

Summer Term 2019

Religious Studies 102: Exploring Religion in Sickness and Health



A Hmong Shaman attends to a patient in a California Hospital (Photo: Jim Wilson/NY Times)

Dr. Corrie Norman

HDD Term, 4 weeks: July 15-August 11

M-Th 9:30AM–12:00PM

3 credits. Z credit: SocSci or HUM

Gateway course for Religious Studies major and the Religious Studies and Health-Humanities certificates. Counts toward the Global Health Certificate. Honors Option (summer only). Meeting the writing intensive requirement for some medical school applications possible (summer only).

How do people understand and live in sickness and health? How are physical and spiritual well-being connected? How do medicine and meaning-making intersect? How does looking at religion in sickness and health provide insight into its roles in different cultures and contexts? Into how patients and caregivers make health decisions? From Southeast Asia to Africa to North America, we will approach these questions using perspectives from a variety of disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, medicine, nursing and other health-related disciplines. Along the way, we'll be coming back to Wisconsin to examine religion in sickness and health right here.

Focus Skills: interdisciplinary analysis, cultural and religious literacy, conversing across viewpoints.

Summer offers a chance to take this popular course in a smaller, discussion-oriented format, especially for students who missed it in their first year. (There will be limited space for non-first-year students in RS 102 in Fall 2019.)