughout the course in each class, in offices hours and emails.

Be prepared, be engaged, be respectful!.

Repeated absences will adversely affect your grade.

Racial Profiling and "Cultural Competency" in Public Health

WEEK 1

Introduction

2009-03-31 The Health Professional's Culture Vs the Other's Culture

Discussion: Fadiman, Anne. (1997). *The Spirit Catches you and you Fall Down: A Hmong Child her American Doctors and the Collision of two Cultures*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux/New York Chapters 1-9

Supplementary Readings:

H. Jack Geiger_2001. Racial stereotyping and medicine: the need for cultural competence *CMAJ* • JUNE 12,; 164 (12)

Farmer, Paul (1996), *On Suffering and Structural Violence*; *Daedalus*, Vol 125, No 1, Pp. 261-283

[<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/cgi-bin/resolve?id=doi:10.1086/382250>]

2009-04-02 The Health Professional's Culture Vs the Other's Culture II

Discussion: Fadiman, Anne. (1997). *The Spirit Catches you and you Fall Down: A Hmong Child her American Doctors and the Collision of two Cultures*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux/New York Chapters 10-19

Taylor, Janelle S. (2003). *The Story Catches You and You Fall Down: Tragedy, Ethnography, and "Cultural Competence"* *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 17(2): 159-181.

Supplementary Readings:

Ida Spruill and Bertha L. Davis *Cultural Competence: Myth or Mandate* Hampton University School of Nursing, Hampton Virginia

Turshen, Meredith (1989), *A New Vocabulary in The Politics of Public Health*,

New Jersey: Rutgers University Press. Pp. 9-47

WEEK 2. Understanding Inequality in Everyday Public Health Practice

2009-04-07

Briggs, Charles L., and Mantini-Briggs, Clara (2003), Preparing for a Bacterial Invasion: Cholera and Inequality in Venezuela in *Stories, in the Time of Cholera: Racial Profiling during a Medical Nightmare*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 19-58

Farmer, Paul. (1999), Introduction, in *Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 1-17

Supplementary Readings:

Gwatkin, D. R. (2000), Health inequities and the health of the Poor: What Do We Know? What Can We Do?; *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* Vol. 78, No. 1, Pp. 3-17

2009-04-09

Institute Of Medicine. (2003). *Unequal treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*. The National Academic of Science Press. Pp. 29-78

Farmer, Paul (1999), *Immodest Claims of Causality in Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 228-261

Supplementary Readings:

Krieger, Nancy (2005), *Stormy Weather: Race, Gene Expression and the Science of Health disparity*; *American Journal of Public Health*. Vol. 5, No. 12, Pp. 2155-2160

[<http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/abstract/95/12/2155>]

Millen Joyce, Irwin Alex, and Kim Jim (2000), *What is Growing? Who is Dying?*, in *Dying For Growth*. Maine: Common Courage Press. Pp.3-10

WEEK 3: Finding a Relationship between Theories of Culture and Public Health

2009- 04-14

Armstrong, David (1997), *Foucault and the sociology of health and illness*, in *Foucault Health and Medicine*. New York: Routledge. Pp. 15-30

Bourdieu, Pierre. (1980), *The logic of Practice*. Stanford University Press Pp 52-80

Potvin et al. (2005), *Integrating Social Theory into Public Health Practice*. *Social Determinants of Health Inequities*; *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 95, No. 4, Pp. 591-595
[<http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/abstract/95/4/591>]

Supplementary Readings:

Briggs, Charles L. 2005. *Genealogies of Race and Culture and the Failure of Vernacular Cosmopolitanisms: Rereading Franz Boas and W. E. B. Du Bois*. *Public Culture* 17(1): 75–100. Duke University Press

Foucault, Michel. (1979). *The Examination, in Discipline and Punish*. New York: Vintage Books, Random House. Pp. 184-194.

Helman, Cesil (1992), *Culture Health and Illness: An Introduction for Health Professionals*; *Medical Anthropology Quarterly, New Series*, Vol.6, No 1, Pp. 83-85

2009-04-16

Das, Veena. (2001), *Stigma, Contagion, Defect: Issues in the Anthropology of Public Health*. John Hopkins University.

