

HISTORY OF MEDICINE I: ANTIQUITY TO ENLIGHTENMENT

HHS 200A
FALL 2017

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This introductory course is a general survey of the history of Western medicine from antiquity to the early nineteenth century for students entering the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in the History of the Health Sciences. It explores key conceptual developments and practices of the past, situating healing systems within their cultural and social contexts. The course has a strong historiographical emphasis, comparing and contrasting approaches to episodes in the history of medicine. We will start by examining the emergence of medicine as a recognizable subject of discourse in antiquity, the ways in which this tradition was both preserved and changed during the medieval period, and then was transformed in the medical, scientific and political revolutions of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. An examination of changing concepts of the body, life, health and disease will be used to investigate the rise of scientific rationalism and biological science as a basis for modern medical practice.

AIMS

- Explore the history of medicine in the West from antiquity to the early 19th century, through a series of topics and themes that draw in the larger social and cultural context of each period under study.
- Investigate how medicine, health and illness are perceived, and how these perceptions reflect and shape culture and society.
- Encourage an understanding of how concepts of the body, disease, gender, normality, expertise, institutions, etc. have shaped medicine.
- Study the role of patient, healthcare provider, institution and state in medicine.
- Integrate the history of medicine into social, political and economic history.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Encourage students to express their ideas on themes and topics in the history of medicine.
- Develop students' skills in presenting arguments, in written and oral form, accurately, succinctly and lucidly, in accordance with appropriate scholarly conventions.
- Promote a critical understanding of primary source material and demonstrate an appreciation of historical interpretations and methodologies.
- Encourage students to bring primary evidence to bear on their interpretations of concepts/perspectives/debates within the appropriate secondary literature.
- Help students identify problems, formulate hypotheses, assess evidence and sustain arguments in the history of medicine using ideas and techniques learned in the course.
- Encourage students to evaluate critically key themes and issues in the history of medicine in the light of historical/historiographical ideas, contexts, and frameworks.
- Work as part of a team in seminar discussions.
- Independently organize their study and workload.

TEACHING METHODS

The format is that of a graduate student seminar. Each seminar will take the form of a student presentation and student led discussion centered on the readings. This syllabus gives reading recommendations for each week's seminar. The readings comprise a mixture of books, chapters from books, articles and extracts from primary texts. All students are expected to have read the required readings prior to the seminar.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment will take the form of seminar participation, classroom presentations and four pieces of written work.

Seminar participation: 20%

As this class will be conducted largely as a seminar, class participation is essential. All students are expected to have completed all required readings prior to the seminar. The seminar provides an opportunity for a joint exploration of events, themes and concepts so as to collectively enhance understanding of the subject and provide a forum for the expression of ideas. The class will benefit from the unique perspectives, ideas and informed opinions of *all* students. Successful seminars depend upon a collective willingness to prepare thoroughly and to participate actively in discussion. Part of the student's final grade will be based on participation.

Classroom presentation: 20%

Each student is required to lead one of the seminars. The student responsible for that seminar should be able to present the salient features of the major topics present in the assigned readings, supplement it with material they have gathered themselves (see annotated bibliography below) using both to identify key issues and themes so as to lead, guide and focus the discussion. This presentation should be no more than 20 minutes long. As part of this assignment the student should prepare an annotated bibliography (6 to 10 articles or books) of the supplementary material they are using and have this ready to distribute to fellow students at the seminar.

Written work:

a) Annotated bibliography: 10%

- see above.

b) Weekly topic paper: 50%

Each week on assigned weeks (starting week two) students will be asked to prepare a written narrative on a specific topic relating to the themes of that week's class. These written pieces will be handed in at the end of class. Each piece is to be 800-1000 words long, and constitute the equivalent of a "subsection" of a chapter.

September 28

1. Anatomy

* *This session will take place in the rare books room of the university library (Kalmanovitz library) on the Parnassus campus. The archivist, Polina Ilieva, will show us an incredible collection of books illustrating the history of anatomy, and tell you about the library resources.*

This will be followed by a presentation of online digital resources for research in the history of medicine.

Evolution of the Anatomical Gaze - An important epistemological shift in Western culture was the move from medieval scholasticism's acquisition of knowledge from canonical texts to the Renaissance philosophers' new emphasis on empirical observation. In what ways was the practice of "autopsy" emblematic of this?

Shoja, M.M. and Tubbs, R.S., "The History of Anatomy in Persia", *Journal of Anatomy* 210 (2007), 359-378.

French, Roger. "The Anatomical Tradition" in W. Bynum and R. Porter (eds.) *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine* (London: Routledge, 1993), pp.81-101.

