

Medical History/History of Science 508	Prof. Richard Keller
387 Van Hise, T., Th., 2:30-3:45	rkeller@med.wisc.edu
Spring 2003	1423 MSC, 263-7378
List: <a href="mailto:medhist-508@lists.students.wisc.edu">medhist-508@lists.students.wisc.edu</a>	Office hours: T., Th., 4-5, 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 face contemporary patients, doctors, and society, and how have they developed historically?

This course explores these questions and others by setting modern medicine in its historical and social contexts. We will examine key developments in the history of medicine since about 1700, 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. As a principal theme, we will question how ideas about health, illness, and healing have functioned—politically, socially, and culturally—in different historical settings.

Each session will include lecture material and discussions of the readings. The discussions will be the core of the course. Your active, informed, and regular participation in the discussions is therefore a major course requirement; along with attendance, participation counts 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.

### **Required Books (at the University Bookstore):**

Roy Porter, *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind: A Medical History of Humanity*  
 Arthur Kleinman, *The Illness Narratives: Suffering, Healing, and the Human Condition*  
 Margaret R. Higonnet, ed. *Nurses at the Front: Writing the Wounds of the Great War*  
 Albert Camus, *The Plague*  
 Hervé Guibert, *The Compassion Protocol*  
 Ann Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*

\*An asterisk refers to material in the course reader, available in the History of Science Department, 7143 Social Science Bldg.

## **Introduction**

Tues., Jan. 21—Why study the history of medicine?

Thurs., Jan. 23—Health, Disease, and Healing in Culture and History

Kleinman, Preface and Chs. 1, 2, and 14.

## **Enlightenment in Theory and Practice**

Tues., Jan. 28—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,” in *The Mind Has No Sex? Women in the Origins of Modern Science* (Cambridge, Mass., 1993), 189-213.

Thurs., Jan. 30—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., Feb. 4—Medical Science before Scientific Medicine: Statistics and Experiments

\*James Jurin, “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 [MWC]*, ed. by David J. Rothman et al. (New Brunswick, N.J., 1995): 299-309.

Thurs., Feb. 6—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. 12.

### **Contagion and Illness, Place and Race**

Tues., Feb. 11—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.

Thurs., Feb. 13—Epidemic Disease and the Social Consequences of Sickness

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

\*Richard J. Evans, "Epidemics and Revolutions: Cholera in Nineteenth-Century Europe," in Ranger and Slack, *Epidemics and Ideas: Essays on the Historical Perception of Pestilence* (New York, 1992), 149-73.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 13.

Tues., Feb. 18—Death, Disease, and Environment

\*Philip Curtin, "The Promise and the Terror of a Tropical Environment," in *The Image of Africa* (Madison, 1964), 58-87.

Thurs., Feb. 20—Colonial Medicine and the Civilizing Mission

\*David Arnold, "Smallpox: The Body of the Goddess," in *Colonizing the Body* (Berkeley, 1993), 116-58.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 15.

### **Recasting Disease: Infection and Vulnerability in a Universe of Germs**

Tues., Feb. 25—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.

Thurs., Feb. 27—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.

Tues., Mar. 4—Infection and the Face of Danger

\*Nayan Shah, “Plague and Managing the Commercial City,” in *Contagious Divides: Epidemics and Race in San Francisco’s Chinatown* (Berkeley, 2001), 120-58.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 14.

Thurs., Mar. 6—Infection and Invisibility

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

FIRST TAKE-HOME EXAM DUE BY 5 PM IN MY MAILBOX, FRIDAY, MARCH 7.

### **Gender, Legitimacy, and Professionalism in Modern Medicine**

Tues., Mar. 11—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.

Thurs., Mar. 13—Professional Medicine and Legitimacy

\*S. Weir Mitchell, *Autobiography of a Quack* (New York, 1913), 3-79.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 18.

**Tues., Mar. 18, Thurs., Mar. 20—No class, Spring Break**

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

Tues., Mar. 25—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 (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.; Madison, Wis., 1997), 269-83.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 19.

Thurs., Mar. 27—Devastation and Healing: The First World War

Higonnet, *Nurses at the Front: Writing the Wounds of the Great War*.

## **Pictures of Sickness and Health**

Tues., Apr. 1—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., Apr. 3—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.

Tues., Apr. 8—Eugenics, 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.

SECOND EXAM DUE BY 5 PM IN MY MAILBOX, Wednesday, APRIL 9.

Thurs., Apr. 10—Illness as Metaphor? Epidemics, Community, and Healing

Albert Camus, *The Plague*, 1-155.

Tues., Apr. 15—Illness as Metaphor, continued.

Camus, *The Plague*, 157-287.

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

Thurs., Apr. 17—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., Apr. 22—Genetics: Molecular Healing

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

### **Health, Disease, and Healing in the Contemporary World**

Thurs., Apr. 24—AIDS and the experience of illness

Hervé Guibert, *The Compassion Protocol*.

Tues., Apr. 29—Camus’s promise: Drug resistance and the return of the plague

\*Paul Farmer, “The Vitality of Practice: On Personal Trajectories” and “Rethinking ‘Emerging Infectious Diseases’,” in *Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues* (Berkeley: 1999), 18-58.

Thurs., May 1—Illness and Healing in a Pluralist Society

Kleinman, *The Illness Narratives*, Chs. 6 and 7.

Tues., May 6—Medical Cultures in Conflict

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

Thurs., May 8—Conclusions: Modeling Human Healing in a Technological Era

Kleinman, *The Illness Narratives*, Chs. 15 and 16.

Porter, *GBM*, Ch. 21.

FINAL TAKE-HOME EXAM DUE IN MY BOX BY NOON, Monday MAY 12.