

MEDICINE AND NATURAL HISTORY IN THE SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION
History of Medicine/History of Science 568

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Time/Place: Tues., Thurs., 9:30-10:45, 286 Van Hise

Description: The "scientific revolution" of the 16th and 17th centuries changed the ways in which Europeans thought about the world. Not only philosophical principles and general cosmologies changed, so too did the ways in which people thought about the things of nature. In natural history and medicine, not only were new facts discovered, but the attitudes of people toward them shifted: from seeing the world as full of signs and symbols with direct meaning for man's life, to seeing natural objects of a material world that had more indirect meanings. Nature began to be "objectified."

Requirements: All students will be required to keep up with the reading and participate in class discussions; instruction will be by class discussion and some lecturing by the instructor.

Students will be evaluated by class participation (15 percent), two essay exams (25 and 30 percent respectively), and a 10-12 page research paper (30 percent).

Readings: * 1 copy of each required reading is on reserve at the Medical Library (Middleton Health Sciences Library), and 1 copy in the Department office (1420 MSC), which are available for photocopying. You can also ask Ag. Journalism to copy them all for your use.

SYLLABUS

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- Sept. 3: **Introduction: Science and the Study of Nature**
- Sept. 8: **Pliny's "Natural History"**
Pliny (Loeb Library ed.), Bk II, i-vi.35 (vol. I, pp. 171-191); Bk XXV, xxxviii.77-1.90 (vol. VII, pp. 193-201); Bk XXVIII, i-iii, vi-xi, xviii-xxiv, xxxii-xxxiii (vol. VIII, pp. 3-11, 23-35, 47-63, 87-93).
- Sept. 10: **Dioscorides: Materia Medica**
Robert T. Gunther, ed., The Greek Herbal of Dioscorides (1933), pp. 1-9, 25-26, 42-47, 56-57, 91-97 106-111, 232-235, 638-645.
- Sept. 15: **The "Physiologus"**
Michael J. Curley, transl., Physiologus (1979), pp. 3-32, ix-xliii; Robert Graves, transl., Apuleius's The Golden Ass (1951), pp. 3-18.
- Sept. 17: **Herbals, Bestiaries, Lapidaries, etc., in the European Middle Ages**
Linda E. Voigts, "Anglo Saxon plant remedies and the Anglo Saxons," Isis, 70 (1979): 250-268; Joan Evans, Magical Jewels (1922), pp. 110-139.
- Sept. 22: **The Greater World in the Middle Ages: Travels and Theology**
The Travels of Sir John Mandeville, transl. with intro. by C.W.R.D. Mosley (1983), pp. 43-54, 167-172; Dante, Comedia, Book III: "Paradiso," Canto II, transl. and comment by John D. Sinclair (1961), pp. 32-46; Marco Polo, Travels, Ronald Latham, transl. (1958), pp. 62-63.
- Sept. 24: **"Folk superstitions"**
Malleus Maleficarum, pp. 1-8; Keith Thomas, Religion and the Decline of Magic (1971), pp. 177-211.
- Sept. 29: **Natural Magic**
Della Porta, Natural Magick, title page, preface, pp. 1-4; Charles Webster, From Paracelsus to Newton (1982), pp. 48-74.
- Oct. 1: **Marvels and Monsters**
Ambroise Paré, On Monsters and Marvels (1982), pp. 3-23; Katherine Park and Lorraine J. Daston, "Unnatural Conceptions: The Study of Monsters in 16th and 17th-century France and England," Past and Present, no. 92 (1981): 20-54.
- Oct. 6: **Discovering New Worlds**
John Reddy Phelan, The Millennial Kingdom of the Franciscans in the New World (1970), pp. 17-28; Hugh Honour, The New Golden Land (1975), pp. 28-51.

