

CU297 CULTURE, HEALTH AND MEDICAL PRACTICES IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA
IES Abroad Shanghai

DESCRIPTION:

Drawing upon insights from medical anthropology, public health, bioethics and related fields, this course offers an interdisciplinary look at health practices in the context of China's unprecedented socioeconomic transformations. Students are invited to examine the unfamiliar and "exotic" domains of Chinese Traditional Medicine and the familiar and the taken-for-granted areas such as biomedicine and its clinical practices from comparative perspectives. The overall purpose of the course is to strengthen students' scholarly knowledge in preparation for empirical research based in China's current health trends, transitions, and policies.

With a focus on the socio-cultural dimensions of health, ill health, and medicine, we will first introduce the key concepts threading through this course such as culture, medicalization, biopower, medical subject and object as well as the body. Then we will explore the knowledge and practices of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and the underlying "local biologies." In the second section, we will investigate how global health issues like mental health and bioethics are practiced in the Chinese context. In the last section, we will focus on such biomedical technologies as IVF, prenatal genetic testing, and organ transplant, which remakes life and death. We are hoping that students will gain a deeper understanding of biomedicine and medical practices in general from a more social and cultural point of view. We need to understand how illness and suffering are shaped by political economy; how the medical and healing systems (including biomedical ones) are considered as social institutions and sources of epistemological authority. Through this course, students will grasp the meaning of medical pluralism and globalization. In addition to the lectures, we also encourage the students to take advantage of being in China and explore how local people experience and respond to illness and how they take care of their individual health.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Participation - 10%
- Two Response Papers - 20%
- Illness Narratives - 40%
- Take home final exam - 30%

CONTENT:

	Content	Assignments
Week 1	Course Overview	<p><u>Recommended Reading:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kleinman, A. 2009 “Caregiving: The Odyssey of Becoming More Human.” • Kleinman, A. “Catastrophe and Caregiving: The Failure of Medicine as an Art,” • Kleinman, A. “The Divided Self, Hidden Values, and Moral Responsibility in Medicine.” • Kleinman, A. “Four Social Theories for Global Health.” • Mukherijee, Siddhartha. 2015. <i>The Law of Medicine: Field Notes from an uncertain Science.</i>
Week 2	Biomedicine and Culture	<p><u>Required readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taylor, Janelle. 2003. “The Story Catches You and You Fall Down: Tragedy, Ethnography and Cultural Competence,” pp 159-181 • Kleinman, Arthur and Peter Benson, 2006, “Anthropology in the Clinic: The Problem of Cultural Competency and How to Fix It” • Taussig, Michael. “Reification and the Consciousness of the Patient,” pp 3-13 • Good, Byron. 1994. “How does Medicine Construct Its Objects?” pp 65-87. <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reich, Jennifer. 2016. <i>Calling the Shots: Why Parents Reject Vaccines</i>
Week 3	Interpreting Illness	<p><u>Required readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kleinman, Arthur. 1988. <i>Illness Narratives.</i> (Chapters), pp 3-55 • Kleinman, Arthur. “Medicine’s Symbolic Reality: On a Central Problem in the Philosophy of Medicine” <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jain, Lochlann. 2013. “Malignant: How Cancer Becomes Us”

	Content	Assignments
Week 4	<p>Health Care System in China</p> <p>Featuring a guest speaker</p>	<p>Recommended Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mason, Katherine. 2016. <i>Infectious Change: Reinventing Chinese Public Health After an Epidemic</i>
Session 5	<p>Local biologies and Embodied Meanings</p>	<p>Required readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Margaret Lock 1987. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology" pp. 6-41 Emily Martin. 1991. "The Egg and the Sperm: How Science has Created a Romance Based on Traditional Gender Stereotypes" pp. 485-501 Shigehisa Kuriyama. 2002. "Grasping the Language of Life." Ch. 1 in <u>The expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine</u>. Lock, Margaret and P. Kaufert. 2001. "Menopause, Local Biologies, and Cultures of Aging" pp 494-504 <p>Recommended Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lock, Margaret. 1995. <i>Encounters with Aging: Mythologies of Menopause in Japan and North America</i>
Week 6	<p>Traditional and Modern Medicine</p>	<p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheid, Volker. 2005. <u>Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China: Plurality and Synthesis</u>, chapters 4, 6 Zhang, Everett Yuehong. 2007. <i>Switching between Traditional Chinese Medicine and Viagra: Cosmopolitanism and Medical Pluralism Today</i>, pp.53-96 <p>** First response paper due</p> <p>Recommended Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mukharji, Projit Bihari. 2009. <i>Nationalizing the Body: The Medical Market, Print and Daktari Medicine</i>

