

**HISTORY OF MEDICINE 509
THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN AMERICA
SPRING 1998**

Sarah Tracy, Ph.D.
1410 Medical Sciences Ctr.
Telephone: 263-6954
E-Mail: stracy@facstaff.wisc.edu

Course Meets: T,R 1:00-2:15, 5275 MSC
Office Hours: Rm. 1410, T,W 3:00-4:00
and by appointment.

Course Description

This course will examine the evolution of public health in the United States from the revolutionary period through the late twentieth century -- from colonial quarantines to the FDA attack on the tobacco industry. It will address throughout issues of public responsibility for health and welfare that remain central to today's policy debates. The course will focus on the control of epidemic disease, sanitary reforms, the rise of bacteriology, immigration and public health policy, racism inherent in public health policies, the changing profile of disease in America, and the roles and responsibilities of government in assuring the public's health. New topics will include the relationship between mental health and public health policy, and the redefinition of alcohol and drug abuse and violence as public health problems.

Course Requirements

Required Texts (Undergraduates and Graduate Students):

Judith Leavitt and Ronald Numbers, Sickness and Health in America, 3rd ed.

Judith Leavitt, The Healthiest City, 2nd ed.

Charles Rosenberg, The Cholera Years, revised ed.

History of Medicine 509 Class Reader. (Many of the course readings will come from the class reader. Part I. of the reader is available at the Agricultural Journalism Copy Center, Room B-25, Agricultural Engineering Building, Henry Mall. Part II. of the reader will be prepared during the next several weeks. I will announce its availability in class.) **WARNING:** Occasionally, pages may be out of sequence in reader. Check before you read articles, so they make sense.

NOTE: All of the above texts have been ordered at the University Book Store on State Street. Some may not have arrived by the start of class, but we will rely on the reader and the hand-out for the first four weeks of class. Thus, it is essential to obtain the reader. In addition, copies of the books have been placed on reserve at the Middleton Health Sciences Library.

Required Texts (Graduate Students):

Laurie Abraham, Mama Might Be Better Off Dead.

David Courtwright, Violent Land.

Alan Kraut, Silent Travelers.

Judith Leavitt, Typhoid Mary.

Recommended Texts (Undergraduates and Graduate Students)

Richard Marius, A Short Guide to Writing About History, Harper Collins College Publishers, 1995.

Class Preparation and Writing Assignments (Undergraduates)

The course will be conducted in a seminar-discussion format. This means that students are expected to complete the assigned readings BEFORE coming to class in order to participate actively and constructively in class discussions on a regular basis. I expect students to read materials, think about them, and make their own lists of questions BEFORE we meet. The reading load may be heavy at times. Look ahead on the syllabus and plan accordingly, so that you have time to read and digest the material.

Likewise, you should come to this course prepared to develop your historical writing skills. Papers will give you a chance to experiment with several different styles of writing and thinking employed by historians. You will have one week to complete these writing assignments. I realize that your writing experience varies. Many of you might never have taken a history or history of medicine course, or a course with papers, before HOM 509. If you have questions about the writing assignments, make sure that you ask them early. I am always willing to help you with your papers. The University Writing Lab is another source of assistance. Take advantage of it.

Class Preparation and Writing Assignment (Graduate Students)

Graduate students will meet with me five or six times during the semester to discuss the course readings in more depth than class permits and to discuss the additional texts listed above. At each meeting, a student will be responsible for leading our discussion of the week's text. In lieu of the papers and final exam, graduate students will write an historiographic essay of 10-12 pages on the public health topic of their choice.

Grades will be determined as follows:

Undergraduates:	Class Discussion	20%
	Paper I. (Impressions/Perceptions)	20%
	Paper II. (Narrative Construction)	20%
	Paper III. (Analysis)	20%
	Final Take-Home Essay Exam	20%
Graduate Students:	Seminar Participation	40%
	Historiographic Essay	60%

Note: Late papers will receive a third of a grade deduction for every day late. For example, a "B" paper received one day late will receive a "B-".

Assignment Roster

Note: [R] denotes readings in course reader.

[L&N] denotes readings in Sickness and Health, 3rd ed.

[H] denotes readings distributed in a handout on the first day of class.

Week One

20 January: Introduction to HOM 509

22 January: Water Quality -- A Contemporary Public Health Issue with a History

[R] Robert Manwell, "Battling Waterborne Bugs," Wisconsin Natural Resources, June 1996, pp. 17-21

[R] Diane Edwards, "Troubled Waters in Milwaukee," ASM News, (1993), pp. 342-45.

