



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Anthropology of suffering: depression trauma and post-trauma - 53811

Last update 03-11-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Sociology & Anthropology

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Yehuda Goodman

Coordinator Email: ygoodman@huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Mon 14-15 email in advance

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Yehuda Goodman

Course/Module description:

In this anthropological course we'll discuss human suffering as it is experienced, represented and dealt within political negotiations in different societies and cultures. Instead of universalistic and positivistic perspective of suffering we'll follow the social, cultural, political and professional processes that participate in forming suffering and how it is represented and treated in various sites and contexts including experiences of depression, trauma and post trauma.

Course/Module aims:

Anthropological analysis of experiences, representations and contestation over depression, trauma and post trauma in the professional field and in the public sphere – as these are analyzed both theoretically and ethnographically.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Identify core principles in current conceptualizations in anthropology of suffering*
- Follow closely interpretations of therapeutic interventions in depression and post trauma and representing suffering in the public sphere*
- Categorize the various approaches within anthropology of suffering*
- Interpret relevant reading materials in this field*
- Generalize from specific research ethnographic projects to broader approaches*
- Criticize the various approaches in anthropology of suffering to allow for further theoretical development*

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture, conversation and critical discussion on various reading in anthropology of , suffering and relating to the various approaches expressed in them. We'll have shared reading in class of the various ethnographies and discuss presentations by students.

Course/Module Content:

- What is human suffering from an anthropological perspective? Discussing both clinical and political/cultural contexts
- Analyzing depression and post trauma. What are the similarities and differences. Discussing depression and post trauma in narratives of students and the literature
 - Between depression and PTSD in the clinical diagnosis system
 - Analyzing depression as personal experience and a culture bound syndrome and in mass media representation
 - the construction of PTSD in the US psychiatric diagnostic system
 - Treating PTSD among Vietnam veterans
 - The spread of the PTSD discourse and intervention globally
 - The discourse of PTSD in Israel and the immunization of the social body
 - Between expression and silencing of human suffering and trauma
 - Between recall and forgetting : Cross cultural comparisons
 - Constructing human suffering in Citizenship and minorities contexts
 - The construction of human suffering in the context of political and ethnic contestation
- Summary and discussion of final papers

Required Reading:

- DSM. 2013. *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*, 5th ed. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association.
- Gaines, A. D. 1992. From DSM I to III-R; Voices of self, mastery and the other: A cultural construction of psychiatric classification. *Social Science and Medicine*, 35(1), 3-24.
- Martin, Emily 2007. *Bipolar Expeditions: Mania and Depression in American Culture*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Kleinman, Arthur and Good Byron, 1985. *Culture and Depression*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Cvetkovich, Ann 2012. *Depression: A public feeling*. Durham: Duke University Press.
- Young, A. 1995. *The Harmony of Illusion: Inventing post traumatic stress disorder*. Chapter 3: The DSM-III Revolution, pp 89-117, Chapter 5: The technology of Diagnosis, pp. 146-175, 296,
- Fassin Didier and Richard Rechtman, 2009. *The Empire of Trauma: An Inquiry into the Conditions of Victimhood*. Chapter 4: An End to Suspicion. Pp. 77-97. Princeton: University of Princeton Press.
- Young, A. 1995. *The Harmony of Illusion: Inventing post traumatic stress disorder*. Chapter 6: Everyday life in a psychiatric unit, pp. 176-223, 296-297, Chapter 7: Talking about PTSD, pp. 224-263, Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. Library: JMS RC 552 P67 Y68 (1196079). (see especially pp. 198-206, 229-233, 237-243, 243-259, 259-263 for case analysis)

Kleinman, Arthur, Das Veena and Lock Margaret 1997. Introduction. In *Social Suffering*. Pp. ix-xxv. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Bresalu, Joshua, 2004. Cultures of Trauma: Anthropological views of post-traumatic stress disorder in international health, *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 28: 113-126.

James, Erica. 2004. The Political Economy of "Trauma" in Haiti in the Democratic Era of Insecurity. *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 28: 127-149. .