- Oct. 8: **Botany**
Clifford M. Foust, Rhubarb (1992), pp. 3-17, 249-252;
Richard Palmer, "Medical Botany in Northern Italy in the Renaissance," J. Roy. Soc. Medicine, 78 (Feb. 1985): 149-157.
- Oct. 13: **Anatomy**
Katherine Park, "The Criminal and the Saintly Body: Autopsy and Dissection in Renaissance Italy," Renaissance Quarterly, 47 (1994): 1-33; C.D. O'Malley, "Andreas Vesalius 1514-1564," Medical History 8 (1964): 299-308.
- Oct. 15: **MIDTERM EXAM**
- Oct. 20: **LIBRARY VISIT: The Book**
Lucien Febvre and Henri-Jean Martin, The Coming of the Book (Engl. ed., 1984), pp. 77-104.
- Oct. 22: **Courts and Patronage**
Paula Findlen, "Courting Nature," in Cultures of Natural History (1996), pp. 57-74; Bruce T. Moran, "Prince-Practitioning and the Direction of Medical Roles at the German Court," in Medicine at the Courts of Europe (1990): 95-116.
- Oct. 27: **Francis Bacon**
Bacon, Novum Organum, transl. P. Urbach and John Gibson (1994), pp. 3-30, 297-323.
- Oct. 29: **Cabinets of Curiosity**
Arthur MacGregor, "Collectors and Collections of Rarities in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries," in Tradescant's Rarities, (1983), pp. 70-97; Lorraine Daston and Katherine Park, Wonders and the Order of Nature (1998), pp. 265-290.
- Nov. 3: **Gardens**
Rio Howard, "Guy de la Brosse and the Jardin des Plantes in Paris," in The Analytic Spirit (1981), pp. 195-224; Andrew Cunningham, "The Culture of Gardens," in Cultures of Natural History, pp. 38-56.
- Nov. 4: **Science and Natural History: The Virtuosi**
Walter E. Houghton, Jr., "The English Virtuoso in the Seventeenth Century," J. Hist. of Ideas, 3 (1942): 51-73, 190-219.
- Nov. 7: **Monarchs and Academies**
Alice Stroup, A Company of Scientists (1990), pp. 65-102.
- Nov. 10: **Commerce: Foods and Drugs**
Sidny W. Mintz, Sweetness and Power (1985), pp. 19-46; Rudi Matthee, "Exotic Substances," in Drugs and Narcotics in History (1995), pp. 24-51.

- Nov. 12: **Commerce: Minerals and Animals**
Alfred W. Crosby, Jr., The Columbian Exchange (1972), pp. 74-97, 115-119; David C. Goodman, Power and Penury (1988), pp. 172-194, 203-207.
- Nov. 17: **Medicine and Empiricism**
The Apologie and Treatise of Ambroise Paré (1952), pp. 130-142; William Eamon, Science and the Secrets of Nature (1994), pp. 168-193.
- Nov. 19: **Instruments: The Telescope and Microscope**
Albert van Helden, intro. to Galileo's Sidereus Nuncius (1989), pp. 1-24; Marian Fournier, The Fabric of Life (1991), pp. 12-44; Antoni Leeuwenhoek, letter no. 193 (May 9, 1698).
- Nov. 24 : **Malpighi**
Howard B. Adelmann, Marcello Malpighi and the Evolution of Embryology (1966), Vol. I, pp. 347-383.
- Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 1: **Natural Theology**
John Ray, The Wisdom of God Manifested in the Works of Creation (1717), pp. 17-61.
- Dec. 3: **The "Mechanical World View" and Materialism**
Shirley A. Roe, "Voltaire versus Needham: Athiesm, Materialism, and the Generation of Life," Journal of the History of Ideas (1985): 65-87.
- Dec. 8: **Linnaeus**
Lisbet Koerner, "Carl Linnaeus in His Time and Place," in Cultures of Natural History, pp. 145-162.
- PAPERS DUE
- Dec. 10: **Strange and Entertaining Things**
Douglas Keith Candland, Feral Children and Cerver Animals (1993), pp. 9-37, 371-373.
- Dec. 15: **New Views of Nature?**
Charles E. Raven, Natural Religion and Christian Theology (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1953), pp. 80-98.
- Final Exam TBA