ANTHROPOLOGY 19, SECTION 2 – REVISED SYLLABUS 4-28-2013

COMBINING ANTHROPOLOGY AND MEDICINE:
PAUL FARMER AND (SOME OF) HIS MENTORS

Professor: Linda Garro

Time: Seminar meets from 1:00-2:50 pm on the following Mondays - April 1, 15, 29, May 13, and 20

Place: 310 Haines Hall.

Office: 316A Haines Hall

Office Hours: On Mondays when the class meets – 11:00 – 11:50 am; on Mondays when class does not meet – 2:00 – 2:50 pm; and by appointment.

Email: Lgarro@anthro.ucla.edu

Phone: 310-206-6249

Seminar Description:

For over thirty years, Paul Farmer, trained as both an anthropologist and a physician, has worked determinedly to realize his vision of improved health and health care for the world’s poor. Staying close to the intersection of anthropology and biomedicine, this seminar examines Farmer’s position vis-à-vis health, equity and political economy and his efforts to redress global inequities in health. We will examine some key influences on his development as a scholar and pioneer of novel, community-based treatment strategies geared toward the delivery of high-quality health care in resource-poor settings. Attention is given to Farmer’s understanding of diseases as biocultural problems that require not just biomedical interventions but also consideration of the broader sociocultural context. We also explore Farmer’s critiques of approaches, both within and outside anthropology, that conflate cultural difference with structural violence.

Grading:

Grading is obligatorily P/NP. There are no required written assignments for the seminar. To earn a passing grade students must attend seminar meetings and come fully prepared to engage in an informed discussion of the class readings. Attendance at all five class meetings, and your involvement in course discussions, is required to earn a passing grade. In response to the question “How many class meetings can I miss and still earn a passing grade in a Fiat Lux seminar?, the following information appears on the Fiat Lux website (http://www.uei.ucla.edu/fiatluxfaq.htm):
Since one of the missions of the Fiat Lux Freshman Seminar Program is to encourage students to engage in dialogue with their instructor and fellow students, attendance at each meeting is required. For a seminar scheduled to meet every other week or on a specific day out of the normal schedule pattern, a student who misses one class meeting cannot earn a passing grade.

**Required Reading:**


Other assigned reading will be posted on the class website.

**Tentative Reading Schedule (except for week 2):**

**Week 2 – April 15**

Mountains beyond Mountains, through page 84


**Week 3 - April 29**

Mountains beyond Mountains, pp. 85-121


**Week 4 - May 13**

Mountains beyond Mountains, through p. 237


**Week 5 - May 20**

Mountains beyond Mountains, remainder of book, including March 2009 epilogue (posted on class website if you have an earlier version of the book).