Link, Bruce and Phelan, Jo (1995), *Social conditions as fundamental causes of disease*; *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, Vol. 35. Pp. 80-94

Taussig, Michael. (1992), *Reification and the Consciousness of the Patient*; *Social Science and Medicine*. Vol.14 .Pp.3-13

Supplementary Readings:

Foucault, Michel (1973), *The Birth of the Clinic: An Archaeology of Medical Perception*. New York : Vintage Books, Random House. Pp. Preface-37.

WEEK 4. **Social Control through Medicalization**

2009-04-21

Briggs, Charles L., and Mantini-Briggs Clara (2003), *Fighting Death In a Clinic: Cholera Arrives in Pedernales in Stories, in the Time of Cholera: Racial Profiling during a Medical Nightmare*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 81-96

Supplementary Readings:

Biehl, João (2005), Medical Science, in Vita: Life in a Zone of Social the violence of abandonment. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp.146-150

Farmer, Paul (1999), The consumption of the Poor: Tuberculosis in the Late Twentieth Century in Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 184-227

2009-04-23

Conrad, Peter (2007), The Medicalization Of Society On the Transformation of Human conditions into treatable Disorders. Johns Hopkins University Press. Chapter one. Pp. 3-45

Farmer Paul. 2005. Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor. University of California Press. Chapter 5.

Supplementary Readings:

Browner C. H. (1997), On the Medicalization of Medical Anthropology; Medical Anthropology Quarterly, Vol. 13, No. 2, Pp 135-140

Gordon, Debora (1988), Tenacious Assumptions in Western Medicine In Biomedicine Examined, Edited by Margaret, Lock and Debora, Gordon New York: Springer. Pp 19-56.

Salmon, Peter, and Hall, George (2003), Patient empowerment and control: a psychological discourse, in the service of medicine; Social Science and Medicine, Vol. 57. Pp. 1969-1980

WEEK 5. Midterm

2009-04-28

Turning the midterm paper

2009-04-30

Film presentation and review of theory

WEEK 6. Communication that reinforces Health Inequalities

2009-05-05

Farmer Paul. 2005. Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor. University of California Press. Chapters 1 and 3.

Charles L. Briggs and Mantini-Briggs, Clara. (2003), *Medicine. Magic and Military Might*, in *Stories in the Time of Cholera: Racial Profiling during a Medical Nightmare*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 179-198

Supplementary Readings:

Briggs, Charles L. (2005), *Perspectivas críticas de salud y hegemonía comunicativa: Aperturas progresistas, enlaces letales*; *Revista de Antropología Social*, Vol. 14, Pp. 101-24.

Stepan, Nancy (1978), *The Interplay between Socio-Economic Factors and Medical Science: Yellow Fever Research, Cuba and United States*; *Social Studies of Science*, Vol.8, No. 4, Pp. 397-423

Mathieu, Arline, (1993), *The Medicalization of Homelessness and the Theatre of Repression*; *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, Vol. 7, No 2, Pp.170-184

2009-05-07

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. (1992), *Nervoso: Medicine, Sickness, and Human Needs*, in *Death without Weeping*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 167-215.

Farmer Paul. 2005. *Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor*. University of California Press. Chapters 4 and 6.

Supplementary Readings:

Biehl, João (2005), *Women, Poverty, and Social Death in Vita: Life in a zone of social abandonment*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp.179-187 and 240-248

Michael, Warner (2002) *Public and Counterpublic*. New York: Zone Books. Pp.65-124

WEEK 7.

Film

2009-05-12

La Salud

2009-05-14

Carles Muntaner, et al. (2008). *Venezuelan Health Reforms : Venezuela's Barrio Adentro: Participatory Democracy, South-South Cooperation and Health Care for All*. *Social Medicine*, 232 – Vol. 3 No. 4
[<http://journals.sfu.ca/socialmedicine/index.php/socialmedicine/article/viewFile/250/531>]

Charles L. Briggs and Clara Mantini-Briggs. (2009), Confronting Health Disparities: Latin American Social Medicine in Venezuela. *American Journal of Public Health* Vol 99, No. 3

Julie M. Feinsilver. (2008). Oil-for-Doctors: Cuban Medical Diplomacy Gets a Little Help From a Venezuelan Friend. *NUEVA SOCIEDAD* 216. Este artículo es la versión original en inglés de « Médicos por petróleo. La diplomacia médica cubana recibe una pequeña ayuda de sus amigos», incluido en *NUEVA SOCIEDAD* Nº 216, Pp. 0251-3552, [http://www.nuso.org/upload/articulos/3537_2.pdf]