Sawday, J. "Execution, Anatomy and Infamy: Inside the Renaissance Anatomy Theatre." *The Body Emblazoned: Dissection and the Human Body in Renaissance Culture*. London: Routledge, 1995. **54-84**.

Kemp, M., R. Wallace. *Spectacular Bodies: The Art and Science of the Human Body from Leonardo to Now*. Berkeley: University of California Press. 2000. **10-90**.

Julian Offray de La Mettrie. *Man a Machine*, 1748.

NOTABLE

T. Laqueur, *Making Sex: The body and gender from the Greeks to Freud*, 1990, Ch 5.

Galen. "The Hand." *Medicine and Western Civilization*. Ed. D. Rothman et al. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1996. 17-22.

September 28

2. Historical Epochs

Defining epochs, defining terms:

What is the Hippocratic corpus?

What was the Scientific Revolution?

What is Enlightenment?

Theory vs. empiricism in science and medicine (or, is medicine scientific?)

Temkin, O. "Greek Medicine as Science and Craft." *The Double Face of Janus*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1977. 137-153.

Nutton V. "Humoralism." In *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. W. F. Bynum and R. Porter. London and New York, 1993. Vol 1, 281-91.

Emilie Savage-Smith, "The Practice of Surgery in Islamic Lands: Myth and Reality", *Social History of Medicine* 13 (2000), 307-321.

October 5

3. Hospitals

Guenter Risse, *Mending Bodies, Saving Souls: A History of Hospitals* (Oxford University Press, 1999), "Pre-Christian Healing Places," pp. 15-56.

Allan, N. "Hospice and Hospital in the Near East: An Instance of Continuity and Change in Late Antiquity." *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 64 (1990): 446-62.

Florence Nightingale. *Notes on Hospitals. Medicine and Western Civilization*. Ed. D. Rothman et al. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1996. 360-364.

Ivan Waddington, 'The role of the hospital in the development of modern medicine', *Sociology*, 1973, 7: 211-25.

Ornella Moscucci, *The Science of Woman: Gynecology and Gender in England, 1800-1929* (Cambridge University Press, 1990), "The Rise of Women's Hospitals," pp. 75-101.

October 12

4. Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Session co-taught with Sara Robertson

Title: "Alternative to What?" Surveying CAM and Its Historiography

Readings:

Rosenberg, Charles E. *Our Present Complaint. American Medicine, Then and Now*. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007), chapter 7, "Alternative to What? Complementary to Whom?," p. 113-138.

Porter, Roy. "Before the Fringe: 'Quackery' and the Eighteenth-Century Medical Market," in Roger Cooter (ed). *Studies in the History of Alternative Medicine*. (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1988), p. 1-27.

Young, James Harvey. *The Toadstool Millionaires. A Social History of Patent Medicines in America before Federal Regulation*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1961), 282 p. Chapters 1 and 2.

Debus, Allen G. "Chemists, Physicians, and Changing Perspectives on the Scientific Revolution," *Isis*, 89, 1 (Mar., 1998), pp. 66-81.

Cooter, Roger (ed). *Studies in the History of Alternative Medicine*. (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1988), chapter 4, "Alternative Medicine, Alternative Cosmology," p. 63-78.

Numbers, Ronald L. "Do-It-Yourself the Sectarian Way," in Guenter B. Risse, Ronald L. Numbers, and Judith Walzer Leavitt (eds.) *Medicine without Doctors: Home Health Care in American History*. (New York: Science History Publications, 1977), p. 49-72.

Benjamin Frankling, Majault, Le Roy, Sallin, Jean-Sylvain Baiily, D'arcet, De Bory, Joseph-Ignace Guillotin & Antoine Lavoisier, "Report of the commissioners charged by the king with the examination of animal magnetism" *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis* 50:4 (2002), 332-363.

Derek Forrest, "Mesmer" *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis* 50:4 (2002), 295-308.

Jean-Roch Laurence, "1784" *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis* 50:4 (2002), 309-319.

Kevin M. McConkey and Campbell Perry, "Benjamin Franklin and Mesmerism, Revisited" *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis* 50:4 (2002), 320-331.

Introduction: Our discussion will begin with a survey of several types of therapies that are typically filed under CAM and how they have been addressed in the historiography. The readings written by Young, Debus, Cooter, Numbers, Rosenberg, and Porter will inform this part of the discussion. The second half of the discussion will then focus on an in-depth look at mesmerism. I would recommend reading Benjamin Franklin's "Report to the commissioner..." first; then reading the Laurence, Forrest, and McConkey pieces afterward, which analyze the report and its context. When you are reading all of the articles and chapters, keep the alternative-vs-allopathic tension in mind — how are "regular" therapies defined? Why are alternative therapies labeled "alternative"? Who is making an effort to draw a distinction? What kind of evidence would prove a therapy efficacious in the 18th century medical market?