[R] Gabriel Rotello, "The Risk in a "Cure" for AIDS," New York Times, 14 July 1996

Week Two

27 January: Smallpox in Colonial Boston, 1721

[R] Zabdiel Boylston, An Historical Account of the Smallpox Inoculated in New England, (Boston, 1730), pp. 1-6, 16-17, 25-27, 34-40.

[R] William Douglass, Inoculation of the Small Pox as Practised in Boston, Consider'd in a Letter to A S M.D. & F.R.S., (Boston, 1722), pp. 1-20.

****PLEASE NOTE:** These readings and a few of the subsequent ones are printed in eighteenth-century typeface. Often a "/" or an "f" is written in place of our "s". For example, "Wifcon/in" for "Wisconsin."

29 January: Colonial Epidemics and Public Health

[H] John Blake, "The Innoculation Controversy in Boston, 1721-22" Ch. 24 in Leavitt and Numbers, Sickness and Health in America, 2nd ed., 1985.

Week Three

3 February: Yellow Fever in Philadelphia, 1793

[R] Map of Philadelphia

[R] Benjamin Rush, five selected letters

Rush to Mrs. Rush, 25 August 1793

Rush to His Fellow Citizens, 12 September 1793

Rush to Elias Boudinot, 2 October 1793

Rush to John R.B. Rogers, 3 October 1793

Rush to Matthew Carey, 29 October 1793

[R] Mathew Carey, A Short Account of the Malignant Fever Lately Prevalent in Philadelphia, (second ed., 1794), pp. 13-35; 37-43; and 54-79.

[R] Benjamin Johnson, An Account of the Rise, Progress and Termination of the Malignant Fever, (1793), pp. 24-31.

[R] Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Colored People, During the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793 and a Refutation of Some Censures,

Thrown upon Them in Some Late Publications from The Life
Experience and Gospel of the Rt. Rev. Richard Allen (1960), 48-76.

5 February: Politics and Public Health

- [H] Pernick, "Politics, Parties, and Pestilence," Ch. 25 in Leavitt and Numbers, Sickness and Health in America, 1985, pp. 356-71.
[L&N] Rosenberg, "Social Class and Medical Care in 19th-Century America, Ch.19, pp. 309-21.

FIRST PAPER ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED

****DUE IN CLASS 12 FEBRUARY****

Week Four

10 February: Croton Aqueduct, 1842

- [R] Philip Hone, excerpts from his Diary, 1841-42.
[R] Excerpts from New York newspapers, 1835-42.
[R] Map.
[R] George E. Waring, "The Disposal of a City's Waste," (North American Review, 1895), reprinted in Martin Melosi, Pragmatic Environmentalist: Sanitary Engineer George E. Waring, (1977), pp. 19-25.
[R] George E. Waring, "New York, A.D., 1997 -- A Prophecy," (New York Herald, 1897), reprinted in Melosi, Pragmatic Environmentalist, pp. 26-30.

12 February (SHORT CLASS): Sanitation and Public Health

- [H] Cassidy, "The Flamboyant Colonel Waring," Ch. 32 in Leavitt and Numbers, Sickness and Health in America, 1985, pp. 451-58.

*****FIRST PAPER DUE IN CLASS 12 FEBRUARY*****

Week Five

17 February: Public Health in the Evolving Metropolis -- A Tale of Two Cities

- Case One: New York City
Rosenberg, The Cholera Years, Intro., Chs. 1-7, pp. 1-132.

19 February: Public Health in the Metropolis -- A Tale of Two Cities

- Case One: New York City
Rosenberg, The Cholera Years, Chs. 8-13, Afterward, pp. 133-242.
[L&N] Brieger, "Sanitary Reform in New York City," Ch. 28, pp. 437-51.

Week Six **NOTE: Purchase Part II. of Course Reader by this date!**

24 February: Public Health in the Metropolis -- A Tale of Two Cities

- Case Two: Milwaukee
Leavitt, The Healthiest City, Intro., Chs.1-4, pp. 3-155.

26 February: Public Health and the Metropolis -- A Tale of Two Cities

- Case Two: Milwaukee
Leavitt, The Healthiest City, Chs. 5-8, pp. 156-264.

Week Seven

3 March: Medical Inspection and Americanization

- [R] E.H. Mullan, "The Medical Inspection of Immigrants at Ellis Island," Medical Record, (1913), pp. 1167-69.
- [R] Terence Powderly, "Immigration's Menace to National Health," North American Review, (1902), pp. 53-60.
- [R] "Social Case Records," in Grace Abbott, ed., Immigration: Select Documents, (1924).
 - Case 2: Joseph and Rachel Rosenbaum
 - Case 3: Karolina Klimek
 - Case 7: Katerina Kocise
- [R] Bessie Haasis, "Public Health Nursing, an Agent of Americanization," Public Health Nurse, (1919), pp. 493-6.
- [R] Lillian Wald, "Establishing a Nursing Service," in Wald, House on Henry Street, (1915), pp. 26-43.

