

## Chinese Medicine

**The Beijing Center**

**Spring 2011**

### **Course Description**

“Traditional Chinese Medicine” has become an essential, if contested, part of the social and political identity of modern China. The official government policy is to support what it calls the “scientific development” of medical thinking and practices associated with the medical traditions indigenous to China, including acupuncture, herbal medicine, qi gong, and orthopedic manipulations. In this class, we will examine the concepts behind varying traditions of Chinese medicine and how this set of ideas and practices has been used to meet the ideological, political, as well as medical, needs of various groups in China, the United States, and Europe. Students will gain a practical understanding of how practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine are trained and how consumers access treatments. Observing clinical encounters and demonstrations of treatment modalities will be a part of our experience, as students learn about the fundamental ideas and practices that constitute traditional medicine in China today.

### **Instructor:**

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### **Course Outcomes**

This course is designed to give students a general understanding of the fundamental ideas and practices that constitute traditional medicine in China today. Students should leave this course with an understanding of how philosophical, political, and social frameworks effect the legitimation and transmission of medical knowledge. It is hoped that students will be able to use this as a case example when considering other instances in which “modern” versus “traditional” knowledge is at stake in development policies and discourses.

### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is required at all class meetings and field trips. Students are permitted one excused absence, and will be docked one full grade from the class participation portion of their grade for each additional absence.

### **Academic Honesty Statement**

Please see the following link, and read the text carefully:

[http://www.luc.edu/cas/pdfs/CAS\\_Academic\\_Integrity\\_Statement\\_December\\_07.pdf](http://www.luc.edu/cas/pdfs/CAS_Academic_Integrity_Statement_December_07.pdf)

### **Readings**

**Required Texts: (Students should purchase prior to coming to China)**

**The Web That Has No Weaver : Understanding Chinese Medicine**  
by Ted Kaptchuck, MaGraw-Hill (2000)

**Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China**

by Volker Scheid, Duke University Press (January 2002)

A reader also will be distributed at the beginning of the semester. The reader will not include the chapters assigned from the books that students are required to purchase. Readers will also be available on reserve in the library of The Beijing Center.

**Assessment**

Class Participation and Attendance 20%

Students are expected to read all assignments and participate in class discussions. A short written assignment is due at the end of every class. Students should include one paragraph summarizing the main argument for each reading, as well as a paragraph expressing the student's own critical analysis.

Class Presentation 10%

Students will be required to develop a topic that supplements and "unpacks" certain key concepts in our studies of Chinese medicine.

Midterm Exam 30%

An exam consisting of both multiple choice and essays questions will be given in class.

Final Exam 40%

An exam consisting of both multiple choice and essays questions will be given in class.

**Schedule**

**Class 1 Jan. 19** Introduction

**Class 2 Jan. 26**

The Embodied Mind

Thompson, Evan. *Mind in Life: Biology, Phenomenology and the Sciences of Mind*. (2007): 3-15, 222-230, 235-237, 243-266.

Lakoff, George and Johnson, Mark. *Philosophy in the Flesh: The Embodied Mind and Its Challenge to Western Thought*, ch.25, "Philosophy in the Flesh" (1999) : 551-568

\*Video clip on fMRI research and the embodied mind

**Class 3 Feb. 16**

Ways of Knowing in Ancient China and Greece:

Kuriyama, Shigehisa. *The Expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Thought*. Pp.111-192

**Class 4 Feb.23**

Medicine and Cosmology

Lloyd, Geoffrey, and Sivin, Nathan. *The Way and the Word*, (2002) :203-226

John S. Major, *Heaven and Earth in Early Han Thought*. Ch.2 "A General Introduction to Early Han Cosmology," (1993) : 23-32.

