EARLY MODERN MEDICINE

HPS Part II, Paper 1
BBS Part II, Minor Subject 113
History Faculty, Specified Subject 11

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Tuesdays @ noon, Michaelmas (weeks 5-8) and Lent Terms (weeks 5-8)
Fridays @ noon, Michaelmas (weeks 1-8) and Lent Terms (weeks 1-8)

24 1-hour lectures plus 7 hours of supervising, totalling 31 contact hours

LECTURE SCHEDULE & READING LIST
Lecture 1. Introduction: Sources and Approaches (SK) [5 Oct]
Lecture 2. Astrological Medicine (SK) [11 Oct]
Lecture 3. Institutions of Health in China (MB) [19 Oct]
Lecture 4. Medical Exchanges in the Chinese World (MB) [26 Oct]
Lecture 5. Dissection and Experimentation (SK) [2 Nov]
Lecture 6. The World of Early Modern Medicine (DM) [6 Nov]
Lecture 7. Domestic Medicine and Healing (DM) [9 Nov]
Lecture 8. Galen and Galenism (RF) [13 Nov]
Lecture 9. Alchemical Medicine (ES) [16 Nov]
Lecture 10. European Medicine in Global Context (DM) [20 Nov]
Lecture 11. New Diseases, Foreign Bodies, Miasmata (DM) [23 Nov]
Lecture 12: Medical Marketplace and Irregular Healers (ES) [27 Nov]

LENT TERM
Lecture 13. Generation (DM) [18 Jan]
Lecture 14. The Drugs Trade (DM) [25 Jan]
Lecture 15. Medical Spaces (ES) [1 Feb]
Lecture 16. New Physiologies (ES) [8 Feb]
Lecture 17. Picturing Anatomy and Natural History (SK) [15 Feb]
Lecture 18. The World of Print (SK) [19 Feb]
Lecture 19. Mapping (SK) [22 Feb]
Lecture 20. Anatomical Collections (DM) [26 Feb]
Lecture 21. The Telescope and the Microscope (DM) [1 March]
Lecture 22. Manuscript, Correspondence, Recipe Book (DM) [5 March]
Lecture 23. Enlightened Images (DM) [8 March]
Lecture 24. Guilds, Notaries, Trials (ES) [12 March]

EASTER TERM
Revision class (DM) tba
NOTE ABOUT THE READINGS
The Whipple Library has a superb history of medicine collection. All of the readings on this list are available there and/or on-line. If you cannot find something, ask the librarians for help.

This document lists A) general readings about the history of medicine; B) monographs; C) on-line reference works; D) readings specific to each lecture (many of which are sections from the preceding monographs). You are expected to read the starred items prior to the lecture.

In some cases we include the most recent work on the subject, on the assumption that if you wish to pursue the subject further, you will find references to the previous literature in the footnotes.

A) GENERAL READINGS
Survey texts
Lawrence I. Conrad et. al., The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to 1800 (Cambridge, 1995).
Nancy Siraisi, Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine: An Introduction to Knowledge and Practice (Chicago, 1990).
On early modern history
Merry E. Wiesner-Hanks, Early Modern Europe, 1450-1789 (Cambridge, 2006), or other textbooks in your college library.

Timeline
For Chronological Tables of medical and scientific writers and medical and contemporary events, see Conrad et. al. The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to 1800, pp. 7-9, 89-91, 207-13, 363-69.

On writing medical history
John Burnham, What is Medical History? (Polity, 2005).
P. Corsi and P. Weindling (eds), Information Sources in the History of Science and Medicine (London, 1983).
John Pickstone, 'Medical History as a Way of Life', Social History of Medicine, 18 (2005), 307-23.

B) MONOGRAPHS
This is a selection of monographs on early modern medicine. Books are included on this list because they either survey the subject in a particular country, or examine an archive or source in detail. We have tried to specify where a chapter is appropriate to a lecture, but you should read as many of these books as you can from cover to cover. Pay attention to the dates of publication and follow up the footnotes for points you find interesting.

England
Mary Dobson, Contours of Death and Disease in Early Modern England (Cambridge, 1997).
Andrew Wear, Knowledge and Practice in English Medicine, 1550-1680 (Cambridge, 2000).
Olivia Weisser, Ill Composed: Sickness, Gender and Belief in Early Modern England (New Haven, 2015).

