

Medical History/History of Science 508
Grainger 1170
Tues., Thurs., 2:30-3:45
Spring 2009

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Office hours: T., Th., 12-1pm, aba

Health, Disease, and Healing II: Patients, Medicine, and Doctors in Modern History

Welcome! Since the eighteenth century, western biomedicine has become increasingly interwoven with science and technology. The mapping and classification of the human anatomy, the discovery of a microbial universe, the development of modern diagnostic and therapeutic technologies, and the increasing professionalization of medical practice have all contributed to dramatic successes in the struggle against disease. But have these achievements come at a cost? How has the doctor-patient relationship changed with the advancement of scientific medicine? What medical challenges do we face in the present, how have they developed historically?

This course explores these questions by setting modern medicine in its historical and social contexts. We will examine key developments in the history of medicine since about 1750, concentrating on Europe. Major foci include changing approaches to the body and its ailments, the relationship between medicine and the state, the politics and economics of sickness and health, and popular responses to medicine.

Our meetings will include some lecture material, but discussions of the readings will be the core of the course. Your regular attendance and active, informed, and regular participation count for 25% of your final grade. There will also be three take-home essay exams, each of which constitutes 25% of your grade.

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. All such requests are confidential.

Students are expected to adhere to UW policies on plagiarism and to assume full responsibility for academic integrity for all coursework. Students also may not submit assignments that they have submitted for credit in other courses.

Required Books (at the University Bookstore, and on reserve in College Library):

Albert Camus, The Plague

Ann Fadiman, The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down

Hervé Guibert, To the Friend Who Did Not Save My Life

Optional: Roy Porter, The Greatest Benefit to Mankind: A Medical History of Humanity

*An asterisk refers to materials available electronically at
mywebspace.wisc.edu/rckeller/web/508.

Introduction

Tues., 20 Jan.—Why study the history of medicine?

Thurs., 22 Jan.—Health, Disease, and Healing in Culture and History

- *Arthur Kleinman, “The Meaning of Symptoms and Disorders” and “The Healers: Varieties of Experience in Doctoring,” in *The Illness Narratives: Suffering, Healing, and the Human Condition* (New York: Basic Books, 1988), 4-30 and 209-26.

Enlightenment in Theory and Practice

Tues., 27 Jan.—Beginning with the Body

- *Londa Schiebinger, “The Anatomy of Difference,” in *Nature's Body: Gender in the Making of Modern Science* (Boston, 1993), 115-41, and “More than Skin Deep: The Scientific Search for Sexual Difference,” in *The Mind Has No Sex? Women in the Origins of Modern Science* (Cambridge, Mass., 1993), 189-213.

Thurs., 29 Jan.—Practicing before Professionalism

- *Roy Porter, “Before the Fringe: ‘Quackery’ and the Eighteenth-Century Medical Market,” in *Studies in the History of Alternative Medicine*, ed. by Roger Cooter (Oxford, 1988), 1-27.

Porter, *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind* [henceforth *GBM*], Ch. 10.

Tues., 3 Feb.—Medical Science before Scientific Medicine: Statistics and Experiments

- *James Jurin, “A Letter ... Containing a Comparison between the Danger of the Natural Small Pox, and of That Given by Inoculation,” *Philosophical Transactions* 32 (1722-23): 213-27.
- *Edward Jenner, “An Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the Variolae Vaccinae, or Cow-Pox,” in *Medicine and Western Civilization* [henceforth *MWC*], ed. by David J. Rothman, Steven Marcus, and Stephanie A. Kiceluk (New Brunswick, N.J., 1995): 299-309.

Thurs., 5 Feb.—Toward a Healing Profession

*Philippe Pinel, *The Clinical Training of Doctors: An Essay of 1793*, ed. and trans. by Dora Weiner (Baltimore, 1980).

*Ivan Waddington, "The Role of the Hospital in the Development of Modern Medicine: A Sociological Analysis," *Sociology* 7 (1973): 211-24.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 11.

Tues., 10 Feb.—Paris Medicine

*John Harley Warner, *Against the Spirit of System: The French Impulse in Nineteenth-Century American Medicine* (Baltimore, Md.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003). Reviewed for *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* (2005), selections.

Contagion and Illness, Place and Race

Thurs., 12 Feb.— Miasmas, Medical Geography, and Public Health before Germs

*Margaret Pelling, "Contagion/Germ Theory/Specificity," in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by W.F. Bynum and Roy Porter (2 vols.; New York, 1993), I, 309-34.

*Florence Nightingale, *Notes on Hospitals* (London, 1859), 1-22.

Tues., 17 Feb.— Epidemic Disease and the Social Consequences of Sickness

*R.J. Morris, *Cholera 1832: The Social Response to An Epidemic* (London: Croom Helm, 1976), 11-37 and 95-128.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 13.

Thurs., 19 Feb.— Death, Disease, and Environment

*Edwin Chadwick, "Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population of Great Britain," in *MWC*, 216-39.

FIRST EXAM DUE IN CLASS THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY.

Recasting Disease: Infection and Vulnerability in a Universe of Germs

Tues., 24 Feb.— Colonial Medicine and the Civilizing Mission

*David Arnold, "Smallpox: The Body of the Goddess," in *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth-Century India* (Berkeley, 1993), 116-58.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 15.

