

Med. Hist/Hist. Sci./Pop. Health Sci. 553	Professor Richard Keller
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Tues., Thurs., 2:30-3:45	Office: MSC 1423, 263-7378
Fall 2004	Office Hours: Tues., Thurs., 11-12 aba

## International Health and Global Society

SARS in East Asia and Canada; AIDS and malaria in Africa, South Asia, and Latin America; malnutrition and deficiency diseases in the developing world; stress, heart disease, and eating disorders in the United States and Europe: wherever we turn, we are assaulted by these images. The Internet, television, and print journalism ensure that we are never unaware of the health crises that besiege our globalizing society, to the extent that we see these problems as a symptom of globalization itself.

Yet such concern is far from new. Historians and epidemiologists have long recognized that the "microbial unification of the world" dates at least to the Black Death of the fourteenth century. Throughout the nineteenth century, cholera devastated South Asia, Europe, and the United States; a century ago, bubonic plague and flu each killed millions globally. In this course, we will draw on a wide range of historical and anthropological materials and methods to examine the history of public health and medicine as international phenomena. Focusing on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, we will explore topics such as the connections between global pandemics of infectious disease and European colonial expansion; strategies for curtailing the spread of disease across borders; historical and contemporary anxieties about the health consequences of global migration; and the emergence of a global medical marketplace. Particular themes include the connection between health and wealth; the relationship between culture and medical ideas and practices; and the tensions of practicing medicine in multicultural settings.

### **Course Format and Evaluation Criteria:**

The course is divided into units that address particular sets of problems and themes concerning international health. Our meetings will follow a seminar format, based on discussions of the course readings. Your attendance and informed participation are therefore crucial both to the group and to your performance in the class, as they constitute 20 % of your final grade.

Written work includes a map assignment and three short reaction papers (2-3 pp. critical responses to selected readings), each of which constitutes 10 % of your grade. For the remaining 40 % of your grade, you are responsible for researching and writing one longer (~15 pp.) paper, in which you will explore the historical development of a contemporary problem or issue in international health. Topics must be approved in advance. The first draft of the paper must be turned in by Wednesday, November 24; the final draft is due on Tuesday, December 21.

## Readings:

Course readings will be found in a packet, available in the office of the Department of the History of Science, 7143 Social Science Bldg. Because of the seminar format of the course, it is imperative that you complete the readings before the class meeting for which they are scheduled.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, I urge any student with a disability to inform me as soon as possible, so that I may make any necessary accommodations to ensure full participation and facilitate educational accessibility. All such requests are confidential.

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with UW policies on plagiarism and to assume full responsibility for academic integrity in all coursework.

## Meeting schedule:

Thurs., Sept. 2—Course introduction

Tues., Sept. 7—Contact and Conflict: Medicine, Culture, and Common Sense

Arthur Kleinman, "What is Specific to Western Medicine?," in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by W.F. Bynum and Roy Porter (2 vols.; New York: Routledge, 1993), I, 15-23.

E.E. Evans-Pritchard, *Witchcraft, Oracles, and Magic among the Azande* (Oxford: Clarendon, 1937), 479-510.

Michael Wines, "Between Faith and Medicine, How Clear a Line?" *The New York Times*, 18 August 2004.

Thurs., Sept. 9—Medical Geography and European Expansion: Mapping Disease Landscapes

Philip Curtin, "The Promise and the Terror of a Tropical Environment," in *The Image of Africa: British Ideas and Action, 1780-1850* (Madison, 1964), 58-87.

James Lind, *Essay on Diseases Incidental to Europeans in Hot Climates* (London, 1771), 137-58.

MAP ASSIGNMENT DUE IN CLASS, THURSDAY, SEPT. 9.

Tues., Sept. 14— God and Medicine: Missionary Healing and Tropical Disease

David Livingstone, *Missionary Travels in South Africa* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1858), 1-34, 141-47.

Luise White, "'They Could Make Their Victims Dull': Genders and Genres, Fantasies and Cures in Colonial Southern Uganda," *American Historical Review* 100, no. 5 (1995): 1379-1402.

Thurs., Sept. 16— The Diseased Heart of Africa? Agents and Epidemiology

Patrick Manson, *Lectures on Tropical Diseases* (London: Constable, 1905), 1-27.

Ronald Ross, *Malarial Fever: Its Cause, Prevention, and Treatment* (New York: Longmans, Green, 1902), 1-21, 35-50.

