SOCIETY AND HEALTH CARE IN
AMERICAN HISTORY
History of Medicine 504
Spring, 2008

Instructor: Ronald L. Numbers (Office: 1432 MSC, 1300 University Ave.)

Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 Tuesdays & Thursdays

Class Times: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:00-12:15

Place: 1010 MSC, 1300 University Ave.

Credits: Three

Prerequisites: Junior standing and consent of instructor

Description: This course is designed to acquaint students with the history of health care in America. Although the focus will be on the past, efforts will be made to relate the past to the present.

Instruction: The course will consist of seminar discussions and short presentations by the instructor and students.

Requirements: All students are required to attend class, read (and perhaps summarize) the assigned materials, prepare a short research paper, give one oral report, and take a final written or oral examination. Undergraduates will write a research paper of 5-10 double-spaced, typed pages, based on primary sources; graduate-student papers may be twice as long.

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated primarily on the basis of their research papers and final examinations, with attendance, reading summaries, and participation in class playing a secondary role.

Textbooks: Available at the UW Bookstore and on reserve at the Helen C. White Library.


To access additional readings:

1. my.wisc.edu (can click directly on "My UW" from the UW homepage

2. click on "academics" tab at the top

3. go to "Library/Reserves by Department"

4. Find "Medical History and Bioethics" in the list; make sure the term selector box below is set for "spring 2007-2008"

5. Click on "show course list" - a list of all MHB courses comes up. The courses with electronic reserves for the current semester are indicated by a red box with a white +.

6. Click on that red box/white +
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Constructing Sickness and Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Medicine in the Old and New Worlds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Researching and Writing Medical History (Ebling Library)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Professional Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Domestic Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Alternative Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Antebellum Medical Practice (paper proposals due)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Scientific Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Medical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Medical Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Medical Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Religious Healers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Midwives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Women Physicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Native American Healers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Osteopaths and Chiropractors (outlines due)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>A Medical Monopoly?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hospitals and Dispensaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mental Institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Private Lifestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Mortality and Its Causes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>The Medical-Industrial Complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Status and Image of Physicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Medicalization and Demedicalization (papers due)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Student Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Student Reports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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ASSIGNMENTS

January 29: *Constructing Sickness and Health:*


February 4: *Medicine in the Old and New Worlds:*

Starr, pp. 30-47.


February 6: *Professional Medicine:*


February 11: *Domestic Medicine:*

Starr, pp. 47-59.


February 13: *Alternative Medicine:*

Starr, pp. 93-112.


February 18: *Antebellum Medical Practice:*

Starr, pp. 60-78.


February 20: *Scientific Medicine:*

Starr, pp. 198-232.


February 25: *Medical Education:*

Starr, pp. 112-127.


February 27: *Medical Research:*


March 3: *Medical Ethics:*


March 5: *Religious Healers:*


March 10: *Midwives and Women Physicians*:


March 12: *Native American Healers*:


March 24: *Osteopaths and Chiropractors*:


March 26: *NO CLASS*

March 31: *A Medical Monopoly*:


April 2: *Hospitals and Dispensaries*:


April 7: Mental Institutions:


April 9: Public Health:

Starr, pp. 180-197.


April 14: Private Lifestyle:


April 16: Mortality and Its Causes:


April 21: Health Insurance:

Starr, pp. 290-334.


April 23: The Medical-Industrial Complex:

Starr, pp. 379-449.
April 28: *The Status and Image of Physicians:*

Starr, pp. 79-92, 127-144.


April 30: *Medicalization and Demedicalization:*