Thurs., 26 Feb.— Rethinking Contagion

*Louis Pasteur, "On the Extension of the Germ Theory to the Etiology of Certain Common Diseases," *MWC*, 253-7.

*Robert Koch, "The Etiology of Tuberculosis," in *MWC*, 319-29.

Tues., 3 March— Transforming Medicine and Public Health

*Joseph Lister, "On the Antiseptic Principle in the Practice of Surgery," in *MWC*, 247-52.

*Andrew Cunningham, "Transforming Plague: The Laboratory and the Identity of Infectious Disease," in *The Laboratory Revolution in Medicine*, ed. by Andrew Cunningham and Perry Williams (New York, 1992), 209-44.

Thurs., 5 March— Infection and the Face of Danger

*Charles McClain, "Of Medicine, Race, and American Law: The Bubonic Plague Outbreak of 1900," *Law and Social Inquiry* 13, no. 3 (1988): 447-514.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 14.

Gender, Legitimacy, and Professionalism in Modern Medicine

Tues., 10 March— Infection and Invisibility

*Eugène Brieux, *Damaged Goods (Les Avariés)* (London, 1911).

Toward the Twentieth Century: Sickness and Health in a Technological Era

Thurs., 12 March— Women and Medical Training

*Elizabeth Blackwell, "The Influence of Women in the Medical Profession,"
MWC, 282-7.

*Arthur Conan Doyle, "The Doctors of Hoyland," in *Round the Red Lamp*
(Charlottesville, Va., 1996), 276-95.

Spring Break, 16-20 March

Tues., 24 March— The Price of Modernity: Technology and Economics of Healthcare

*Stanley J. Reiser, "Technology and the Senses in Twentieth-Century Medicine,"
in *Medicine and the Five Senses*, ed. by W.F. Bynum and Roy Porter
(New York, 1993), 262-73.

*Ronald L. Numbers, "The Third Party: Health Insurance in America," in
Sickness and Health in America, ed. by Judith Walzer Leavitt and Ronald
L. Numbers (3rd ed.; Madison, Wis., 1997), 269-83.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 18.

Pictures of Sickness and Health

Thurs., 26 March— Devastation and Healing: The First World War

*Margaret R. Higonnet, ed., *Nurses at the Front: Writing the Wounds of the Great War* (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 2001), 1-27, 49-75, and 89-98.

Porter, Ch. 19.

Tues., 31 March—Sickness, Health, and Wealth

*W. Somerset Maugham, "Sanatorium," in *The Complete Short Stories of W. Somerset Maugham* (3 vols.; Garden City, N.Y., 1953), II, 505-27.

*George Orwell, "How the Poor Die," in *MWC*, 368-75

Thurs., 2 April— Health and Breeding: Preventing Sickness

*Francis Galton, "Eugenics: Its Definition, Scope, and Aims," *American Journal of Sociology* 10 (1904): 1-6.

*William A. White, "Underlying Concepts in Mental Hygiene," *Mental Hygiene* 1 (1919): 7-15.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 20

SECOND EXAM DUE IN CLASS THURSDAY, 2 APRIL, 5 PM.

Tues., 7 April— Biology and Genocide

*Robert Proctor, "The Origins of Racial Hygiene" and "Political Biology: Doctors in the Nazi Cause," in *Racial Hygiene: Medicine under the Nazis* (Cambridge, Mass., 1988), 10-45 and 62-94

Thurs., 9 April— Illness as Metaphor? Epidemics, Community, and Healing

Albert Camus, *The Plague*, 1-164.

Pharmacy, Biology, and Society: The End of Disease?

Tues., 14 April— Illness as Metaphor, continued

Camus, *The Plague*, 165-308.

Thurs., 16 April— Better Living through Chemistry?

*Jordan Goodman, "Pharmaceutical Industry," in *Medicine in the Twentieth Century*, ed. by Roger Cooter and John Pickstone (Amsterdam, 2000), 141-54.

*John Parascandola, "The Introduction of Antibiotics into Therapeutics," in *Sickness and Health in America*, 102-12.

Tues., 21 April—Genetics: Molecular Healing

*Jon Turney and Brian Balmer, "The Genetic Body," in *Medicine in the Twentieth Century*, 399-415.

Porter, Ch. 17.

Health, Disease, and Healing in the Contemporary World

Thurs., 23 April—AIDS and the triumph of disease

Hervé Guibert, *To the Friend Who Did Not Save My Life*, 1-124.

Tues., 28 April—Experiencing a modern plague

Guibert, *To the Friend Who Did Not Save My Life*, 125-.

Thurs., 30 April—Camus's promise fulfilled

*Ruth L. Berkelman and James M. Hughes, "The Conquest of Infectious Diseases: Who are We Kidding?" *Annals of Internal Medicine* 119, no. 5 (1993): 426-8.

*Laurie Garrett, "The Return of Infectious Disease," *Foreign Affairs* (Jan./Feb. 1996): 66-79.

Tues., 5 May—Health and Wealth, Gender and AIDS

*Paul Farmer, "Invisible Women: Class, Gender, and HIV," in *Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999), 59-93.

Thurs., 7 May—Medical Cultures in Conflict

Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*.

FINAL EXAM DUE IN MY OFFICE THURSDAY, 14 MAY, 12:00 NOON.