Roger T. Ames and David L. Hall. *A Philosophical translation: Dao De Jing, Making this life Significant*. "Philosophical Introduction: Correlative Cosmology--An Interpretive Context," (2003) :11-53

### **Class 5 March 2**

#### Qi as Process and Substance in the Organism

Zhang, yuhuan, and Rose, Ken. *A Brief History of Qi*. ch. 4, "Qi in Medicine" (2001) : 83-115.

Chen, Nancy N.. *Breathing Spaces*. Introduction, (2003): 2-34

\*Guest Speaker/Instructor, Qi Gong/Martial Arts. Class participation in simple exercises. (One hour)

### **Class 6 March 9**

#### Beyond Structure and Function: Correspondence Medicine

Kaptchuk, Ted. *The Web That Has No Weaver*, Ch. 3, "The Organs of the Body" (2000): 75-104.

### **Class 7 March 16**

#### Diagnosis: Reading and Interpreting the Body

Ted Kaptchuk, *The Web That Has No Weaver*, chs. 6-8, "The Four Examinations," "The Eight Principal Patterns," and "The Patterns of the Human Landscape," (2000) : 171-276.

\*Discussion of Diagnosis and Case Studies

\*Exercise: pulse and channel diagnosis

### **Class 8 March 23**

#### Modalities of Chinese Medicine: Food and Plants

Wang, Tao. "Chinese Herbal Medicine," 84-103. in *Contemporary Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture*, ed. Cassidy, Claire Monod.

Volker Scheid, *Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China*, Ch. 5, "Shaping Chinese Medicine," 134-158.

### **Class 9, March 30**

#### Modalities of Chinese Medicine: Channel/Vessel Therapies

Ted Kaptchuk, *The Web That Has No Weaver*, Ch. 4 "The Meridians: the warp and woof" (2000) : 105-131

Hammerschlag, Richard. "The Physiology of Acupuncture," 203-219. in *Contemporary Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture*, ed. Cassidy, Claire Monod.

Lund, Irene. "Minimal acupuncture is not a valid placebo control in randomized controlled trials of acupuncture: a physiologist's perspective" *Chinese Medicine* 2009: 4:1

### **Class 10, April 13**

#### The Historical Construction of Chinese Medicine

Crozier, Ralph. *Traditional Medicine in Modern China: Science, Nationalism and the Tensions of Social Change* (1968). "Medicine and National Strength in a Social-Darwinist Context" 59-69, and "National Essence and National Medicine" 81-104.

Scheid, Volker. *Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China*, Ch. 3, "Hegemonic pluralism: Chinese Medicine in a Socialist State" (2001) 65-106.

### **Class 11, April 20**

#### Science and Art: Learning and Practicing Chinese Medicine

Scheid, Volker. *Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China*, Ch. 3, "Students, Disciples and the Art of Social Networking: Becoming a Physician of Chinese Medicine" (2001) 164-199

Kenner, Dan. "Putting it all Together: Practicing Oriental Medicine," 125-135. in *Contemporary Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture*, ed. Cassidy, Claire Monod.

### **Class 12 April 27**

#### "Modern" Clinical Research and "Traditional" Medical Practice

Craen, A J de, et al  
"Placebos and placebo effects in medicine: historical overview"  
*J R Soc Med.* 1999 October; 92(10): 511–515.

Hankinson, Robert James, "The Growth of Medical Empiricism," in Bates, Donald ed., *Knowledge and the Scholarly Medical Traditions.* (1995):60-83

Volker Scheid, *Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China*, Ch. 9, "The Future of Chinese Medicine," 263-273.

### **Class 13 , May 4**

#### How Patients East and West May Determine the Future of Chinese Medicine

Volker Scheid, *Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China*, ch. 4, "Dilemmas and Tactical Agency: Patients and the Transformation of Chinese Medicine," 107-133.

Anne Harrington, *The Cure Within: A History of Mind-Body Medicine*, "From Mao to Moyers: Qi, China, and the Invention of an Ancient Tradition," (2007) 222-242

*Class Debate about the Future of Chinese Medicine*

### **Class 14 , May 11 Final Due**

