

How many bodies do YOU have?

Health, Culture & Society

WOW

Fall 2009

Register for
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PROFESSOR
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Why do people get sick? How do healers “heal?” How does the environment influence health? What can we learn from the “Borg?” Anthropology entails the study of human biological and cultural similarities and differences through time and space from a holistic and comparative perspective. Sociology, in turn, is interested in human behavior and the relationships expressed in social institutions. Our focus in this course will be the **socio-cultural study of political, economic, biological, environmental, and behavioral factors that contribute to health and disease** in a variety of contexts. We will explore the commercialization of medicine and the political economy of disparities in the provision of care and the conditions for health and well-being in different populations, nationally and globally. Our investigation will rely on a **range of case studies** in community-based health research, health practices and services related to under-represented or served populations, environmental health issues, the role of gender constructs, as well as racial, ethnic, and cultural factors in the identification and resolution of health-related problems.