October 19

5. Cardiology

Boisaubin, Eugene V. "Cardiology in Ancient Egypt," *Texas Heart Institute Journal* 15 (1988), 80-85.

Pagel, Walter. "Vesalius and the Pulmonary Transit of Venus Blood," *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 19 (1964), 327-34.

Wilson, L.G. "The Problem of the Discovery of Pulmonary Circulation," 17 (1962), 229-244.

Andrew Gregory, *Harvey's Heart: The Discovery of Blood Circulation* (London: Icon Books, 2001)

Lawrence, Christopher. "Moderns and Ancients: The 'New Cardiology' in Britain 1880-1930," *Medical History Supplement* 5 (1985), 1-33.

PRIMARY

William Harvey. "An anatomical study on the motion of the heart and the blood in animals." *Medicine and Western Civilization*. Ed. D. Rothman et al. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1996. 68-75.

R. Boyle, *Memoirs for the Natural History of Humane Blood* (1684). Preface
<http://www.collphyphil.org/HMDLSubweb/Pages/B/BoyleR/memhumbIPrefA8r.htm>

MOVIE

Watch *Restoration*

NOTABLE

Howell, Joel. "Coronary Heart Disease and Heart Attacks, 1912-2010," *Medical History* 55 (2011), 307-312.

Michaels, Leon. *The Eighteenth-Century Origins of Agina Pectoris: Predisposing Causes, Recognition and Aftermath* (Supplement 21 *Medical History*, 2001).

Snellen, H.A. *History of Cardiology: A Brief Outline of the 350 Years' Prelude to an Explosive Growth* (Rotterdam: Donker Academic Publications, 1984) (RC666.5 S63 1984 4th)

Bing, Richard, ed. *Cardiology: The Evolution of the Science and the Art* (Harwood Academic Publishers, 1992) (Bypass, CHD, transplant, CAD) (RC666.5 B56 4th)

Acierno, Louis. *The History of Cardiology* (London: Parthenon Publishing Group, 1994)

October 26

6. Lungs, Respiration and Environmental Health

Session co-taught with Dr. Paul Blanc, MD, who will talk about the history of respiratory disorders and environmental health.

Miasma - Environmentalism
Discovery of Oxygen
Eudiometry and Ventilation

Hippocrates. "Airs, Waters and Places". x
<http://classics.mit.edu/Hippocrates/airwatpl.html>

Mary Dobson, *Contours of Death in Disease in Early Modern England* (Cambridge University Press, 1997), "Marshlands, Mosquitos and Malaria", pp. 287-312

Blanc, Paul. "Historical Perspective of Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease," in Y-C T. Huang, et al, eds., *A Clinical Guide to Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease* (New York: Humana Press, 2012), 1-26.

Levere, Trevor, "Dr Thomas Beddoes: Chemistry, Medicine and the Perils of Democracy", *Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London* 63 (2009), 215-229.

Stewart, Larry, "His Majesty's Subjects: From Laboratory to Human Experiment in Pneumatic Chemistry", *Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London* 63 (2009), 231-245.

Jay, Mike, "The Atmosphere of Heaven: The 1799 Nitrous Oxide Researches Reconsidered", *Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London* 63 (2009), 297-309.

Thompson, John D. "The Great Stench, or The Fool's Argument," *Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine* 64 (1991), 529-541.

ONLINE

An account of how eudiometers work in a short museum video, is here:

<http://catalogue.museogalileo.it/multimedia/LandrianisEudiometer.html>

And here for Priestley's work on oxygen:

<http://catalogue.museogalileo.it/multimedia/Eudiometry.html>

RECENT

Flurin Condrau and Michael Worboys (eds), *Tuberculosis Then and Now: Perspectives on the History of an Infectious Disease*

November 2

7. Metabolism and Nutrition

Session co-taught with Dr. Wen Shen, MD, who will talk about the history of thyroid disorders.

Pelling, Margaret. *The Common Lot: Sickness, Medical Occupations and the Urban Poor in Early Modern England* (London and NY: Longman, 1998), chapter 2, "Food, Status, Knowledge: Attitudes to Diet in Early Modern England," pp. 38-62.

George Cheyne. "An Essay on Health and Long Life" (8th edn, London, G. Strahan, 1733), xi-xx; 'Contents'; 1-16.

Shapin, Steven. "Trusting George Cheyne: Scientific Expertise, Common Sense, and Moral Authority in Early Eighteenth-Century Dietetic Medicine," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 77 (2003), 263-297. X

Porter, Roy and G.S. Rousseau, *Gout: The Patrician Malady* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1998), chapter 5, "The Eighteenth-Century Medical Debates," pp. 48-70.

