Stephen William Foster was an undergraduate at Reed College and completed a doctorate in anthropology at Princeton University. He did ethnography on Hopi factionalism and cultural politics in the Blue Ridge mountains of North Carolina. The latter research was published in his book, "The Past Is Another Country: Representation, Historical Consciousness and Resistance in the Blue Ridge" (University of California Press). He also studied identity politics and cosmopolitanism in Morocco, published as "Cosmopolitan Desire: Trans-cultural Dialogue and Anti-terrorism in Morocco" (AltaMira Press). He taught anthropology at Smith College and at the University of California, Berkeley. He also attended the Yale University School of Nursing where he obtained a master's degree in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing before becoming house supervisor at San Francisco General Hospital. He retired in 2010. He is currently clinical instructor in the School of Nursing at University of California, San Francisco and is writing a book on ethics, acute care and the health care crisis.