

## **History of Medicine: Antiquity to the Scientific Revolution HSMT 150.701. Autumn 2021**

Welcome to the History of Medicine: Antiquity to the Scientific Revolution graduate survey. We will be meeting from 1-3 on Thursday afternoons at the Institute. In this course we will explore health and healing in Classical Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Early Modern period. Sufferers and healers worked with models of the body and therapeutics very different to those of our own day. But healers had to persuade patients of their skills, sufferers had to choose amongst a range of health-care options, and each sought meaning in experiences of illness in ways that may not be so alien to our own experiences. The course focuses upon the organization of health-care, the transmission of medical knowledge, and the experiences of patients, and thereby seeks to relate forms of healing to their social and cultural contexts.

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### Requirements and grading:

You are expected to attend the undergraduate lectures, Mon. & Wed. at 10 am, CLASSROOM TBA at Homewood, to give you a basic overview. On Thursdays we will meet to discuss both primary and secondary readings. We have also assigned sections of helpful overview texts. Please bring your copies of the readings to the discussions.

Assessment is based upon weekly discussions, 2 short papers, and the final departmental exam, which will also include material from the Methods course. (Any student not taking Methods this semester will take a different version of the exam).

### Overview texts (purchase used or new in paperback from Amazon or other):

Vivian Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed (London: Routledge, 2012).  
Nancy G. Siraisi, *Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine: An Introduction to Knowledge and Practice* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1990).  
Mary Lindemann, *Medicine and Society in Early Modern Europe*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010).

I highly recommend both Peter E. Pormann & Emilie Savage-Smith, *Medieval Islamic Medicine*, (Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2007), and Faith Wallis, ed., *Medieval Medicine. A Reader* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010) but do not require either.

The remainder of the readings can be accessed through Blackboard: <https://blackboard.jhu.edu>. The course is called Outline of History of Medicine; look on the left pane for “Course Materials” and it’s in there. Please bring copies of the readings to class for discussion.

## **Sept. 2 Medicine in the Ancient World: Greek Bodies**

Shigehisa Kuriyama, *The Expressiveness of the Body*, (New York: Zone Books, 1991): 7-60.

Lynn R. LiDonnici, ed. and transl, *The Epidaurian Miracle Inscriptions. Text, Translation, and Commentary*, (Atlanta, GA: Scholars Press, 1985): 87-99.

Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, 104-115.

## **Sept. 9 Medicine in the Ancient World: The Hippocratics**

Lesley Dean-Jones, "Autopsia, Historia, and What Women Knew: The Authority of Women in Hippocratic Gynecology", in Donald Bates, ed., *Knowledge and the Scholarly Medical Traditions*, (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1995): 41-59.

Jacques Jouanna, "The Physician and the Public" and "The Physician and the Patient," in Jouanna, *Hippocrates*, trans. M. B. DeBevoise (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999): 75–140.

Hippocrates, selections from "Airs, Waters, Places," "Aphorisms," in G. E. R. Lloyd, *Hippocratic Writings*, (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1978): 161-169; 206-227.

Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, 53-103.

## **Sept. 16 Medicine in the Ancient World: Alexandria and Beyond**

Heinrich von Staden, "The Discovery of the Body: Human Dissection and Its Cultural Contexts in Ancient Greece," *Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine* 65 (1992): 223-41.

Owsei Temkin, "The Scientific Approach to Disease: Specific Entity and Individual Illness," in *Scientific Change: Historical Studies in the Intellectual, Social and Technical Conditions for Scientific Discovery and Technical Invention from Antiquity to the Present*, ed. A.C. Crombie, (NY: Basic Books, 1963): 629-47. Reprinted in *The Double Face of Janus*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1977): 441-455.

G. E. R. Lloyd, ed., *Hippocratic Writings*, (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1978), 121-138 [Epidemics].

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, II. 47-54; II.87, excerpts in James Longrigg, *Greek Medicine: From the Heroic to the Hellenistic Age: A Source Book*, (New York: Routledge, 1998): 126-130.

Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, 130-159.

### **Sept. 23 Medicine in the Ancient World: Roman Medicine**

Maud Gleason, "Shock and Awe: The Performative Dimension of Galen's Anatomy Demonstrations," *Galen and the World of Knowledge*, ed. Christopher Gill, Tim Whitmarsh, and John Wilkins. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009): 85-114.