Jean Comaroff, "'The Diseased Heart of Africa': Medicine, Colonialism, and the Black Body," in *Knowledge, Power, and Practice: The Anthropology of Medicine and Everyday Life*, ed. by Shirley Lindenbaum and Margaret Lock (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993), 305-29.

Tues., Sept. 21— Mediated Chaos: Representing Disease in a Global Society

Film—*Ebola: The Plague Fighters* (Nova, 1996).

Thurs., Sept. 23—The Political Economy of Sickness and Health: Development and Disease in the Twenty-First Century

Paul Farmer, *Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999), 37-58.

FIRST REACTION PAPER DUE IN CLASS, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.

## Infectious Disease and Global Connections: Case Studies

### Case 1—Smallpox: Disease and Power, Domination and Eradication

Tues., Sept. 28—Civilization and Conquest: Smallpox and Colonial Domination

Alfred Crosby, *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492* (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1972), 35-63.

David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth-Century India* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993), 116-58.

**Thurs., Sept. 30—Research Meeting with Micaela Sullivan-Fowler (Ebling Library)**

Tues., Oct. 5—The End of Infectious Diseases? The Ideology and Politics of Eradication

Global Commission for the Certification of Smallpox Eradication, *The Global Eradication of Smallpox* (Geneva: WHO, 1980), 1-65.

Paul Greenough, "Intimidation, Coercion and Resistance in the Final Stages of the South Asian Smallpox Eradication Campaign, 1973-1975," *Social Science & Medicine* 41, no. 5 (1995): 633-45.

Thurs., Oct. 7—Return of the Pox? Eradication and the Specter of Bioterror

Richard Preston, "The Demon in the Freezer," *The New Yorker*, 12 July 1999, 44-61.

**Case 2—Cholera and Plague: Colonial Epidemiology between Lab and Field**

Tues., Oct. 12—Cholera and Plague as Diseases of Empire

David Arnold, "Cholera and Colonialism in British India," *Past and Present* 113 (1986): 118-51.

Myron Echenberg, "Pestis Redux: The Initial Years of the Third Bubonic Plague Pandemic, 1894-1901," *Journal of World History* 13 (2002): 429-49.

RESEARCH PROPOSALS DUE IN MY MAILBOX, WEDNESDAY OCT. 13, 5 PM.

Thurs., Oct. 14—Ethnoepidemiology: Disease, Population, and Culture

James Christie, *Cholera Epidemics in East Africa* (London: MacMillan, 1876), 78-96.

W.J.R. Simpson, *A Treatise on Plague* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1905), 176-209.

Tues., Oct. 19—Plague on the Ground: Epidemic Control in India

Plague Research Commission, "Reports on the Plague Investigations of India," *Journal of Hygiene* 6 (1906): 467-82, plus tables.

R. Bruce Low, *Reports and Papers on Bubonic Plague, 1898-1901* (London: Darling and Son, 1902), 211-19 and 238-43.

David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body*, 200-239.

Thurs., Oct. 21—Globalization and the Return of the Plague

Laurie Garrett, *Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health* (New York: Hyperion, 2000), 15-49.

Marcos Cueto, *The Return of Epidemics: Health and Society in Peru during the Twentieth Century* (Burlington, Vt.: Ashgate, 2001), 106-37.

#### **Case 4—HIV and the Politics and Economics of Global Health**

Tues., Oct. 26— AIDS: History, Politics, and Epidemiology

Laurie Garrett, *The Coming Plague*, 281-389.

Thurs., Oct. 28— AIDS and Its Precedents: Reliving the Dark Ages

Randall M. Packard and Paul Epstein, "Medical Research on AIDS in Africa: A Historical Perspective," in *AIDS: The Making of a Chronic Disease*, ed. by Elizabeth Fee and Daniel M. Fox (Berkeley: University of California Press), 346-76.

Amy L. Fairchild and Eileen A. Tynan, "Policies of Containment: Immigration in the Era of AIDS," *American Journal of Public Health* 84, no. 12 (1994): 2011-22.

Tues., Nov. 2— Fighting the Pandemic: Politics and Finances

Transcript: U.S. House International Relations Committee, Hearing on "The United States' War on AIDS," 7 June 2001 (excerpts).

Donald G. McNeil, Jr., "Africans Outdo U.S. Patients in Following AIDS Therapy," *The New York Times*, 3 September 2003, A1.

Tina Rosenberg, "Look at Brazil," *The New York Times Magazine*, 28 January 2001, 10 pp.

SECOND REACTION PAPER DUE IN CLASS, TUESDAY NOV. 2.

