Spring 2014
AAAS 189x

MEDICINE, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY

(26092)
Wednesday 12.00 - 2.00

Jean Comaroff
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Office Hours: Tues. 1:00-3:00pm

This class examines the changing place of medicine in the long history of modernity. Focusing on key moments – the birth of the clinic, the colonial frontier, where biomedicine met its therapeutic "others," the consolidation of medicine as self-governing profession, and the age of genomics and biocapital – it explores the distinctive role of medical knowledge in the making of modernist persons, identities, and social worlds. Readings are drawn from across the social sciences, with material from Africa, Europe, and North America. Part lecture, part discussion, the class will be open to upper-level undergraduates and graduates.

Course Requirements: Everyone in the class must do an in-class midterm, which will require answering two short questions, chosen out of four. In addition, students may either write one long research paper (about 15 pages, on a topic to be approved by the instructor) or take an in-class final examination (two questions out of six). Students are expected to come to class ready to raise questions about the assigned readings. Class presence/participation will count for 10% of the overall grade, the midterm for 30% and the final exam or paper, 60%.

Books ordered at the Coop:

Brandt, A., *No Magic Bullet*. Oxford University Press, 1987

Evans-Pritchard, E. 1976 *Witchraft, Oracles, and Magic among the Azande.* (Ed. Eva Gillies). Oxford University Press.

Foucault, M. 1975 *The Birth of the Clinic.* Vintage Books

Livingston, J. 2012 *Improvising Medicine: An African Oncology Ward in an Emerging Cancer Epidemic*

Steinberg, Jonny 2008 *Sizwe's Test: A Young Man's Journey Through Africa's AIDS Epidemic*. Simon and Schuster.

Thomas, K. 1986 Religion and the Decline of Magic. Scribner's

Tomes, N. 1998 *The Gospel of Germs: Men, Women and the Microbe In American Life*. Cambridge University Press

Turner, V. 1967 *The Forest of Symbols.* Cornell University Press

<u>Introductory</u>:

JAN 29 IN WHAT SENSE IS 'MEDICINE' A UNIVERSAL CATEGORY?

Glick, L.B. 1977 "Medicine as an Ethnographic Category," in D. Landy, ed., *Culture, Disease and Healing*. Macmillan.

Levi-Strauss, C. 1963 "The Effectiveness of Symbols," in Structural Anthropology.
Basic Books: 196-205.

Young, A. 1976 "Some Implications of Medical Beliefs and Practice For Anthropology," *American Anthropologist, 78:5-24.*

Estranging 'Medicine:' Affliction and Healing in African Perspective

FEB 5 WITCHCRAFT, HEALING, AND MORAL ORDER

Evans-Pritchard, E.1976. *Witchcraft, Oracles, and Magic among the Azande.* Clarendon Press: 1-55, 176-204.

Comaroff, J. 1980. "Healing and Culture Order," *American Ethnologist 7: 637:657*

Comaroff, J. 1992 "Medicine, Colonialism, and the Black Body," in JL & J Comaroff (eds.), *Ethnography and the Historical Imagination*. Chicago Univ. Press: 215-233.

FEB 12 HEALING, RITUAL, AND SOCIAL REPRODUCTION

Turner, V. 1967. "A Ndembu Doctor in Practice," in *The Forest of Symbols*
Cornell Univ. Press: 359-393.

Masquelier, A. 2002. "Socializing the Spirits," in *Prayer has Spoiled Everything*. Duke Univ. Press:77-119.

Weiss, B. 1996. "Buying Her Grave: Money, Movement, and AIDS," in *The Making and Unmaking of the Haya Lived World*. Duke Univ. Press: 179 - 201.

The Rise of Bio-Medicine in the Modern West

FEB 19 MAGIC AND THE BODY POLIYIC

Thomas, K. 1986 *Religion and the Decline of Magic*. Scribner's: 535-569.

Hill, C. 1964 "William Harvey and the Idea of Monarchy," *Past and Present* 27(1):54-72.

Desmedt, L. 2005 "Money in the 'Body Politick': The Analysis of Trade and Circulation in the Writings of Seventeenth-Century Political Arithmeticians," History of Politial Economy 37(1):79-99.

FEB 26 KNOWLEDGE ON THE SLAB/ THE BIRTH OF BIOPOLITICS

Foucault, M. 1975 *The Birth of the Clinic*. Vintage, Chaps. 1,8,& 9.

