

ASB 462: Medical Anthropology

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Module 5 Assignment: Mental Illness and Cultural Competencies (60 points)

Download, fill in, and turn in this form. Read through the instructions to the end before you get started. Be sure to **use complete sentences where indicated**, and maintain this document's 1-inch margins, single-spacing, and 11-12pt font.

Name:

(1) Read Kleinman and Benson (2006) Anthropology in the Clinic: The Problem of Cultural Competency and How to Fix It. <i>PloS Medicine</i> 3(10):e294.	
(2) Select one of the three cases below in the cultural competency training module Saving Face: Recognizing and Managing the Stigma of Mental Illness in Asian Americans. Watch the video clip and read the associated case information in the facilitator guide . (a) Case #1: Indian American Case (starts at 3:40 in the video, p. 10-13 in the guide) (b) Case #2: Vietnamese American Case (starts at 25:37 in the video, p. 15-19 in the guide) (c) Case #3: Filipino-American Case (starts at 49:44 in the video, p. 20-24 in the guide)	
(3) List your chosen case:	Your case: Case #1: Indian American Case
(4) After watching the video clip for your case and reading the associated information in the training module guide (see above for video clip and reading information locations), address the following questions using Kleinman and Benson's (2006:1674) explanatory models' approach. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please <u>review</u> the steps in Kleinman and Benson's (2006) approach as your work. • Write 3-6 complete sentences for each of the 6 Steps below. • Address all parts of each prompt. 	
Step 1: Ethnic identity. (10 points) Does the clinician in the training module case ask the patient <i>about their ethnic identity</i> ? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In your evaluation, please reference Kleinman and Benson's (2006) specific recommendations as you address the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Describe whether the clinician's approach follows Kleinman and Benson's (2006) recommendations. (2) Describe how the clinician's approach does or does not follow those recommendations. (3) Make your recommendation for how the clinician could improve their approach by implementing (or better implementing) 	(1) The clinician, Dr. Prophet Conte, does not explicitly ask Bindu about her ethnic identity during the session. (2) Kleinman and Benson (2006) recommend that clinicians inquire about the patient's ethnic identity to understand cultural influences on health perceptions and behaviors. Dr. Conte's approach does not align with this recommendation. (3) Dr. Conte should explicitly ask Bindu about her ethnic identity to

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<p>Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) advice in a manner <u>specific</u> to the case.</p>	<p>better understand how her cultural background influences her perceptions and management of bipolar disorder. This would provide a more holistic view of her health and improve culturally sensitive care.</p>
<p>Step 2. What is at stake? (10 points) Does the clinician in the training module case ask the patient <i>what is at stake in their life as they face their illness</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In your evaluation, please reference Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) specific recommendations as you address the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Describe whether the clinician’s approach follows Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) recommendations. (2) Describe how the clinician’s approach does or does not follow those recommendations. (3) Make your recommendation for how the clinician could improve their approach by implementing (or better implementing Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) advice in a manner <u>specific</u> to the case. 	<p>(1) Dr. Conte explores what is at stake for Bindu, particularly her job and familial expectations.</p> <p>(2) According to Kleinman and Benson (2006), understanding what is at stake for the patient helps clinicians appreciate the broader implications of the illness on the patient’s life. Dr. Conte’s approach follows this recommendation as he delves into Bindu’s concerns about job security and familial obligations.</p> <p>(3) To further improve, Dr. Conte could ask more detailed questions about how Bindu’s illness impacts her aspirations, relationships, and day-to-day life, providing deeper insights into her stressors and priorities.</p>
<p>Step 3. The illness narrative. (10 points) Does the clinician in the training module case ask the patient questions <i>to understand how the patient understands and explains their illness</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In your evaluation, please reference Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) specific recommendations as you address the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Describe whether the clinician’s approach follows Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) recommendations. (2) Describe how the clinician’s approach does explicitly or does not follow those recommendations. 	<p>(1) Dr. Conte does ask Bindu about her experiences and symptoms related to her bipolar disorder, allowing her to narrate her illness.</p> <p>(2) Kleinman and Benson (2006) emphasize the importance of understanding the patient’s illness narrative. Dr. Conte’s approach aligns with this recommendation, encouraging Bindu to describe her symptoms and experiences.</p>

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<p>(3) Make your recommendation for how the clinician could improve their approach by implementing (or better implementing Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) advice in a manner <u>specific</u> to the case.</p>	<p>(3) Dr. Conte should continue encouraging Bindu to share her narrative, asking specific questions about how she perceives and manages her illness, which can reveal valuable insights for tailored treatment strategies.</p>
<p>Step 4. Psychosocial stress. (10 points) Does the clinician in the training module case ask the patient about <i>the ongoing stresses and social supports that characterize their life</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In your evaluation, please reference Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) specific recommendations as you address the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Describe whether the clinician’s approach follows Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) recommendations. (2) Describe how the clinician’s approach does explicitly or does not follow those recommendations. (3) Make your recommendation for how the clinician could improve their approach by implementing (or better implementing Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) advice in a manner <u>specific</u> to the case. 	<p>(1) Dr. Conte inquires about Bindu’s psychosocial stress, particularly her work and family expectations.</p> <p>(2) Kleinman and Benson (2006) recommend addressing the patient’s psychosocial context, including stressors and support systems. Dr. Conte’s approach follows these recommendations, focusing on Bindu’s work stress and family dynamics.</p> <p>(3) To provide a more comprehensive support plan, Dr. Conte could further explore other sources of stress and support in Bindu’s life, such as friendships, social activities, and coping mechanisms.</p>
<p>Step 5. Influence of culture on clinical relationships. (5 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does information about the case <u>in the training guide</u> ask the medical trainee to reflect on their bias as clinicians in the culture of biomedicine? • Describe your assessment and reasoning behind it about Kleinman and Benson’s (2006) advice. 	<p>The training guide does not explicitly prompt reflection on clinicians’ biases within the culture of biomedicine. Kleinman and Benson (2006) suggest that clinicians should reflect on their cultural biases and how they might affect their clinical relationships. The absence of this reflection in the training guide indicates a gap in addressing this aspect. The training program should include prompts for clinicians to reflect on their cultural biases and how they may impact their interactions with patients from diverse backgrounds.</p>

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<p>Step 6. The problems of a cultural competency approach. (5 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do you think the training case appears to be a practical approach, or would it be construed as intrusive by the patient? Explain why you think so.• Do you feel that the degree of emphasis on the patient’s culture in this case is warranted?	<p>The training case appears practical but could be perceived as intrusive by the patient if not handled sensitively. Emphasizing cultural aspects can sometimes overshadow other essential factors in patient care. Given her distress around cultural stigma, the degree of emphasis on Bindu’s culture is warranted but must be balanced with sensitivity. The training program should teach clinicians to balance cultural sensitivity with practical clinical care, ensuring that cultural factors do not overshadow the individual’s unique context and needs.</p>
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Formatting: (5 points) Maintain the document’s formatting: single-spacing and 11pt font throughout the assignment.

Spelling/Grammar: (5 points) 0-1 errors = 5 points, 2-3 errors = 4 points, 4-5 errors = 3 points, 6-7 errors = 2 points, 8-9 errors = 1 point, 10+ errors = 0