

Chc/Lat 210
Fall '05

Chicano/Latino Studies 210

Cultural and Historical Precedents for Latinos and Medical Care

Instructor: Leo Chavez, Socorro Sarmiento

Class meets every other week, over two quarters

First class meeting: September 27, 12:30 p.m.

Tamking 108

Course Description

This course introduces the student to the history, culture, and social relations of Latinos/as in the United States. Historical eras surveyed in the class include Pre-Colombian life, the colonial period, and contemporary Latin American societies. Other issues examined include contemporary migration patterns, Latino diversity, labor market participation, gender relations, identity and race/ethnicity, family dynamics and social structure, and social incorporation, especially of the children of immigrants. The Latino/a experience will be placed within a framework that emphasizes globalization, transnational social spaces, and transculturation to understand the social and cultural implications of political and economic changes. In addition, the class will examine alternative healers and non-biomedical illnesses common to Latin Americans and Latinos. The course ends with an examination of biomedicine as a cultural system.

Requirements

Readings: Required readings for the class will include a combination of books, articles and book chapters. Arrangements will be made to have books and other readings available.

Attendance: Bi-Weekly over two quarters. Attendance is required. The format is a graduate seminar that requires active participation and discussion.

Class Activities: Students will come prepared to discuss readings and incorporate learning into their medical training and patient-based experiences. Students will generate learning questions from each session and then come prepared to present them at the next session, tying in their clinical experiences.

Personal Narratives and Life Histories: Students will present a personal narrative or brief life history based on an interview conducted with an adult (age 21 or

over) with whom the student met through clinical experience. This paper will be a maximum of 10 pages.

Grading: Grades will be based on a combination of class participation and the illness narrative writing assignment.

Evaluation: Students will be asked to evaluate the content and contribution of the class to their role as physicians in the Latino community based on their clinical experiences. Future course content and activities will integrate student evaluations.

Required Readings

Course Reader: A collection of selected articles available for purchase.

BOOKS: David Hayes-Bautista, *La Nueva California*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Arthur J. Rubel, Carl W. O'Neill, Rolando Collado-Ardon, *Susto: A Folk Illness*.

Leo R. Chavez, *Covering Immigration: Popular Images and the Politics of the Nation*. UC Press. 2001.

FALL QUARTER

Week 1 Sept. 27

Introduction: Latino/as in the United States
Immigration and Population Patterns

READ: David Hayes-Bautista, *La Nueva California*.

Week 2 Oct. 11

Pre-Columbian Foundations and Practices of Health and Medicine

Read:

Ortiz de Montellano, Bernard R.
1990 *Aztec Medicine, Health, and Nutrition*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press. Selected Chapters.

Mendoza, Ruben G.

1997 Trephination. In: Helaine Selin (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Non-Western Cultures*; pp. 985-986. Dordrecht/Boston/London: Kluwer Academic Publishers

2003 *Lords of the Medicine Bag: Medical Science and Traditional Practice in Ancient Peru and South America*. In: Helaine Selin (ed.), *Medicine Across Cultures: Historical Practice of Medicine in Non-Western Cultures*; pp. 225-257. Dordrecht/Boston/London: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Mendoza, Ruben G., and Jay R. Wolter

1997 *Medicine in Meso and South America*. In: Helaine Selin (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Non-Western Cultures*; pp. 702-706. Dordrecht/Boston/London: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Week 3 Oct. 25

Colonial to Contemporary Periods in Latin America: Culture, Gender, "Race"

READ:

John King, Pre-Columbian and Colonial Latin America. IN *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Latin American Culture*.

John King, Latin America since Independence. IN *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Latin American Culture*.

The Legacy of Mesoamerica: Chapters on Religion, Gender

Week 4 Nov. 8

U.S. LATINOS

Thomas Weaver, Latino Legacies: Crossing National and Creating Cultural Borders. IN *Handbook of Hispanic Cultures in the United States: Anthropology*.

Marcelo Suarez-Orozco, Introduction, *Latinos: Remaking America*.

"Hispanic" Ethnicity, Race and Class. IN *Handbook of Hispanic Cultures in the United States: Anthropology*.

