

Medical History/History of Science 919	Prof. Richard Keller
Graduate Seminar in Medical History	rkeller@med.wisc.edu
MSC 1406, Wed. 1:15-3:15	Medical Sciences Center 1423, 263-7378
Fall 2002	Office hours: T., Th., 11-12 aba

Science, Technology, and Medicine in the Colonial Context

Welcome! This seminar will explore the crucial role of empire in shaping European scientific knowledge since the early nineteenth century. The natural and human sciences witnessed explosive developments at the moments when European powers expanded into Africa and Asia. Although not all scientific knowledge links directly to colonialism, the same inquisitive worldview that fueled post-Enlightenment science also informed the acquisitive mindset inherent to imperial expansion. We will concentrate on the administrative uses of science, technology, and medicine; science as a measure of civilization; racism in science and medicine; medical and scientific experimentation; and post-colonial development and its challenges to Western paradigms.

The seminar emphasizes three central themes: science and the colonial civilizing mission; the relationship between metropolis, periphery, and scientific practice; and the social dimensions of scientific encounters in the colonies. We will explore as extensively as possible the relationships between science, place, and community in European colonialism. While the seminar examines certain specific disciplines (bacteriology and the Pasteur Institutes, for example), we will focus most closely on the meaning of science and medicine for both Europeans and indigenous populations in the colonies.

Your requirements for the course include regular attendance and informed participation in seminar meetings. By 11:00 each Wednesday morning, you are also responsible for submitting a one-to-two-page response to the week's readings to me by e-mail. You may skip any two responses in the course of the semester. This response will raise critical and interpretive questions that link key themes in the readings. Each student will also lead one or two discussions in the course of the seminar.

The chief written requirement is a conference-length research paper on a topic of your choosing in the domain of colonial science and medicine. A proposed topic for this paper will be due by October 4, and an initial draft will be due by November 15. The papers will be presented at the end of the semester, at a time to be arranged.

Books (available at the University Bookstore and on reserve in College Library, except where noted):

Roy MacLeod, Nature and Empire: Science and the Colonial Enterprise (Osiris, Second Series, Vol. 15; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001).

Michael Adas, Machines as the Measure of Men: Science, Technology, and Ideologies of Western Dominance (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1990).

Megan Vaughn, Curing Their Ills: Colonial Power and African Illness (Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 1992).

- David Arnold, Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth-Century India (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993)—*Middleton Reserve*.
- Nancy Rose Hunt, A Colonial Lexicon of Birth Ritual, Medicalization, and Mobility in the Congo (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1999).
- Jonathan Sadowsky, Imperial Bedlam: Institutions of Madness in Colonial Southwest Nigeria (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999).
- Randall Packard, White Plague, Black Labor: Tuberculosis and the Political Economy of Health and Disease in South Africa (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990).
- Bruno Latour, The Pasteurization of France (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1993).
- Peter Redfield, Space in the Tropics: From Convicts to Rockets in French Guiana (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000)—*Geography Reserve*.
- Gyan Prakash, Another Reason: Science and the Imagination of Modern India (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999).
- Luise White, Speaking with Vampires: Rumor and History in East and Central Africa (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000).

There is also a course reader, available in Agricultural Journalism on Henry Mall.

Meeting Schedule:

Framing Colonial Science

Sept. 4: Introductory Meeting

Sept. 11: The Meaning of Colonial Science

Roy MacLeod, "Introduction," Osiris 15 (2000): 1-13.

*Roy MacLeod, "On Visiting the 'Moving Metropolis': Reflections on the Architecture of Imperial Science," in Scientific Colonialism: A Cross-Cultural Comparison, ed. by Nathan Reingold and Marc Rothenberg (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian, 1987), 217-49.

David Wade Chambers and Richard Gillespie, "Locality in the History of Science: Colonial Science, Technoscience, and Indigenous Knowledges," Osiris 15 (2000): 221-40.

*Pyenson, "Pure Learning and Political Economy: Science and European Expansion in the Age of Imperialism," in New Trends in the History of Science, ed. by R.P. W. Visser, et al. (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 1989), 209-78.

*Paolo Palladino and Michael Worboys, "Science and Imperialism," and Lewis Pyenson, "Cultural Imperialism and Exact Sciences Revisited," Isis 84 (1993): 91-108

Sept. 18: Colonialism and Knowledge

- *Edward W. Said, "Introduction" and "Projects," in Orientalism (New York: Vintage, 1978), 1-28 and 73-92.
- *Bernard S. Cohn, "Introduction" and "The Transformation of Objects," in Colonialism and Its Forms of Knowledge: The British in India (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995), 3-15 and 76-105.
- *Deepak Kumar, "Problems in Science Administration: A Study of the Scientific Surveys in British India, 1757-1900," in Science and Empires: Historical Studies about Scientific Development and European Expansion, ed. by Patrick Petitjean, Catherine Jami, and Anne-Marie Moulin (Boston: Kluwer, 1992), 269-280.
- *Satpal Sangwan, "Natural History in Colonial Context: Profit or Pursuit? British Botanical Enterprise in India, 1778-1820," in Science and Empires, 281-298.