Morning, Beatrice. "Motherhood, Milk, and Money: Infant Mortality in Pre-Industrial England," *Social History of Medicine* 11 (1998), 177-196.

NOTABLE

Matthew Warner Osborn, "Diseased Imaginations: Constructing Delirium Tremens in Philadelphia, 1813-1832," *Social History of Medicine* 19 (2006), 191-208.

November 9

8. Nerves and Neurology

This session is co-taught with Dr. Akhil Mehra, MD, PhD, who will talk about the history of psychiatry.

How was madness explained in the early modern period?

Explain shifts in the relationship between madness and religion in the 17th and 18th centuries.

How far and in what ways did the treatment of the insane become more 'psychiatric' in the 18th century?

What impact did the Enlightenment have on the treatment of the insane?

Bennett Simon *Mind and Madness in Ancient Greece* (Cornell, 1978), chapter 4, "Mental Life in the Homeric Epics," pp. 53-77, and chapter 8, "Plato's Concept of Mind and Its Disorders," pp. 157-179.

(Also notable in the book is "The Hippocratic Corpus" and "Aristotle and Melancholy.")

Sidney Ochs, *A History of Nerve Functions: From Animal Spirits to Molecular Mechanism* (Cambridge University Press, 2004), Chapter 2, "Galen's Physiology of the Nervous System," pp. 24-35 and chapter 7, "Electricity as an Agent of Nerve Action," pp. 108-129. (QP363 O273 4th floor)

MADNESS

R. Porter, *Mind Forg'd Manacles: A History of Madness from the Restoration to the Regency* (Harvard University Press, 1987), chapter 2, "Cultures of Madness," pp. 33-109.

EPILEPSY

Hippocrates. "The Sacred Disease." *Medicine and Western Civilization*. Ed. D. Rothman et al. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1996. 139-144.

Temkin, Owsei. *The Falling Sickness: A History of Epilepsy from the Greeks to the Beginnings of Modern Neurology* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994, second edition)

NOTABLE

Michael Foucault *Madness and Civilisation : a history of insanity in the Age of Reason* (London, 1965)

Jack D. Pressman, 'Concepts of Mental Illness in the West', in Kenneth F. Kiple (ed.), *The Cambridge World History of Human Diseases* (Cambridge University Press, 1993), pp. 59-84.

MOVIE

Watch *The Madness of King George*

LATER PERIOD

See Adventures in Physiology for nerve impulses

November 16

9. Life Cycle

Leslie, Julia, "Some Traditional Indian Views on Menstruation and Female Sexuality," in R. Porter and M. Teich, eds. *Sexual Knowledge, Sexual Science*, 1994, 63-81.

Martensen, Robert. 'The transformation of Eve: Women's bodies, medicine and culture in early modern England', in R. Porter and M. Teich, eds., *Sexual Knowledge, Sexual Science*, 1994, 107-33.

Moscucci, Ornella, *The Science of Woman: Gynecology and Gender in England, 1800-1929* (Cambridge University Press, 1990), "Men-midwives and Medicine: The Origins of a Profession," pp. 42-74.

Coleman, William. *Biology in the Nineteenth Century: Problems of Form, Function and Transformation* (Cambridge University Press, 1977), "Form: Individual Development," pp. 35-56.

Newton, Hannah. " 'Very Sore Nights and Days': The Child's Experience of Illness in Early Modern England, c. 1580-1720," *Medical History* 55 (2011), 153-182.

SLIDE SHOW

Carol Clark and Orlo Clark, *The Remarkables: Endocrine Abnormalities in Art* (UC Medical Humanities, 2011).

November 23

10. Drugs

This session will be co-taught with Steve Beitler, who will talk about the history of pain killers.

Culpeper, Nicholas (1616-1654). *The English physitian: or an astrologo-physical discourse of the vulgar herbs of this nation* (London: Peter Cole, 1652).
<http://www.med.yale.edu/library/historical/culpeper/culpeper.htm>

Wallis, Patrick. "Exotic Drugs and English Medicine: England's Drug Trade, c. 1550-1800," *Social History of Medicine* (2011), advanced access.

Joan Lane, *A Social History of Medicine: Health, Healing and Disease in England, 1750-1950* (London: Routledge, 2001), chapter 5, "The Pharmaceutical Industry," pp. 169-188.

Miley, Ursula and Pickstone, John. "Medical Botany around 1850: American Medicine in Industrial Britain," in Roger Cooter, ed., *Studies in the History of Alternative Medicine* (New York: St. Martin's, 1988), pp. 140-154.

NOTABLE

Roy Porter and Dorothy Porter, "The Rise of the English Drugs Industry: The Role of Thomas Corbyn," *Medical History* 33 (1989), 277-295.