Susan Mattern, *The Prince of Medicine: Galen in the Roman Empire*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013): 81-118.

Trevor Murphy, *Pliny the Elder's Natural History*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004): 1-28; 52-74.

Galen, *On Prognosis*, ed., transl., and comm. by Vivian Nutton, (Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1979), [*Corpus Medicorum Graecorum*; vol. V, pt. 8, no. 1.]: 73-93.

Pliny the Elder, *Natural History: A Selection*, ed. and transl. John F. Healy, (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1991): 12-41; 229-33; 244-49.

Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, 174-190; 207-221; 222-253.

### **Sept 30 : Medieval Medicine: Bodies and Souls**

Valerie J. Flint, "The Early Medieval 'Medicus', the Saint -- and the Enchanter," *Society for the Social History of Medicine*, 2 (1989): 127-45.

Jean-Claude Schmitt, *The Holy Greyhound: Guinefort, healer of children since the thirteenth century*, trans. Martin Thom, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983): 1-8.

"A Miracle of St. Trophimena Provides a Cure for Theodonanda" in Patricia Skinner, *Health and Medicine in Early Medieval Southern Italy*, (Leiden: Brill, 1997): 149-151.

Excerpts from Sulpitius Severus, *On the Life of St. Martin*, transl. Alexander Roberts, in *A Select Library of Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church*, Second Series, Volume 11, New York, 1894, accessed on the Medieval Sourcebook:

<http://www.users.csbsju.edu/~eknuth/npnf2-11/sulpitii/lifeofst.html#18>  
chapters XVI-XIX.

### **PAPER 1 DUE MONDAY OCT 4**

In a short (7-10 pp) compare and contrast selected aspects of case histories in Hippocrates and Galen, excerpts cited below, texts on Blackboard. For example, you might choose to examine the sources of authority, or diagnostic practices and what they reveal of the social interactions between patient and practitioner, or some other such theme.

Hippocrates, selections from "Epidemics," in G. E. R. Lloyd, *Hippocratic Writings*, (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1978): 102-121.

Galen, *On Prognosis*, ed., trans., and comm. by Vivian Nutton, (Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1979), [*Corpus Medicorum Graecorum*; vol. V, pt. 8, no. 1.]: 101-117.

### **Oct. 7 Early Medieval Medicine**

Faith Wallis, "The Experience of the Book: Manuscripts, Texts, and the Role of Epistemology in Early Medieval Medicine," in Donald Bates, ed., *Knowledge and the Scholarly Medical Traditions*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995): 101-26.

Faith Wallis, "Signs and Senses: Diagnosis and Prognosis in Early Medieval Pulse and Urine Texts," *Social History of Medicine* 13 (2000): 265–78.

Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim, "The Silk Roads as a Model for Exploring Eurasian Transmissions of Medical Knowledge: Views from the Tibetan Medical Manuscripts of Dunhuang" in Pamela Smith, ed., *Entangled Itineraries: Materials, Practices, and Knowledges across Eurasia*, (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2019): 47-62.

Jean of Tournemire treats breast cancer, *Acta Sanctorum Julii Tomus Primus*, (Paris: Victor Palme, 1867) trans. Faith Wallis, in Wallis, ed., *Medieval Medicine. A Reader*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010): 344-348.

Max Meyerhof, "Thirty-three Clinical Observations by Rhazes (ca. 900 AD)," *Isis* 23 (1935): 321-56.

Siraisi, *Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine*, 1-16.

### **Oct. 14 Medieval Medicine: Practice and Theory 1**

Cornelius O'Boyle, "Surgical Texts and Social Contexts of Physicians and Surgeons in Paris, c. 1270 to 1430," in Luis Garcia-Ballester, et al. (eds), *Practical Medicine from Salerno to the Black Death* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994): 156-185.

Carmel Ferragud, "The Role of Doctors in the Slave Trade During the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries within the Kingdom of Valencia (Crown of Aragon)", *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, Vol. 87 no. 2, (Summer 2013): 143-69.

Michael R. McVaugh, "Bedside Manners in the Middle Ages," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 71 (1997): 201-223.

Leah DeVun, "Erecting Sex: Hermaphrodites and the Medieval Science of Surgery," *Scientific Masculinities*, ed. Erika Lorraine Milam and Robert A. Nye, *Osiris* 30:1 (2015): 17-37.