J. Jorge Klor de Alva, Cipherspace: Latino Identity past and present. IN *Race, Identity, and Citizenship*.

Silvio Torres-Saillant, Problematic Paradigms: Racial Diversity and Corporate Identity in the Latino Community. IN, *Latinos: Remaking America*.

Week 5 Nov. 15

NATION, IMMIGRATION, LATINOS

READ: Chavez, *Covering Immigration*

WINTER QUARTER

Week 6 Jan. 10

Gender, Sexuality, and Latino Family Dynamics

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, "I'm here, but I'm there": The meanings of Latina Transnational Motherhood. *Gender & Society* 11 (5) 548-571.

Celia Jaes Falicov, Ambiguous Loss: Risk and Resilience in Latino Immigrant Families. . IN, *Latinos: Remaking America*.

Hirsch, Jennifer S.
1999 En El Norte la Mujer Manda. *American Behavioral Sciences*

Zavella, Patricia
2003 "Playing with Fire": The Gendered Construction of Chicana/Mexicana Sexuality. *In Perspectives on Las Americas*. M.C. Guttman, F.V.M. Rodriguez, L. Stephen, and P. Zavella, eds. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing

Gutmann, Matthew C.
The Meaning of Macho. Selected chapters.

Guest: Jeanette Castellanos, Chicano/Latino Studies Program

Week 7 Jan 24

Youth, Gangs, Education

READ: Diego Vigil, Community Dynamics and the Rise of Street Gangs. IN, *Latinos: Remaking America*.

Diego Vigil, *The Projects: Gang and Non-Gang Families in a Housing Development in East Los Angeles*. [Forthcoming new book]: selected chapters

Guest: Diego Vigil, Anthropologist, Criminology, Law and Society

Week 8 Feb 7

Folk Healers, Curanderos, Spiritual Healers

READ:

Rubel, Arthur J., and Michael R. Hass
1996 Ethnomedicine. In: Carolyn F. Sargent and Thomas M. Johnson (ed.),
Medical Anthropology: Contemporary Theory and Method.; pp. 113-130.
Westport, Connecticut: Praeger.

Napolitano, Valentina
Migration, Mujercitas, and Medicine Men. Berkeley: University of California
Press. Chapter 4: Medical Pluralis: Medicina Popular and Medicina
Alternativa.

Nuñez Molina, M. A. (2001). Community Healing Among Puerto Ricans:
Espiritismo as a Therapy for the Soul. Healing Cultures: Art and Religion
as Curative Practices in the Caribbean and Its Diaspora. M. F. Olmos and
L. Paravisnini-Gebert. New York, Palgrave: 115-129

Owen Jones, M., P. A. Polk, et al. (2001). Invisible Hospitals: Botánicas in Ethnic
Health Care. Healing Logics: Culture and Medicine in Modern Health
Belief Systems. E. Brady. Logan, Utah State University Press: 39-87.

Margarite Fernandez Olmos, *La Botanica Cultural: Ars Medica, Ars Poetica*. In, Healing Cultures: Art and Religion as Curative Practices in the Caribbean and Its Diaspora. M. F. Olmos and L. Paravisnini-Gebert. New York, Palgrave.

Carlos Viesca Treviño, "Curanderismo in Mexico & Guatemala" in *Mesoamerican Healers*, Brad R. Huber and Alan R Sandstrom, editors. 2001.

Week 9 Feb 21

Susto and the Power of Beliefs

READ:

Rubel, Arthur J., Carl W. O'Neill, and Rolando Collado Ardon
1984 *Susto: A Folk Illness*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Week 10 March 7

Biomedicine Examined

READ:

Deborah R. Gordon, Tenacious Assumptions in Western Medicine

Kaja Finkler
1994 Sacred Healing and Biomedicine Compared. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 8: 178-197.

Arthur Kleinman, selected Chapters from *Patients and Healers in the Context of Culture*. I

Chavez, Leo R. "Immigration and Medical Anthropology." In American Arrivals: Anthropology Engages the New Immigration. Nancy Foner, editor. Pp. 197-227. Santa Fe: School of American Research, Advanced Seminar Series. 2003.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE/ORAL HISTORY DUE