#### **Sickness, Healing, and Conflict: Mental and Maternal Health**

Thurs., Nov. 4—Madness and Empire: Mental Illness and the Politics of Colonial Medicine

Megan Vaughn, *Curing their Ills: Colonial Power and African Illness* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1991), 100-128.

Tues., Nov. 9—The Stresses of Modernity: Mental Health and Postcolonial Development

Film: *The Healers of Aro* (United Nations, 1960).

Thurs., Nov. 11— Therapy, Pluralism, and Globalization: Case Studies

Robert Desjarlais, et al., *World Mental Health: Problems and Priorities in Low-Income Countries* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), 15-33.

Frank Kortmann, "Psychiatric Case Finding in Ethiopia: Shortcomings of the Self-Reporting Questionnaire," *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry* 14 (1990): 381-91.

Tues., Nov. 16—Missionaries, Motherhood, and Medicalization

John Spencer Garman, *Rats, Plague, and Religion: Stories of Medical Mission Work in India* (Philadelphia: Judson, 1936), 165-97.

Nancy Rose Hunt, "Le bébé en brousse: European Women, African Birth Spacing, and Colonial Intervention in the Belgian Congo," *International Journal of African Historical Studies* 21, no. 3 (1988): 401-32.

Nicholas Kristof, "Terror of Childbirth," *The New York Times*, 20 March 2004.

## Programs and Strategies for Global Health and Development

Thurs., Nov. 18—From Sanitary Policing to Alma Ata: Organizing International Health

Milton I. Roemer, "Internationalism in Medicine and Public Health," in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, II, 1417-35.

World Health Organization, *Four Decades of Achievement: Highlights of the Work of the WHO* (Geneva: WHO, 1988).

Sung Lee, "WHO and the Developing World: The Contest for Ideology," in *Western Medicine as Contested Knowledge*, ed. by Andrew Cunningham and Bridie Andrews (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1997), 24-45.

Tues., Nov. 23— Politics, Healing, and Development: NGOs and World Health

Joelle Tanguy and Fiona Terry, "On Humanitarian Responsibility" (1999): 4 pp.  
[www.doctorswithoutborders.org/publications/other/](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/publications/other/)

Renée C. Fox, "Medical Humanitarianism and Human Rights: Reflections on Doctors Without Borders and Doctors of the World," and comments, *Social Science & Medicine* 41, no 12: 1607-1626.

FIRST DRAFT OF RESEARCH PAPERS DUE IN MY MAILBOX BY 5 PM,  
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 24.

**Thurs., Nov. 25—No Meeting: Thanksgiving Break**

## Facing Contemporary Problems: Development, the Global Marketplace, and "Surplus Bodies"

Tues., Nov. 30—The Population Bomb: Linking Reproduction and Development

Davidson R. Gwatkin, "Political Will and Family Planning: The Implications of India's Emergency Experience," *Population and Development Review* 5, no. 1 (1979): 29-59.

Ann Anagnost, "A Surfeit of Bodies: Population and the Rationality of the State in Post-Mao China," in *Conceiving the New World Order: The Global Politics of Reproduction*, ed. by Faye D. Ginsburg and Rayna Rapp (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995), 22-41.

Thurs., Dec. 2—Environment, Health, and Globalization: Learning from Bhopal

Kim Fortun, *Advocacy after Bhopal: Environmentalism, Disaster, New Global Orders* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001), xiii-xxi, 87-143.

Jackson B. Browning, "Union Carbide: Disaster at Bhopal,"  
<http://www.bhopal.com/pdfs/browning.pdf>.

Tues., Dec. 7—Global Trade and the Bodies of the Poor

Nancy Scheper-Hughes, "The Global Traffic in Human Organs" and commentary, *Current Anthropology* 41, no. 2 (2000): 191-224.

THIRD REACTION PAPER DUE IN CLASS, TUESDAY DECEMBER 7.

Thurs., Dec. 9—Problems and Priorities: The Disease Model and Polio Eradication

Atul Gawande, "The Mop-Up," *The New Yorker*, 12 January 2004, 34-40.

Amy Waldman, "Distrust Reopens the Door for Polio in India," *The New York Times*, 19 January 2003.

Tues., Dec. 14— Industry, Ethics, and Technologies of Knowledge Production

Michael Specter, "The Vaccine," *The New Yorker*, 3 February 2003, 54-65.

David J. Rothman, "The Shame of Medical Research," *The New York Review of Books* 47, no. 19 (30 November 2000): 60-64.

RESEARCH PAPERS DUE IN MY MAILBOX NO LATER THAN 5 PM, TUESDAY  
DECEMBER 21.