

MedHist/HistSci/PopHealth 553
2241 Chamberlin
Tues., Thurs., 2:30-3:45
Fall 2012

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International Health and Global Society

Avian flu in East Asia; 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. While most of the in-depth discussion of readings will take place in the sections, our large-group meetings will occasionally include some discussion as well as lecture. Your attendance and informed participation are crucial both to the group and to your performance in the class. Along with regular participation in discussion, this constitutes 10 % of your final grade. Written work includes three papers (5-7 pp.) based on selected readings, each of which constitutes 30 % of your grade.

Readings:

Course readings are available electronically at Learn@UW. I recommend that you download all materials at the beginning of the semester to avoid problems with last-minute service outages.

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.

Introduction: Global Health between Culture and Political Economy

Tues., Sept. 4—Course introduction

Thurs., Sept. 6—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.

Tues., Sept. 11—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.

Thurs., Sept. 13— God, Guns, and Medicine: Medical Missions and Tropical Disease

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

Patricia Lorcin, "Imperialism, Colonial Identity, and Race in Algeria, 1830-1870: The Role of the French Medical Corps," *Isis* 90 (1999): 653-79.

Tues., Sept. 18— 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.

Thurs., Sept. 20— Mediated Chaos: Representing Disease in a Global Society

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

Tues., Sept. 25— 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.

Rebecca Weldon, “An ‘Urban Legend’ of Global Proportion: An Analysis of Nonfiction Accounts of the Ebola Virus,” *Journal of Health Communication* 6 (2001): 281-94.

FIRST PAPER DUE IN CLASS, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Infectious Disease and Global Connections: Case Studies

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

Thurs., Sept. 27— 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.

Tues., Oct. 2— 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. 4—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. 9—Cholera and Plague as Diseases of Empire

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

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

Thurs., Oct. 11— Ethnoepidemiology: Disease, Population, and Culture

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

Tues., Oct. 16— Plague on the Ground: Epidemic Control

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

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

Thurs., Oct. 18— 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 3—HIV and the Politics and Economics of Global Health

Tues., Oct. 23—AIDS: History, Politics, and Epidemiology

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

Thurs., Oct. 25— 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., Oct. 30— 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 ESSAY DUE IN CLASS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30

Sickness, Healing, and Conflict: Mental and Maternal Health

Thurs., Nov. 1— Madness and Empire: Mental Illness and the Politics of Colonial Medicine

Richard C. Keller, *Colonial Madness: Psychiatry in French North Africa* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007), 121-60.

Tues., Nov. 6— The Stresses of Modernity: Mental Health and Postcolonial Development

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

Thurs., Nov. 8—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. 13—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.

Thurs., Nov. 15— Women and World Health

Richard Keller, "Women and the World Health Organization," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women and World History*, ed. by Bonnie G. Smith (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008), pp. 405-9.

Amartya Sen, "More than 100 Million Women are Missing," *New York Review of Books*, 20 December 1990.

<http://ucAtlas.ucsc.edu/gender/Sen100M.html>

Shelah S. Bloom et al., "Dimensions of Women's Autonomy and the Influence on Maternal Health Care Utilization in a North Indian City," *Demography* 38, no. 1 (2001): 67-78.

Programs and Strategies for Global Health and Development

Tues., Nov. 20— 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.

Thurs., Nov. 22—NO CLASS, THANKGIVING DAY

Tues., Nov. 27— Politics, Healing, and Development: NGOs and World Health

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

Peter Redfield, "Vital Mobility and the Humanitarian Kit," in *Biosecurity Interventions: Global Health and Security in Question*, ed. by Andrew Lakoff and Stephen J. Collier (New York: Columbia University Press, 2008), 147-71.

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

Thurs., Nov. 29—The Population Bomb: Linking Reproduction and Development

Paul R. Ehrlich and John P. Holdren, "Population and Panaceas: A Technological Perspective," *BioScience* 19, no. 12 (1969): 1065-71.

Emma Tarlo, "Body and Space in a Time of Crisis: Sterilization and Resettlement during the Emergency in Delhi," in *Violence and Subjectivity*, ed. by Veena Das et al. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000), 242-70.

Tues., Dec. 4— 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.

Thurs., Dec. 6— Quick Fixes? Technology and Its Limitations

Michael Specter, "What Money Can Buy," *New Yorker* (24 October 2005).

Anne-Emmanuelle Birn, "Gates's Grandest Challenge: Transcending Technology as Public Health Ideology," *The Lancet* 366 (2005): 514-19.

Tues., Dec. 11— Industry, Ethics, and Technologies of Knowledge Production

Adriana Petryna, "Globalizing Human Subjects Research," in *Global Pharmaceuticals: Ethics, Markets, Practices*, ed. by Adriana Petryna, Andrew Lakoff, and Arthur Kleinman (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2006), 33-60.

Marcia Angell, "The Ethics of Clinical Research in the Third World," *New England Journal of Medicine* 337 (1997): 847-9.

Thurs., Dec. 13— 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.

FINAL PAPER DUE DECEMBER 16 BETWEEN 7:45 AND 9:45 AM, LOCATION TBD.