



# Intergenerations, temporalities and medical anthropology

7th Medical Anthropology Young Scholars (MAYS) Annual Meeting

23-24 June 2016

Institute of Social Sciences (ICS)  
University of Lisbon

Emerging from the field of medical anthropology, the MAYS 2016 conference will explore the temporal and inter-generational dynamics of health, illness, and medicine.

Illnesses, health diagnostics, aging, and politics of prevention are life events that require us to reinterpret our past and to negotiate with medical professionals, public health institutions, and healthcare systems. As we negotiate such events, we learn how to intervene in the present as well as to plan or “design” our hypothetical future. Health conditions and healing processes force us to reflect on our life course in profoundly new ways. Life course temporalities allow us to enter into new systems of commitments and purposes regarding health and well-being.

While specific generational temporalities open new relations with the body and with social and medical environments, intergenerational exchanges reveal divergent expectations and perceptions of life. Understanding temporalities as an inherent and intimate part of all lived experience calls into question how health plays a role in the ways we practice and understand the temporal flow of past, present, and future, and how time influences the relationship human beings develop with health.

The MAYS 2016 conference invites anthropologists to focus on the different ways that humans understand and undergo times of illness, as well as the plurality of temporalities they experience in health related contexts. The discipline of medical anthropology has long been accustomed to confronting health and illness experiences and has much to offer in this area.

---

We call for papers that contribute to the conceptualization of time in medical anthropology.

Here are some suggestions, although further ideas will be welcomed and discussed:

- Politics of ageing: time as ageing, getting old as illness, plastic surgery as a remedy to stop time
- Materializations of time in health practices, cure, and care
- Biomedical constitutions of time, i.e. the biological clock, childbirth due-date, recovering time
- Biopolitics and medicalization of childhood and youth
- Ethnographies of health-related events: reconfiguration of time (past, present and future)
- Time as a resource/worrying, chronic conditions
- Full-time caregivers, palliative care setting, late-life care
- Prevention: biomedical policies, prenatal diagnosis, risk factors and the future of healthy generations

Methodological themes

- Temporal texture of ethnographic fieldwork.
- In the field: between waiting and unexpected moments
- Construction of time in Ethnography

## Format of the meeting

The conference will have a peer-review structure. We believe this structure is of great value since everyone will have the opportunity to receive feedback and engage with each other's work, making the encounters most productive. There will be parallel group sessions, each of which will include paper presentations of ten minutes followed by 20 minutes of discussion. Participants will be asked to submit their papers ahead of time so that everybody can read them beforehand. Furthermore, we will assign 'presenter tandems.' This means that someone else will present your paper and comment on it, and you will be asked to comment on your tandem partner's paper. This has proven to be a productive format that guarantees each presenter will receive well-founded feedback, and it typically initiates a constructive discussion. Further information about workshops and a keynote lecture will follow in due time.

## Registration fee

There will be a small registration fee of 10 Euros per person to be paid upon arrival. We will cover the coffee break and a buffet lunch (sandwiches). We are currently exploring other funding possibilities, but unfortunately we will not be able to refund speakers' travel costs and strongly encourage you to search for funding options in your own institutions.

## Timeline

We invite you to submit an abstract of max. 300 words. After the notification of acceptance you will be requested to submit your complete paper, which should be no longer than 5,000 words (excluding references).

---

Abstract submission at [mays.easa@gmail.com](mailto:mays.easa@gmail.com)

Abstract Deadline: 7 February 2016

Notification of acceptance: 6 March 2016

Deadline for paper submission: 1st June 2016

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Lisbon!

### MAYS Coordinators:

Maria Concetta (Mari) Lo Bosco - Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon

Natashe Lemos Dekker - Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research