Sept. 25: Climate, Race, and Anxiety

- Warwick Anderson and Mark Harrison, Forum on "Race and Acclimatization in Colonial Medicine," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 70, no. 1 (1996): 62-118, at muse.jhu.edu/journals/bulletin_of_the_history_of_medicine/toc/bhmv070.html#special1
- *Patricia M.E. Lorcin, "Imperialism, Colonial Identity, and Race in Algeria, 1830-1870: The Role of the French Medical Corps," Isis 90 (1999): 653-79.
 - *Jean Comaroff, "The Diseased Heart of Africa: Medicine, Colonialism, and the Black Body," in Knowledge, Power, and Practice: The Anthropology of Medicine and Everyday Life, ed. by Shirley Lindenbaum and Margaret Lock (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993), 305-29.
- Michael Osborne, "Acclimatizing the World: A History of the Paradigmatic Colonial Science," Osiris 15 (2000): 135-51.

Modernity and Civilization

Oct. 2: Civilization through Science, Technology, and Medicine

- Michael Adas, Machines as the Measure of Men: Science, Technology, and Ideologies of Western Dominance.
- *Elisabeth Hsü, "The Reception of Western Medicine in China: Examples from Yunnan," in Science and Empires, 89-101.

*A. Vasantha, "The 'Oriental-Occidental Controversy' of 1839 and Its Impact on Indian Science," in Science and Empires, 49-56.

INITIAL PAPER PROPOSAL DUE IN WRITING, FRIDAY OCT. 4

Oct. 9: Mise en valeur

*William Kelleher Storey, Science and Power in Colonial Mauritius (Rochester, N.Y.: University of Rochester Press, 1997), 1-10, 69-153.

Christophe Bonneuil, "Science and State-Building in Late Colonial and Postcolonial Africa, 1930-1970," Osiris 15 (2000): 258-81.

Medicine, Health, and the State

Oct. 16: Rethinking Colonial Medicine

Megan Vaughn, Curing Their Ills: Colonial Power and African Illness.

*Frantz Fanon, "Medicine and Colonialism," in A Dying Colonialism, trans. by Haakon Chevalier (New York: Grove, 1965), 121-45.

Oct. 23: Labor, Health, and Civilization

Randall Packard, White Plague, Black Labor: Tuberculosis and the Political Economy of Health and Disease in South Africa.

*Alice Conklin, "Public Works and Public Health: Civilization, Technology, and Science (1902-1914)," in A Mission to Civilize: The Republican Idea of Empire in France and West Africa, 1895-1930 (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997), 38-72.

Oct. 30: Public Health and Colonial Power

David Arnold, Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth-Century India.

*Warwick Anderson, "'Where Every Prospect Pleases and Only Man is Vile': Laboratory Medicine as Colonial Discourse," Critical Inquiry 18 (1992): 506-29.

Nov. 6: Medicalizing Bodies

Nancy Rose Hunt, A Colonial Lexicon of Birth Ritual, Medicalization, and Mobility in the Congo.

Michael Worboys, "The Colonial World as Mission and Mandate: Leprosy and Empire, 1900-1940," Osiris 15 (2000): 207-18.

Nov. 13: Race and Mind

Jonathan Sadowsky, Imperial Bedlam: Institutions of Madness in Colonial Southwest Nigeria.

*Waltraud Ernst, "Idioms of Madness and Colonial Boundaries: The Case of the European and 'Native' Mentally Ill in Early Nineteenth-Century British India," CSSH 39 (1997): 153-81.

FIRST DRAFT OF CONFERENCE PAPER DUE FRIDAY NOV. 15.

Metropole and Periphery

Nov. 20: Pasteurization and the Periphery

Bruno Latour, The Pasteurization of France.

* Anne-Marie Moulin, "Patriarchal Science: The Network of the Overseas Pasteur Institutes," in Science and Empires, 307-22.

Kim Pelis, "Prophet for Profit in French North Africa: Charles Nicolle and the Pasteur Institute of Tunis, 1903-1936," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 71, no. 4 (1997) 583-622, at:
muse.jhu.edu/journals/bulletin_of_the_history_of_medicine/v071/71.4pelis.html

Nov. 27: Space and Possibility

Peter Redfield, Space in the Tropics: From Convicts to Rockets in French Guiana.

*Paul Rabinow, "Techno-Cosmopolitanism: Governing Morocco," in French Modern: Norms and Forms of the Social Environment (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1989), 277-319.

Reacting and Responding

December 4: India and Civilizational Knowledge

Gyan Prakash, Another Reason: Science and the Imagination of Modern India.

Kapil Raj, "Colonial Encounters and the Forging of New Knowledge and National Identities: Great Britain and India, 1760-1850," Osiris 15 (2000): 119-34.

Deepak Kumar, "Reconstructing India: Disunity in the Science and Technology for Development Discourse, 1900-1947," Osiris 15 (2000): 241-57.

December 11: Local Knowledge and Colonial Knowledge

Luise White, Speaking with Vampires: Rumor and History in East and Central Africa.

*Clifford Geertz, "Common Sense as a Cultural System," in Local Knowledge: Further Essays in Interpretive Anthropology (New York: Basic Books, 1983), 73-93.

REVISED CONFERENCE PAPERS DUE FRIDAY DECEMBER 13.