Scheper Hughes, Nancy, 1998. Undoing – Social suffering and the Politics of Remorse in the New South Africa. *Social Justice* 25(4): 126-139.

Friedman-Peleg and Goodman, Yehuda C. 2010. "From Post-trauma Intervention to Immunization of the Social Body: Pragmatics and Politics of a Resilience Program in Israel's Periphery." *Culture Medicine and Psychiatry* 34(3):421-42.

Yankellevich, Ariel and Goodman, Yehuda C. 2016: "'You can't choose these emotions... they simply jump up': Ambiguities in Resilience-Building Interventions in Israel." *Culture Medicine and Psychiatry* 41(1): 56-74.

Kidron, A. Carol 2012. "Alterity and the Particular Limits of Universalism Comparing Jewish-Israeli Holocaust and Canadian-Cambodian Genocide Legacies," *Current Anthropology* 53 (6): 723-753.

Giordano, Cristiana. 2008. Practices of translation and the making of migrant subjectivities in contemporary Italy. *American Ethnologist*, 35(4): 588-606.

Kirmayer J. Laurence, 1996. Landscapes of memory; Trauma, narrative and Dissociation, In *Tense Past*. Antze Paul and Lambek Michael Ed. New York: Routledge.

Goodman, Yehuda C. and Mizrahi Nissim. 2008. "'The Holocaust Does Not Belong to European Jews Alone': The Differential Use of Memory Techniques in Israeli High Schools." *American Ethnologist* 35(1): 95-114.

Ozyurek, Esra 2018. Rethinking Empathy: Emotion Triggered by the Holocaust among the Muslim-minority in Germany. *Anthropological Theory* 18(4): 456-477.

Additional Reading Material:

Lakoff Andrew 2004 *The Lacan Ward: Pharmacology and Subjectivity in Buenos Aires*, In *Illness and Irony: On the Ambiguity of Suffering in Culture*. Michael Lambeka and Paul Antze, eds., pp. 82-101. New York: Berghahn. [Also: 2003 *Social Analysis*, 47(2)]

Ereserves

Pandolfo, Stefania. 2008 *The Knot of the Soul: Postcolonial Modernity, Madness, and the Imagination*. In *Postcolonial Disorders*. Byron Good and Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good, eds. Pp. 329-358. Berkeley: University of California Press. Ebook

Kleinman, Arthur and Good Byron, 1985. *Culture and Depression*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Ebook

Kirmayer J. Laurence, 1996. Landscapes of memory; Trauma, narrative and Dissociation, In *Tense Past*. Antze Paul and Lambek Michael Ed. New York:

Scheper Hughes, Nancy, 1998. *Undoing – Social suffering and the Politics of Remorse in the New South Africa*. *Social Justice* 25(4): 126-139.
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/29767103?seq&eq;1>

BenEzer, Gadi 2007. *Trauma, Culture and Myth: Narratives of the Ethiopian Jewish Exodus*. In *Understanding Trauma*. Eds. Kirmayer Laurence, J. Lemelson Robert and Barad Mark. Pp. 382-402. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/understanding-trauma/312A911606D18F7376C6B8BDDBA3447A3>

Dwer, Leslie and Degung Santikarm 2007. *Violence, Memory and Biomedical Discourse in Bali*. In *Understanding Trauma*. Eds. Kirmayer Laurence, J. Lemelson Robert and Barad Mark. Pp. 402-432. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.Ebook

James, Erica, Caple, 2008. *Haunting Ghosts: Madness, Gender and Ensekirite in Haiti in the Democratic Era*. In *Postcolonial Disorders*. Eds. Good Mary-Jo Delvecchio, Hyde, Sandra Teresa, Pinto Sara and Good Byron J. Pp. 132-156. Berkeley: University of California Press. Ebook

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 65 %
Active Participation / Team Assignment 5 %
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 15 %
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture 10 %
Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 5 %

Additional information:

The points given for the final assignment will be determined in accordance with submitting other assignments like reading reports, as explained in the syllabus