Figlio, K. 1976 "The Metaphor of Organization: A historiographical perspective on the bio-medical science of the early nineteenth century," *History of Science* 14:17-53.

Jordanova, L. 1980 "Natural Facts: An historical perspective on science and sexuality," in C. MacCormack & M. Strathern (eds.), *Nature, Culture, and Gender*. Cambridge University Press: 42-69.

MARCH 5 MEDICINE AND METAPHOR

Tomes, N. 1998 *The Gospel of Germs: Men, Women and the Microbe.* Harvard University Press: 1-47.

Sontag, S. 1990 *Illness as Metaphor* and *AIDS and its Metaphors.* Doubleday.

Bio-Medicine and the Sociology of Health in the Modern West

MAR 12 THE QUINTESSENTIAL PROFESSION?

Parsons, T. 1951 *The Social System*. Free Press: 428-479.

Freidson, E. 1970 *Profession of Medicine*. Dodd, Mead & Company: 335-392.

Good, M-J. 1995 *American Medicine: The Quest for Competence.* University of California Press: 1-26, 5-71.

March 16 - March 24 Spring Recess

MARCH 26 MADNESS IN THE AGE OF REASON

Foucault, M. 1976 *Mental Illness and Psychology*. Harper

Colophon. Rosenhan, D. 1979 "On Being Sane in Insane Places," in Albrecht & Higgins (eds.)., *Health, Illness and Medicine*. Rand McNally: 167-285.

Hacking, I. 1991 "Two Souls in One Body," *Critical Inquiry* 17(4): 838-867

Medicine and the Anatomy of Neoliberalism

APRIL 2 . MEDICINE AND BIOCAPITAL

Sunder Rajan, K. 2005 "Subjects of Speculation: Emergent Life Sciences and Market Logics in the United States and India," *American Anthropologist*, 107(1): 19-30.

Petryna, A. 2006 "The Human Subjects Research Industry," in Petryna (ed.)., *Pharmaceuticals and Globalization*, Duke University Press.

Lakoff, A. 2006 *Pharmaceutical Reason.* Cambridge Studies in Society and the Life Sciences. Introduction & Chapter 2.

APRIL 9 SEXUAL, RACE, BIOPOLITICS (1)

Brandt, A. 1987 *No Magic Bullet*. Oxford University Press: 1-51, 183-204.

Haraway, D. 1993 "The Biopolitics of Postmodern Bodies," in S. Lindenbaum & M. Lock (eds.) *Knowledge, Power, and Practice*, University of California Press

Comaroff, J. 2007 "Beyond the Politics of Bare Life: Aids, (Bio)politics and the Neo World Order," in J and J.L. Comaroff (eds) *Theory from the South: How Euro-America is* Evolving Toward Africa, Paradigm Press, 173 -190.

APRIL 16 SEX, RACE, BIOPOLOTICS (2)

Watney, S. 1990 "Missionary Positions: AIDS, 'Africa' and Race," in R. Ferguson et al. (eds.), *Out There: Marginalization in Contemporary Cultures*. Museum of Contemporary Art: 89-103.

Steinberg, J. 2008 Sizwe's Test: A Young Man's Journey Through Africa's AIDS Epidemic. Simon and Schuster.

APRIL 23 MEDICINE, IMPERIALISM, AND THE AGE OF GLOBAL HEALTH

Farmer, P. 2004. "An Anthropology of Structural Violence." *Current Anthropology* 45(3):305-325.

Scheper-Hughes, N. 2000 "The Global Traffic in Human Organs," *Current Anthropology*, 21:35-7

Brada, B. 2011 "'Not Here:' Making the Spaces and Subjects of 'Global Health' in Botswana."*Culture, Medicine & Psychiatry* 35: 285-312.

APRIL 30 EP(EDEM)IC INTERVENTIONS AND STATES OF EMERGENCY

Calhoun, C. 2010 "The Idea of Emergency: Humanitarian Action and Global (Dis)Order, in *Contemporary States of Emergency: The Politics of Military and Humanitarian Interventions,* (ed. D. Fassin and M. Pandolfi). Zone Books, 29-58.

Livingston, J. 2012 *Improvising Medicine: An African Oncology Ward in an Emerging Cancer Epidemic*, 1-29, 174-182.

IN-CLASS FINAL: MAY X
RESEARCH PAPERS DUE BY 5:00 PM IN AAAS ON MAY 16