

Meaning and Healing

ANSC/GLBH 129
Winter 2019
Class: SSRB 331
Tu/Th 2:00 – 3:20

Professor Thomas Csordas
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Office Hour: Appointment
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This class addresses the nature of ritual healing across cultures. In a seminar/discussion format, we will examine the relation between medical and sacred realities in healing, and the analogy between psychotherapy and religious healing. Framed by concepts such as medical pluralism and the health care system, we will compare different types of healers and healing practices, how different problems submitted to ritual healing are identified, defined, and diagnosed, and how different types of healers may or may not collaborate in practice. We will discuss experiential aspects of therapeutic process and efficacy, with emphasis on the transformation of self and meaning, as well as the distinction between incremental and miraculous change.

Grades: 60% of your grade will be based on participation in the seminar, which will consist of 1) preparing a 1-2 page double spaced response to each session's readings and 2) active participation in the seminar discussion. I will not assign number or letter grades to the reading response papers, but if you turn yours in and contribute significantly to the discussion every week you will receive 60 points. Because there are 18 sessions with reading, each is worth 3.3 points. The other 40% of your grade will be based on a final 8-10 page paper consisting of a more in depth reflection on one of the themes we cover in the seminar. The paper can include rethinking the literature we have read in class but also must include 3-4 additional works that you find on your own or in the bibliographic material I have provided for week 1. The final paper will be worth 0-40 points. It will be due the Friday of finals week on Turn-It-In.com. You can turn it in earlier, but not later.

All readings listed in the class schedule below are required, and all the required readings will be available online at this course's TritonEd/Blackboard site.

Attendance and participation are mandatory. If you have an unexcused absence and fail to turn in a reading response paper you will not receive participation credit for that session. Students may use laptop computers only for taking notes and if we need to investigate something online that comes up in discussion.

Class Schedule:

January 8 *Health Care, Religious Healing, and the Psychotherapy Analogy*
 "Practice, Performance, and Experience" T.Csordas and E.Lewton
 "Meaning and Healing Bibliography" T. Csordas

- January 10 *Conceptual Foundations for the Study of Healing I*
Persuasion and Healing Jerome and Julia Frank (Chapters 2 and 5)
 Optional: “The Therapeutic Process” T. Csordas and A. Kleinman
- January 15 *Conceptual Foundations for the Study of Healing II*
 “The Effectiveness of Symbols” Claude Levi-Strauss
 “The Study of Folk Psychiatry” Ari Kiev
- January 17 *Healing in India I*
Mudpacks and Prozac Murphy Halliburton (Chapter 2)
Shamans, Mystics, and Doctors Sudhir Kakar (Chapters 1&10)
- January 22 *Healing in India II*
 “Davaa and Duaa” Helene Basu
 “Ritual Healing and Mental Health in India” William Sax
- January 24 *Healing in Africa I*
Ngoma: Healing in Central and Southern Africa John Janzen
 (Preface, Introduction, Chapter 1)
- January 29 *Healing in Africa II*
 “Indigenous Yoruba Psychiatry” Raymond Prince
 “Boiling Energy” Richard Katz
- January 31 *Healing in Japan*
Psychotherapy and Religion in Japan: Naikan. (Chapters 1-2)
 C. Ozawa-de Silva
- February 5 *Healing in China I*
Patients and Healers in the Context of Culture Arthur Kleinman
 (Chapter 9)
- February 7 *Healing in China II*
 “Eating Chinese Medicine” Judith Farquhar
 “Chinese Healing in the US” Linda Barnes
 Optional: “Spirit Possession and Healing” Kua, Chew, and Ko
- February 12 *Healing in Indonesia*
Jero Tapakan: Balinese Healer Linda Conner (Chapters 2, 3, & 5)
- February 14 *Healing in South America I*
 “Uncanny Memories” Dorthe Brogaard Kristensen
Shamans of the Foye Tree Ana Mariella Bacigalupo (Chapter 3)

- February 19 *Healing in South America II*
 “Health and the Holy in the Candomblé” Thomas Csordas
Possessing Spirits and Healing Selves Rebecca Seligman
 (Chapter 3)
- February 21 *Healing in the United States*
The Sacred Self Thomas J. Csordas (Chapters 2 & 3)
- February 26 *Latino Healing in the United States and Mexico*
 “Miraculous Migrants to the City of Angels” Patrick Polk et al.
 “La Mesa del Santo Niño de Atocha” Inés Hernández-Ávila
- February 28 *Healing in the Navajo Nation*
 “Ritual Healing and Identity Politics” Thomas J. Csordas
 “Psychiatry and the Sweatlodge” Thomas J. Csordas
 Optional: “Diagnosis and Distress in Navajo Healing” Thomas J. Csordas
- March 5 *Shamanism and Neo-Shamanism*
 “Flights of the Sacred” Marjorie Balzer
 “Taltos Healers and Neoshamans” Imre Lazar
 Optional: “Making Selves and Meeting Others” Nofit Itzhak
- March 7 *Healing and Political Violence*
Ritual and Recovery J. Derges (Chapters 1&8)
 (about Post-Conflict Sri Lanka) Full text available online
<http://roger.ucsd.edu/search/a?searchtype=X&searcharg=Ritual+and+recovery+i+n+Post-Conflict+Sri+Lanka&searchscope=9&SORT=D&Search=Search>
- OR
- When Religion Matters A. Moody-Hardison (Chapters 1&2)
 (about Liberian Civil War) Full text available online
<http://roger.ucsd.edu/record=b9541845~S9>
- March 12 *Possession and Exorcism*
 “Possession and Psychopathology, Faith and Reason” T. Csordas
 “Djinn, Psychiatry, and Notions of Misfortune” S. Dein et al.
- March 14 *Healing and Psychoactive Drugs*
 “Ayahuasca and Other Sacred Medicines” Michael Winkler
 AND EITHER
A Different Medicine (peyote) Joseph Calabrese (Chapters 4&5)
 OR
Cosmopolitics among the Siona (ayahuasca) Esther Jean Langdon
 (Chapters 8&9)
- March 22 FINAL PAPERS DUE