Nancy Scheper-Hughes, PhD
Chancellor’s Professor of Medical Anthropology Emerita at the University of California, Berkeley

“Mental Illness and Human Rights in Global Perspective: a Four Decade Ethnographic/Psychoanalytic Retrospective”

Dr. Scheper-Hughes’s work concerns the violence of everyday life examined ethnographically and on the ground from a radical, phenomenological/ existential and critically engaged perspective. She is a founding director of Organs Watch. Her writings on violence, “peacetime crimes” and “small wars and invisible genocides” have been broadly applied to medicine, psychiatry, criminology, human rights, as well as to the practice of anthropology. Her award winning books include: Saints, Scholars and Schizophrenics: Mental Illness in Rural Ireland; Death without Weeping: the Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil (on the madness of hunger, maternal thinking and infant mortality in Brazil). Recent publications include: Violence on the Urban Margins (with J.Auyero and P. Bourgois, 2015); Commodifying Bodies (co-edited with Loic Wacquant, 2002) and Violence in War and Peace: an Anthology (co-edited with Philippe Bourgois), 2003, Basil. Her forthcoming books include: Naked Life: Ghosts of Montes de Oca: A Buried Subtext of the Dirty War in Argentina; and Kidney Hunter: The Organs Watch Files. She has worked in South Africa, Latin America, Europe, the US and beyond.

Afternoon Event: Dr. Scheper-Hughes will also discuss her current work in the Department of Anthropology’s Mind, Medicine and Culture (MMAC) seminar Monday afternoon, 3:00-5:00 pm in 352 Haines Hall, 370 Portola Plaza. All are welcome to attend. Her paper for the seminar will be posted in advance at: https://ucla.box.com/s/phuwchti3cbhq7aluotdsnje8jvjbq.