WEEK 8 Human Right, Ethics, and Justice Vs Power in Health Care

2009-05-19

Farmer Paul. (2005). *Pathologies of Power*. University of California Press . Chapter 8

Gamble, Vanessa. (1997). Under the Shadow of Tuskegee: African Americans and Health Care; *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 87, No. 11, Pp. 1773-1778

James, Jones (1993), The Tuskagee Syphilis Experiment: A Moral Astigmatism,' in *The Racial Economy of Science: Toward a Democratic Future*. Edited by Harding Sandra. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Pp. 275-286

Supplementary Readings:

Epstein Steven (1996) Controversy, Credibility and the Public Character Of AIDS Research, in *Impure Science AIDS, Activism and the Politics of Knowledge*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp 1-41

Kleinman, Arthur. (1993), An Anthropological Perspective on Objectivity: Observation, Categorization, and the Assessment of Suffering, in *Health and the Social Change in International Perspective*. Edited by Lincoln Chen, Arthur Kleinman, NormaWare. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp.129-138

2009-05-21

Cohen Lawrence (2005), Operability, Bioavailability, And Exception, in *Global Assemblages*, Edited by Aihwa Ong and Stephen Collier. Blackwell. Pp. 79-90

Justice Judith (1999), Neglect of Cultural Knowledge in health Planning: Nepal's Assistant Nurse-Midwife Program, in *Anthropology in Public Health: Bridging Differences in Culture and Society*. Edited by Robert Hahn. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp.327-363

Supplementary Readings:

Richard Parker (2001), Sexuality, Culture, and Power in HIV/AIDS Research; Annual Review of Anthropology, Vol. 30, Pp. 163-179

[<http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146%2Fannurev.anthro.30.1.163>]

WEEK 9 Social Medicine and its Critics

2009-05-26

Wallerstein Nina. (1994), Empowerment Evaluation: A Case Study of an Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention Program in New Mexico; American journal of Evaluation; Vol. 15, No. 2. Pp.131-138

Leigh, Pigg Stacy. (2001), Languages of sex and AIDS in Nepal: Notes on the Social Production of Commensurability; Cultural anthropology, Vol. 16, No. 4, Pp.481-54

[<http://www.anthrosource.net/doi/abs/10.1525/can.2001.16.4.481>]

Supplementary readings:

Glick, Thomas F., (1991), Science and Independence in Latin America; Hispanic American Historical Review, Vol. 71, Pp. 307-334

[<http://www.jstor.org/view/00182168/di008683/00p0117y/0#&origin=sfx%3Asfx1>]

2009-05-28

Waitzkin, Howard. (2001), Social Medicine Then and Now: Lessons from Latin America; American Journal of Public Health. Vol 91, No. 10, Pp. 1592-1601

[<http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/full/91/10/1592>]

Waitzkin Howard, Model Hillary. (1974), Medicine, Socialism, and Totalitarianism: Lesson from Chile. The New England Journal of Medicine. Vol. 291, No. 4, Pp. 171-177

[<http://www.jstor.org/view/00377791/ap030137/03a00120/0#&origin=sfx%3Asfx1>]

Supplementary Readings:

Biehl, João. (2005), Democratization and the Right to Health in Vita: Life in a Zone of Social Abandonment. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp.130-137

WEEK 10 Review

2009-06-02

Brown, Peter. (1987), *Microparasites and Macroparasites*; *Cultural anthropology*, Vol. 2, No 1, pp. 155-171

[<http://www.jstor.org/view/08867356/ap020007/02a00120/0#&origin=sfx%3Asfx>]

Supplementary Readings:

Blocker, Jack. (2006). Did Prohibition really Work? Alcohol Prohibition as a Public Health Innovation; *American Journal of Public Health*. Vol. 96, No.2. Pp.233-241

[<http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/full/96/2/233>]

Nina, Wallerstein and Bonnie Duran. (2006). Using Community-Based Participatory Research to Address Health Disparities; *Health Promotion Practice*; Vol. 7, Pp. 312

[http://www-ca2.csa.com/ids70/linking.php?linktype=FulltextPDF&docid=sage-set-c%2FHPP_2006_7_3indx_cln3.wais+78797+sagenurs-set-c&SID=0a35ff5dab86306bd88e45a9315b7b93]

2009-06-04 Review (Applying theory materials)

2009-06-09 Turning Final Paper.