5 March: Immigration and Public Health Policy

- [R] Alan Kraut, "'Proper Precautions': Searching for Illness on Ellis Island," from Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes, and the "Immigrant Menace", (1994), pp. 50-77.
- [R] Alan Kraut, "Plagues and Prejudice: Nativism's Construction of Disease in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century New York City," in David Rosner, ed., Hives of Sickness, (1995), pp. 65-90.

****SECOND PAPER ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED****

DUE IN CLASS 19 MARCH

Week Eight

SPRING RECESS

Week Nine

17 March: State Authority and the Public Good -- Vaccination

- [R] Jacobson v. Massachusetts, (1905), 25 Supreme Court Reporter, pp. 358-66.
- [R] C.F. Nichols, A Blunder in Poisons, (1902), excerpts, pp. 50-69.
- [R] Bill of Rights, U.S. Constitution.

19 March:

- [R] James Tobey, "The Control of Communicable Diseases," in Tobey, Public Health Law, (1947), pp. 128-48.
- [R] Elizabeth Fee, "Toward a New Profession of Public Health," in Fee, Disease and Discovery: A History of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, 1916-39, (1987), pp. 9-25.
- [R] Deborah Stone, "The Resistable Rise of Preventive Medicine," in William Rothstein, Readings in American Health Care, (1995), pp. 111-28.

****SECOND PAPER DUE IN CLASS 19 MARCH****

Week Ten

24 March: Impact of Bacteriology

- [R] George Soper, "Typhoid Mary," Military Surgeon, (1919), pp. 1-15.
- [R] Mary Mallon, letter, 1909
- [R] S. Josephine Baker, excerpt from her Fighting for Life, (1939), pp. 72-77.
- [R] Samuel Hopkins Adams, "Public Health and Public Hysteria," Journal of the American Public Health Association, (1911), pp. 771-74.

26 March: Impact of Bacteriology -- The Case of Typhoid Mary

- [L&N] Judith Leavitt, "Typhoid Mary Strikes Back," Ch. 36, pp. 555-74.
- [R] Nancy Tomes, "Moralizing the Microbe: The Germ Theory and the Moral Construction of Behavior in the Late Nineteenth-Century Antituberculosis Movement," in Allan Brandt and Paul Rozin, eds., Morality and Health, (1997), pp. 271-96.

Week Eleven

31 March: Private Foundations

- [R] Haven Emerson, A Monograph on the Epidemic of Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) in New York City in 1916, (1917), pp. 9-65.
- [R] Six New York Times articles:
 - "Rockefeller Gives \$200,000 to Science," 2 June 1901.
 - "Rockefeller Institute Begins Its Great Work," 12 May 1906.
 - "Cause of Infantile Paralysis a Germ," 12 March 1911.
 - "Learn More About Infantile Paralysis," 5 July 1912.
 - "F.D. Roosevelt Ill of Poliomyelitis," 16 September 1921.
 - "Roosevelt Starts Drive on Paralysis," 23 September 1937.

2 April:

- [L&N] Naomi Rogers, "Dirt, Flies, and Immigrants: Explaining the Epidemiology of Poliomyelitis, 1900-1916," Ch. 35, pp. 543-54.
- [R] Naomi Rogers, "A Disease of Cleanliness: Polio in New York City, 1900-1990," in David Rosner, ed., Hives of Sickness, (1995), pp. 115-30.
- [R] Kathryn Black, "Epidemic of Fear," and "Waiting," from her In the Shadow of Polio, (1996), pp. 20-79

Week Twelve

7 April: Federal Government in the Twentieth Century

- [R] Emma Duke, "Infant Mortality: Results of a Field Study in Johnstown, Pa.," U.S. Children's Bureau Publication No. 9, (1915), pp. 11-15.
- [R] Helen Dart, "Maternity and Child Care in Selected Rural Areas of Mississippi," U.S. Children's Bureau Publication No. 88, (1921), pp. 47-50.
- [R] J.H. Mason Knox, "Morbidity and Mortality in the Negro Infant," Transactions of the American Pediatric Society 36, (1924), pp. 46-51.
- [R] Grace L. Meigs, "Maternal Morbidity from all Conditions Connected with Childbirth in the United States," U.S. Children's Bureau Publication No. 19, (1917), pp. 7-8, 24-27.
- [R] An Act for the Promotion of the Welfare and Hygiene of Maternity and Infancy, (1921).