Italy
Sandra Cavallo, Artisans of the Body in Early Modern Italy: Identities, Families and Masculinities (Manchester, 2007).
Sandra Cavallo and Tessa Storey, Healthy Living in Late Renaissance Italy (Oxford, 2013).
David Gentilcore, Healers and Healing in Early Modern Italy (Manchester, 1998). David Gentilcore, Medical Charlatanism in Early Modern Italy (Oxford, 2006).
Gianna Pomata, Contracting a Cure: Patients, Healers, and the Law in Early Modern
Bologna (Baltimore, 1998).

France
Susan Broomhall, Women’s Medical Work in Early Modern France (Manchester, 2004).

Germany
Mary Lindemann, Health and Healing in Eighteenth-Century Germany (Baltimore, 1996).
Erik Midelfort, A History of Madness in Sixteenth Century Germany (Stanford, 1999).
Bruce Moran, Chemical Pharmacy Enters the Universities (Madison, Wisconsin, 1991).
Alisha Rankin, Panacea’s Daughters: Noblewomen as Healers in Early Modern Germany (Chicago, 2013).

The Netherlands
Harold Cook, Matters of Exchange: Commerce, Medicine, and Science in the Dutch Golden Age (New Haven, 2007).

C) ON-LINE REFERENCE WORKS
The following websites contain useful information. In most cases they should be used as a first port of call, not as a definitive authority on the subject. If material is drawn from them for essays or dissertations, it must be appropriately footnoted. There is also a section of reference books in the Whipple Library.

• Catholic Encyclopedia: http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/
D) WEEKLY READINGS

Lecture 1. Introduction, or what is the history of early medicine?
See survey texts above.

Lecture 2. Medical marketplaces (LK)
Lawrence Brockliss and Colin Jones, Medical World of Early Modern France, chs. 4, 5, 9, 10.
Cavallo, Artisans of the Body in Early Modern Italy, ch. 2.
Gentilcore, Healers and Healing in Early Modern Italy, ch. 4.
Pelling, Medical Conflicts, ch. 7.
Patoma, Contracting a Cure, ch. 5.
Siraisi, Clock and the Mirror, ch. 2.
Webster, The Great Instauration, Pt. 4

Lecture 3. Maintaining health, prolonging life (LK)
Cavallo and Storey, Healthy Living in Late Renaissance Italy (Oxford, 2013).
Wear, A. Knowledge and Practice in English Medicine, 1550-1680 (Cambridge, 2000), ch. 4.
Lecture 4. Experiences of illness and healing (LK)
Duden, *Woman Beneath the Skin*.
*Pomata, Contracting a Cure*, esp. Intro. and ch. 5.
*Rankin, Panacea’s Daughters*, ch. 5.
*Weisser, Ill Composed.*
See also: [http://www.magicandmedicine.hps.cam.ac.uk/on-astrological-medicine/further-reading/select-bibliography](http://www.magicandmedicine.hps.cam.ac.uk/on-astrological-medicine/further-reading/select-bibliography)

Lecture 5. New diseases (LK)
*Wear, Knowledge and Practice*, ch. 4.

The pox
*Claudia Stein, Negotiating The French Pox in Early Modern Germany* (Aldershot, 2009), ch. 1.

Melancholy
Jeremy Schmidt, *Melancholy and the care of the soul: Religion, moral philosophy and*

Lecture 6. Print and Medical Knowledge (DM)

Printing Medical Knowledge


Using Books


P. Murray Jones. “Reading Medicine in Tudor Cambridge.” In Vivian Nutton and Roy Porter, The History of Medical Education in Britain (Amsterdam, 1995)


Reading Disease


Lecture 7. Experimental Medicine (DM)

Blood
http://daily.jstor.org/first-blood-transfusion/

Peter Distelzweig. “Meam de motu & usu cordis, & circitu sanguinis sententiam”:
Telesology in William Harvey’s De motu cordis,” Gesnerus , 71 (2014), 258- 270.


Context


Jutta Schickore. “Trying Again and Again: Multiple Repetitions in Early Modern Reports of
Experiments on Snake Bites.” Early Science and Medicine, 15 (2010), 567-617.

**Bloodletting**

**Lecture 8. Generation (DM)**

**Sex and Gender**
Helen King. The One-Sex Body on Trial: The Classical and Early Modern Evidence (Farnham, 2013).

**Childbirth**

**Lecture 9. Foreign Bodies (DM)**

**Climate, Degeneration and Race**
*Susan Scott Parrish. American Curiosity: Cultures of Natural History in the Colonial British Atlantic World (Williamsburg, 2006), ch. 2.