Archimatthaeus, "Advice for the Physician"; and Arnald of Villanova, "On the Precautions that Physicians Must Observe" [both trans. by Henry Sigerist]; in *A Source Book in Medieval Science*, ed. Edward Grant, (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1974): 742-45; 751-52.

"The Second Salernitan Demonstration" trans. Faith Wallis, in Wallis, ed., *Medieval Medicine. A Reader* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010): 159-174.

Siraisi, *Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine*, 17-77; 153-186.

## **Oct 21 Medieval Medicine: The Black Death**

Faye M. Getz, "The Black Death and the Silver Lining: Meaning, Continuity, and Revolutionary Change in Histories of Medieval Plague," *Journal of the History of Biology*, 24 (1991): 265-89.

Monica Green, "The Four Black Deaths", *American Historical Review*, vol. 125, issue 5, (December 2020): 1601–1631.

Hannah Barker, "Laying the Corpses to Rest: Grain, Embargoes, and *Yersinia pestis* in the Black Sea, 1346–48", *Speculum* 96/1 (January 2021): 97-126.

John Aberth, ed., *The Black Death. The Great Mortality of 1348-1350*, (Boston, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2005): 34-36; 41-45; 47-50; 55-66; 71-74.

Rosemary Horrox, ed. and trans., *The Black Death* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1994): 150-53; 158-163; 184-203; 207-11.

## **Oct. 28 Medieval Medicine: Practice and Theory 2**

Monserrat Cabré, "Women or Healers? Household Practices and the Categories of Health Care in Late Medieval Iberia," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 82 (2008): 18-51.

Debra Blumenthal, "Domestic Medicine: Slaves, Servants and Female Medical Expertise in Late Medieval Valencia," *Renaissance Studies*, 28 (2014): 515-532.

Katharine Park, "The Life of the Corpse: Division and Dissection in Late Medieval Europe," *Journal of the History of Medicine* 50 (1995): 111-32.

John of Mirfield, *Surgery. A Translation of his Breviarium Bartholomei, pt. IX*, by James Colton, (New York, Hafner Pub. Co., 1969): 201-17; 755-59.

Anne Van Arsdall, *Medieval Herbal Remedies: The Old English Herbarium and Anglo Saxon Medicine*, (New York: Routledge, 2002): 222-230.

Siraisi, *Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine*, 115-152.

#### **Nov 4 Renaissance and Reformation**

Vivian Nutton, "The Rise of Medical Humanism in Ferrara, 1464-1555," *Renaissance Studies* 11 (1997): 1-19.

Katharine Park, *The Secrets of Women*, (New York: Zone Books, 2006): 207-259.

Mary E. Fissell, "The Politics of Reproduction in the English Reformation," *Representations* 87 (Summer 2004): 43-81.

Pamela Smith, *The Body of the Artisan*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004): 82-93.

Felix Platter, *Beloved Son Felix: The Journal of Felix Platter, a Medical Student in Montpellier in the Sixteenth Century*, trans. Sean Jennet (London: Frederick Muller, 1961): 70-101.

Andreas Vesalius, Preface, *On the Fabric of the Human Body*, see translation at: <http://vesalius.northwestern.edu/books/FA.a.html>.

Look at images at [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/historicalanatomies/vesalius\\_home.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/historicalanatomies/vesalius_home.html).

Siraisi, *Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine*, 187-193.

#### **Nov. 11 Early Modern Medicine 1: The Shock of the New**

Harold J. Cook, *Matters of Exchange: Commerce, Medicine, and Society in the Dutch Golden Age*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007): 191-209.

Daniela Bleichmar, "Books, Bodies, and Fields: Sixteenth-Century Transatlantic Encounters with New World *Materia Medica*," in *Colonial Botany. Science*,

*Commerce, and Politics in the Early Modern World*, ed. Londa Schiebinger and Claudia Swan, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005): 83-99.

James H. Sweet, *Domingos Álvares, African Healing, and the Intellectual History of the Atlantic World*, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2011) 123-45.

Tara Alberts, "Curative Commodities between Europe and Southeast Asia, 1500–1700", in Pamela Smith, ed., *Entangled Itineraries: Materials, Practices, and Knowledges across Eurasia*, (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2019): 79-98.

Lionel Wafer, *A New Voyage and Description of the Isthmus of America...*, (London, MDCCIV [1704]): 20-23.