- [R] Excerpts from the Congressional Debate on the Sheppard-Towner Bill, 1921.
- [R] Editorial, Illinois Medical Journal 39, (1921), p. 143.
- [R] Editorial, JAMA, 78, (1922), p. 1709.

9 April:

- [R] Joyce Antler and Daniel Fox, "The Movement Toward a Safe Maternity," pp. 490-506.
- [R] Molly Ladd-Taylor, "'We Mothers Are So Glad the Day Has Come': Mothers' Work and the Sheppard-Towner Act," in Ladd-Taylor, Mother-Work: Women, Child Welfare, and the State, 1890-1930, (1994), pp. 167-96.

****THIRD PAPER ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED****
 ****DUE IN CLASS 16 APRIL****

Week Thirteen

14 April: Racism and the U.S. Public Health Service: The Tuskegee Experiments

- [R] Jean Heller, "Syphilis Victims," New York Times, (1972).
- [L&N] Allan Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Tuskegee Syphilis Study," Ch. 24, pp. 392-404.
- [R] Susan L. Smith, "Neither Victim Nor Villain: Nurse Eunice Rivers, The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment, and Public Health Work," Journal of Women's History, 8, (Spring 1996), pp. 95-113.

16 April: Tuskegee and Its Aftermath

- [R] Vanessa Northington Gamble, "A Legacy of Distrust: African Americans and Medical Research," American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 9, (1993), pp. 35-38.

MOVIE: Nova's "Deadly Deception"

****THIRD PAPER DUE IN CLASS 16 APRIL****

Week Fourteen

21 April: From Mental Hygiene to Deinstitutionalization

- [R] Clifford Beers, A Mind that Found Itself, (1908), excerpts, pp. XX-XX.
- [L&N] Gerald Grob, "The Severely and Chronically Mentally Ill in America: Retrospect and Prospect," Ch. 21, pp. 334-48.

23 April: Mental Health Policy

- [R] William Rothstein, "A Historical Analysis of the Treatment of the Mentally Ill," in Rothstein, Readings in American Health Care, pp. 281-294.

Movie: "The Snake Pit"

Week Fifteen: Drinking and Smoking as Public Health Problems

28 April: Drinking

- [R] Henry I. Bowditch, "Inebriate Asylums or Hospitals," in Sixth Annual Report of the Massachusetts State Board of Health, (1875), pp. 27-44.
- [R] David Musto, "Alcohol in American History," Scientific American, (April 1996), pp. 78-83.
- [R] Joseph R. Gusfield, "Alcohol in America: The Entangled Frames of Health and Morality," in Allan Brandt and Paul Rozin, eds., Morality and Health, (1997), pp. 201-30.

30 April: Smoking

- [R] "Hard on Fiends: How Wisconsin Cigarette Smokers Try to Evade the Law," Cherokee (Iowa) Democrat, 21 August 1905, p. 4.
- [R] "'Happy Cal' Has Quit Cigarettes," Des Moines (Iowa) Register and Leader, 21 January 1906, p. 10.
- [L&N] Allan Brandt, "The Cigarette, Risk, and American Culture," Ch. 32, pp. 494-505.
- [R] Kevin Sack, "For the Nation's Politicians, Big Tobacco No Longer Bites," in New York Times, 22 April 1977, p. A4.
- [R] Barry Meier, "Tobacco Industry, Conciliatory in U.S., Goes on the Attack in the Third World," in New York Times, 18 January 1998, p. A8.
- [R] Jill Smolowe, "Sorry Pardner: Big Tobacco Fesses Up and Pays Up -- \$368.5 Billion, but Congress Must Approve Deal," Time Magazine, 30 June 1997, pp. 25-29.

Week Sixteen

5 May: Violence as a Public Health Problem

- [R] David T. Courtwright, "Disease, Death, and Disorder on the American Frontier," Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences, 46, (1991), 467-92.
- [R] Jane Ellen Stevens, "Treating Violence as an Epidemic," Technology Review, 97, (August-September 1994), pp.22-XX.
- [R] Michael Greenberg and Dona Schneider, "Violence in American Cities: Young Black Males is the Answer, But What Was the Question," Social Science and Medicine, 39, (1994), pp. 179-87.

7 May: Lifestyles and the Privatization of Public Health -- Course Wrap-Up

- [R] Allan Brandt, "Behavior, Disease, and Health in the Twentieth Century: The Moral Valence of Individual Risk," in Allan Brandt and Paul Rozin, eds., Morality and Health, (1997), pp. 53-78.

*****TAKE-HOME ESSAY EXAM DISTRIBUTED*****
*****DUE IN MSC 1420 BY 4 PM, 12 MAY*****