**Foreign Killers**
David S. Jones. “Virgin Soils Revisited.” William and Mary Quarterly, 60 (2003), 703-
Lecture 10. New Spaces of Medical Knowledge (ES)
The anatomy theatre: a space for making order out of death
Cynthia Klestinec, Theaters of Anatomy: Students, Teachers, and Traditions of Dissection in Renaissance Venice (Baltimore, 2011), chapters 3 4
The hospital: a space between body and soul
Martin Scheutz et al., eds., Hospitals and Institutional Care in Medieval and Early Modern Europe (Oldenbourg, 2008), essays by Archer, Hickey, Bressan, Majorossy and Szende, and Krasz
Günter Risse, Mending Bodies, Saving Souls: A History of Hospitals (Oxford, 1999), chapter 4
Spaces of confinement and cordon sanitaire: borderlands of security
Medical bureaucracy and tables of mortality: setting the stage for absolutism

Lecture 11. Transnational Networks (ES)
Anagnostou, Sabine, ‘Jesuits in Spanish America: contributions to the exploration of the American materia medica,’ Pharmacy in history 47.1 (2005), 3-17
Id., ‘The international transfer of medicinal drugs by the Society of Jesus (sixteenth to eighteenth centuries) and connections with the work of Carolus Clusius,’ in F. Egmond, P. Hoftijzer and R. Visser (eds.), Carolus Clusius: towards a cultural history of a Renaissance naturalist (Amsterdam: Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2007), 293–312
Breen, Benjamin, ‘Portugal, early modern globalization and the origins of the global drug trade’, Perspectives on Europe 42.1 (2012): 84-88
Burke, Peter and R. Po-Chia Hsia, Cultural translation in early modern Europe, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), chapter 9
Cook, Harold J., Matters of exchange: commerce, medicine, and science in the Dutch Golden Age (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2007), chapter 2

*Huguet-Terme, Teresa, 'New World materia medica in Spanish Renaissance medicine: from scholarly reception to practical impact', *Medical history*, 45 (2001), 359–376

Romaniello, Matthew, ‘Through the filter of tobacco: the limits of global trade in the early modern world’, *Comparative studies of society and history* (2007), 914–937


*Walker, Timothy D. 'The medicines trade in the Portuguese Atlantic world: acquisition and dissemination of healing knowledge from Brazil (c. 1580–1800)', *Social history of medicine* (2013), 403-431


**Lecture 12. Medical advertising around 1700 (ES)**


Curth, Louise Hill, *From physick to pharmacology: five hundred years of British drug retailing* (Ashgate, 2006)


*Curth, Louise Hill, 'Medical advertising in the popular press', *Pharmacy in history* 50.1 (2008): 3-16

Brewer, John, and Roy Porter, eds., *Consumption and the world of goods* (Routledge, 1993), chapter 4


Pomata, Gianna, *Contracting a cure*, chapter 5

Stobart, Jon, *Sugar and spice: grocers and grocers in provincial England, 1650–1830*, chapter 5; for a comparison with an earlier period, see Shaw, James, and Evelyn

View the collection of early modern trade cards at Waddesdon, searching for terms such as ‘medicine’, ‘apothecary’, etc. here: http://collection.waddesdon.org.uk/advancedSearch.page.do?collection=27 &preSelect=true
SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. How did the role of Ancient authors change in the shaping of medical and natural knowledge from the medieval to the early modern period?

2. How did the role that the state played in medical practice in China change over the course of medieval and early modern history?

3. How did first-hand experience contribute to the development of medical and natural knowledge before 1600?

4. Assess the effect of astrology on views of health and medical practice in medieval Europe.

5. How was medical knowledge gendered in medieval and early modern times?

6. How did professional institutions of medicine develop in the medieval and early modern periods?

7. In the medieval and early modern period, what were the differences between physicians’ and patients’ definitions of health and illness?

8. How useful is the model of a ‘Columbian exchange’ for writing the history of human health between 1492 and 1650?

9. How did experiment and observation shape early modern anatomy?

10. What effects did trade with America, Asia and Africa have upon early modern European medicine?

11. What was the role of printed works in disseminating medical knowledge?

12. Why did early modern states seek to gain an overview of public health?