CONTENTS

Preface v

chapter

Introducing Medical Anthropology 1

The Social Fabric of Health and the Core of Medical Anthropology 2

Three Classical (and Continuing) Projects in Medical Anthropology 6

"The Case of the Cannibals' Curse" 7

"Birthing in One, Two, Four, Ten, All Societies" 8

Understanding Asian Medicines 10

The Research Basis of Medical Anthropology 12

Vignette: A Week in the Life of a Fieldwork Project: The Quest for Therapy in Lower Congo 13

it familia Foundation where the State of Familia of Tare and the Ecology of Tare in the Eco

chapter

The Origins and Theories of Medical Anthropology 21

The Rise of Medical Anthropology 22

Medical Anthropology: A Brief History of Theory 25

The Sociocultural Perspective, 1950s–1970s 26

The Biocultural Perspective, 1950s-Present 32

Applied "Development" and "Clinical" Anthropology 34

The Comparative Study of Health Systems and Medical Care, 1970s–1980s 35

Cultural Mediation in the Biocultural Perspective, 1970s–1980s 38

The Cultural Construction of Biomedicine and Nature, 1980s–Present 40

Critical Medical Anthropology, Embodiment and Phenomenology,

1980s-Present 42

Discerning Signs: Steps Toward a Unified Epistemology for Medical

Anthropology 45

Vignette: Communicating Vessels or the Oneness of Inside and Outside the Body 47

3 chapter

The Fabric of Health 51

"Catching Cold" and "Being Cool" 52

The Classical Medical Traditions 54

Europe and Asia 54

Vignette: Are "Postpartum Roasting" and "Avoiding Bisa Fish" in Malayasian Medical Practice Healthful for the Birthing Mother? 57

The Americas 60

Sub-Saharan Africa 62

Vignette: Discovering Obusinge in the Health Zone of Boga, Northeast Congo 65

Health in Biomedicine: A Philosophical Puzzle 67

Primary Health Care and Reproductive Health 72

Vignette: Studying the Health Enigma of Favorable Birth Outcomes in Rio Arriba, New

Mexico, in the Light of Unfavorable Indicators 75

The Ecology of Health and the Social Reproduction of Health 77

chapter

Population and Disease: The Changing Indicators of Health 83

The Modern Rise of Population 84

Disease Profiles in Historical and Evolutionary Perspective 87

Hunting and Gathering 88

The Transition to Food Cultivation: Increases of Diseases and Fertility 89

Empires, Cities, Long-Distance Trade, and the Appearance of the Big The Research Basis of Medical Additionality of Presearch Basis of Medical Additionality Epidemics 90

The Industrial Revolution 95

Vignette: A Week in the interstrational ieldwork if The "Demographic Transition" and the "Health Transition" 98

Social Suffering, Wars, Poverty, and Disease in the Modern World 103

Vignette: Signs of Fertility Decline in the Cameroon Grassfields, and the Impact of Maternal Education upon the Health of Infants and Children under Five 104

On Determinism, Prediction, and the Openness of History 107

Vignette: The Meaning of Cholera in the Aftermath of Civil War and Genocide 108

Vignette: Births on the Baltic, or Overcoming Collapsed Fertility and Rising Mortality

Applied "Development" and "Clinical" Anthropology

Rates of the Post-Soviet Era 111

chapter

5

The Lifecourse: Birthing, Living, and Dying 115

The Lifecourse Perspective 116

Lifecourse as Subjective Experience and Objective Reality 118

Points of Recognition Along the Lifecourse 119

Vignette: From the Third Person to the First 120

Vignette: The Lifecourse of Cornelius and Helena Voth of Central Kansas 125 Vignette: Communicating Vessels or the Openess of Ins

The state of the s

Time, Identity, and the Ritualization of Passage 127 Vignette: Representations of Time and Being 130 Alternative Gendered Lifecourses 132

chapter 6

Personhood, Liminality, and Identity 137

Personhood and the Social Body 138
Conception and Personhood 140
Ethical Challenges Surrounding Personhood 141
Personhood in the Sick Role 143
Trauma, Chronicity, and New Identity 145

chapter

The Transforming Signs of Sickness and Healing 149

Signification in Sickness 151

The "Biography of Medicines," the "Placebo Effect," and "Voodoo Death" 154

The Biography of Medicines 154

The Placebo Effect 157

Voodoo Death 158

Vignette: The Placebo Effect in Ulcer Medication and Coronary Bypass Surgery 159

Vignette: South Asian (Indian) Medical Figuralism

Terms and bone by Health wilession

Bibliography 267

Vignette: Driving a Wedge of Anger into Mister MaKongo 161

Theories of Healing in Anthropology 162

Narratives of Sickness and Healing 167

Vignette: "Doing ngoma," Call and Response Song-Dance 172

The "Art of Healing" and the Construction of Clinical Reality 173

The Transformations of the Signs of Sickness and Healing 176

chapter

8

Medical Knowledge 187

Ways of Knowing, Types of Knowledge 188

The Shape of Medical Knowledge 192

Identifying Cause and Cure 192

Scale, Scope, and Focus 193

Situation of the Person 194

The Power of Classification in Knowledge Creation 195

Vignette: Blending Popular and Academic Medical Knowledge in Ouidah

Television 196

Vignette: The History and Power of Medical Classification, Seen in Claude Hamonet's Classification of 'Handicaps' 202

The Construction, Control, and Transference of Medical Knowledge 206

Vignette: Transmitting Medical Knowledge at Harvard Medical School 207

chapter

Power and Organization in Medicine 211

Sources of Coherence in Medical Traditions 213

Vignette: South Asian (Indian) Medical Pluralism 216

Resource Control and Decision Making 217

Vignette: Therapy Management in Kongo Society 219

Forms of Control and Legitimacy in Medicine 220

The Incorporation of Medicine 223

Professionalization and the State 228

Medicine, the State, and the Market 230

Medical Pluralism, or the Limits of Coherence 233

Vignette: Hmong Medical Culture in Kansas City 237

chapter 10

Shaping the Fabric of Health 243

Understanding New (and Not So New) Diseases 245

Vignette: The Epidemic of Non-Insulin-Dependent Diabetes among the Southern

Cheyenne, and Its Control: An Example of Action Anthropology 248

Planning Health Care Delivery 249

Applying Anthropology Clinically 251

Vignette: The Oregon Health Plan 252

Vignette: Preserving Public Health in the Ebola Zone 255

Lessening Violence in Society without Medicalizing It 259

Writing Medical Ethnography 263

Bibliography 267

Glossary 287

Index 297