	Content	Assignments
Week 7	<p>Political economy approach to health and care</p>	<p>Required readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hyde, Sandra Teresa. 2011. Migrations in Humanistic Therapy: Turning Drug Users into Patients and Patients into Healthy Citizen in Southwest China, pp. 183-204 Shao, Jing and Mary Scoggin. 2009. Solidarity and Distinction in Blood: Contamination, Morality and Variability, pp 29-49 Zhu, Jianfeng, Tianshu Pan, Hai Yu and Dong Dong. 2018 “Guan (Care/Control): An Ethnographic Understanding of care for People with Severe Mental Illness from Shang’s Urban Communities.” Ma, Zhiying. “When Love Meets Drugs: Pharmaceuticalizing ambivalence in Post-Socialist China” pp. 51-77 <p><u>Recommended Reading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matza, Tomas. 2018. Shock Therapy: Psychology, Precarity and Well-Being in post-socialist Russia
Week 8	<p>Clinical Practices of Prenatal Genetic Testing in China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest Speaker Invited 	Second Response paper due
Week 9	NO CLASS	No class this week
Week 10	Film Review and In-class discussion	Illness Narrative Assignment Due
Week 11	<p>Childbirth and Reproduction in China</p>	<p>Required readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wahlberg, Ayo 2018. Good Quality: The Routinization of Sperm Banking in China Zhu, Jianfeng. 2013. Projecting Potentiality: Understanding Maternal Serum Screening in Contemporary China. Shi, Lihong 2017. “The New Rich and Their Unplanned Births: Stratified reproduction Under China’s Birth-Planning Policy” pp1-18 <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Franklin, Sarah. 1997. Embodied Progress: A Cultural Account of Assisted Conception

	Content	Assignments
Week 12	Birth, Death, Regeneration and Biomedical Technologies	<p>Required readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inhorn, Marcia. 2006. "Making Muslim Babies: IVF and Gamete Donation in Sunni versus Shi'a Islam," pp 427-450 Gammeltoft, Tine. 2007. Sonography and Sociality: Obstetrical Ultrasound Imaging in Urban Vietnam, pp 133-153 Lock, Margaret. 1995. "Contesting the Natural in Japan: Moral Dilemmas and Technologies of Dying," pp 1-38 Song, Priscilla. 2017. Biomedical Odysseys: Fetal Cell Experiments from Cyberspace to China <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lock, Margaret. 2002. Twice Dead: Organ Transplants and the Reinvention of Death
Week 13	What is Gene? Life and Embodied Risk Guest Speaker presentation	<p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Squier, Susan. 2017. Epigenetic Landscapes: Drawing as Metaphor
Week 14	Take Home Exam Due	Take Home Exam Due

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Gammeltoft, Tine. 2007. Sonography and Sociality: Obstetrical Ultrasound Imaging in Urban Vietnam. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 21(2):133-153.
- Good, Byron. 1994. "How does Medicine Construct Its Objects?" in *Medicine, Rationality and Experience*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp 65-87.
- Hyde, Sandra Teresa. 2011. Migrations in Humanistic Therapy: Turning Drug Users into Patients and Patients into Healthy Citizen in Southwest China. *Body & Society*, Vol. 17, 2-3 pp. 183-204/
- Inhorn, Marcia. 2006. "Making Muslim Babies: IVF and Gamete Donation in Sunni versus Shi'a Islam." *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 30: 427-450
- Kleinman, Arthur. "Caregiving: the Odyssey of Becoming More Human." *The Lancet*. Vol.373, January 24, 2009.
- Kleinman, Arthur. Catastrophe and Caregiving: The Failure of Medicine as an Art, *The Lancet*, Vol.371, January 5, 2008
- Kleinman, Arthur. "The Divided Self, Hidden Values, and Moral Responsibility in Medicine." *The Lancet*, Vol.377, March 5, 2011.
- Kleinman, Arthur. "Four Social Theories for Global Health." *The Lancet*, Vol.375. May 1, 2010
- Kleinman, Arthur. *Illness Narratives*. 1988. (Chapters) Pp 3-55
- Kleinman, Arthur. "Medicine's Symbolic Reality: On a Central Problem" in *The Philosophy of Medicine*. 2010 Byron J. Good, Michael M. J. Fischer, Sarah S. Willen, and Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good, ed. Wiley-Blackwell