Garcia da Orta, *Colloquies on the Simples & Drugs of India*, (London, H. Sotheran and co., 1913 [ch. 1, 2, 36-39, 42, 58]: 1-18; 302-25; 335-341, 459-72.

Lindemann, *Medicine and Society*, 11-83.

## **Nov. 18 Early Modern Medicine 2: Patients & Practitioners**

Gianna Pomata, *Contracting a Cure. Patients, Healers and the Law in Early Modern Bologna*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998): 120-139.

Deborah E. Harkness, "A View from the Streets: Women and Medical Work in Elizabethan London," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 82 (2008): 52-85.

Richelle Munkhoff, "Searchers of the Dead: Authority, Marginality, and the Interpretation of Plague in England, 1574-1665," *Gender & History* 11 (1999): 1-29.

Vanessa Harding, "Reading Plague in Seventeenth-century London", *Social History of Medicine*, vol. 32, no. 2, (May 2019): 267–286.

Thomas Willis, *Willis's Oxford Casebook (1650-52)*, ed. Kenneth Dewhurst. (Oxford: Sandford Publications, 1981), 124-137.

Seventeenth-century London advertisements for practitioners:

Edmund Gray, "A Doctor in Physick," [London: s.n., 1675] Wing G1622C.

Margaret Searl, "Margaret Searl, wife to the late Samuel Searl," [London?: s.n. 1706], printed April 10. 1706.

Mrs. Mary Green, "Mrs. Mary Green, living at a haberdasher," [London: s.n., 1693] Wing G1811.

John Case; "The Sick may have Advice for nothing," [London: s.n., 1680?] Wing S3748C.

Samuel Pepys' Diary online (<https://www.pepysdiary.com/diary/>); spend 20 minutes browsing as you like through June-Aug. 1665.

Lindemann, *Medicine and Society*, 193-280.

## **Nov 25: Thanksgiving No Class**

### **Paper 2, Due Wed. Dec. 1.**

Choose ONE of the following excerpts. Drawing on the skills and knowledge you have developed in this course, write an 8-10 page essay that contextualizes and interprets the excerpt. What kind of text is this? What does it tell us about health and healing in the early-modern world?

*An Exact Relation of the Wonderful Cure of Mary Maillard...*, London: J. Noon, 1730. The institute has a copy at R.B.R. .T866r 1730, and/or you can consult a digital copy: <http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/ECCO?c=1&stp=Author&ste=11&af=BN&ae=T003141&tiPG=1&dd=0&dc=fic&docNum=CW107513901&vrsn=1.0&srchtp=a&d4=0.33&n=10&SU=0LRM&locID=balt85423>

Antonio Benivieni, *De abditis nonnullis ac mirandis morborum causis (On the Hidden and Marvelous Causes of Disease and Healing)*, trans. Charles Singer (Springfield IL: Charles C. Thomas, 1954): 85-101, notes on 213-14.

Thomas Trapham, *A Discourse of the State of Health in the Island of Jamaica...* (London: Printed for R. Boulter ..., 1679): 93-110. Available on EEBO, <https://www-proquest-com.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/eebo/docview/2240863498/Sec0013/BF50B151A0FE4C22PQ/1?accountid=11752>.

## **Dec. 2 Early Modern Medicine 3: Making Knowledge**

Gianna Pomata, "Sharing Cases: The *Observationes* in Early Modern Medicine," *Early Science and Medicine* 15 (2010), 193-244.

Steven Shapin, "Trusting George Cheyne: Scientific Expertise, Common Sense, and Moral Authority in Early Eighteenth-century Dietetic Medicine," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 77 (2003): 263-297.

Tinde van Andel, "The Reinvention of Household Medicine by Enslaved Africans in Suriname," *Social History of Medicine*. Vol. 29 Issue 4, (Nov 2016): 676-694.



Sarah Stone, *A Complete Practice of Midwifery*, (London: Printed for T. Cooper, 1737): 1-10. [pp. 31-40 on ECCO].

George Cheyne, *The English Malady*, (1733) reprint edition, ed. Roy Porter, (London: Tavistock/Routledge, 1991): 1-5; 307-311.

Lindemann, *Medicine and Society*, 84-156.

REVIEW SESSION: Monday Dec. 6

PROPOSED EXAM DATE: Wed Dec. 8