- Kleinman, Arthur and Peter Benson, 2006, "Anthropology in the Clinic: The Problem of Cultural Competency and How to Fix It," *PLoS Medicine* 3(10)
- Kuriyama, Shigehisa. 2002. "Grasping the Language of Life." Ch. 1 in *The expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine*.
- Lock, Margaret. 1995. "Contesting the Natural in Japan: Moral Dilemmas and Technologies of Dying." *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 19(1):1-38
- Lock, Margaret and P. Kaufert. 2001. "Menopause, Local Biologies, and Cultures of Aging." *American Journal of Human Biology*. 13 (4): 494-504
- Ma, Zhiying. "When Love Meets Drugs: Pharmaceuticalizing ambivalence in Post-Socialist China." *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* (2012) 36: 51-77
- Martin, Emily. 1991. "The Egg and the Sperm: How Science has Created a Romance Based on Traditional Gender Stereotypes." *Signs* 16(3):485-501.
- Shao, Jing and Mary Scoggin. 2009. *Solidarity and Distinction in Blood: Contamination, Morality and Variability*. *Body & Society*, Vol. 15 2: Pp 29-49.
- Scheid, Volker. 2005. *Chinese Medicine in contemporary China: Plurality and Synthesis*. Durham & London: Duke University Press. Chapter 4,6
- Scheper-Hughes, Nancy and Margaret Lock 1987. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1(1): 6-41
- Shi, Lihong 2017. "The New Rich and Their unplanned Births: Stratified reproduction Under China's Birth-Planning Policy." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* Vol 00, Issue 0 Pp1-18
- Song, Priscilla. 2017. *Biomedical Odysseys: Fetal Cell Experiments from Cyberspace to China*. Chapter 5. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press.
- Taussig, Michael. "Reification and the Consciousness of the Patient." *Social Science and Medicine*, 14B: 3-13, 1980.
- Taylor, Janelle. 2003. "The Story Catches You and You Fall Down: Tragedy, Ethnography and "Cultural Competence." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 17(2): 159-181
- Wahlberg, Ayo 2018. *Good Quality: The Routinization of Sperm Banking in China*. Chapter 1. Oakland, California. University of California Press.
- Zhang, Everett Yuehong. 2007. *Switching between Traditional Chinese Medicine and Viagra: Cosmopolitanism and Medical Pluralism Today*. *Medical Anthropology*, 26 53-96, 2007.
- Zhu, Jianfeng. 2013. *Projecting Potentiality: Understanding Maternal Serum Screening in Contemporary China*. In *Current Anthropology* Volume 54, No. 7
- Zhu, Jianfeng, Tianshu Pan, Hai Yu and Dong Dong. 2018 "Guan (Care/Control): An Ethnographic Understanding of care for People with Severe Mental Illness from Shang's Urban Communities." *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 2018 March

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Franklin, Sarah. 1997. *Embodied Progress: A Cultural Account of Assisted Conception*. Routledge.
- Jain, Lochlann. 2013. *Malignant: How Cancer Becomes us*. University of California Press.
- Lock, Margaret. 1995. *Encounters with Aging: Mythologies of Menopause in Japan and North America*.
- Lock, Margaret. 2002. *Twice Dead: Organ Transplants and the Reinvention of Death*. University of California Press.
- Mason, Katherine. 2016. *Infectious Change: Reinventing Chinese Public Health After an Epidemic*. Stanford, California: Stanford University press
- Matza, Tomas. 2018. *Shock Therapy: Psychology, Precarity and Well-Being in post socialist Russia*. Duke University Press.
- Mukharji, Projit Bihari. 2009. *Nationalizing the Body: The Medical Market, Print and Daktari Medicine*. London: Anthem
- Mukherjee, Siddhartha. 2015. *The Law of Medicine: Field Notes from an uncertain Science*.
- Reich, Jennifer. 2016. *Calling the Shots: Why Parents Reject Vaccines*. NYU Press.
- Squier, Susan. 2017. *Epigenetic Landscapes: Drawing as Metaphor*. Duke University Press.