Modern Medicine: A Historical Introduction
MWF 10:30 am – 11:20 am
PHSC 224

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Course Description:

This course examines the history of medicine in Europe and America from antiquity to the present (with a few forays into the non-Western world). We will explore the different ways in which people have answered questions like: how does the human body work? what causes us to get sick? what can we do to restore health? Throughout the course we will seek to connect medical ideas and medical practices to the broader social and cultural contexts in which they were developed and we will discuss a range of issues in contemporary medicine.

During some class periods I will lecture and during others we will have discussions. These are noted in the syllabus. Discussion will be based on the assigned reading, so it is essential that you do the reading assigned for discussion days before you come to class. There will be a midterm and a final exam, both consisting of short answer questions and a longer essay question. The possible essay questions will be distributed at least a week before each exam. The final is comprehensive. You will also write three short (5-page) papers on assigned topics.

Further information and many of the course readings are available on-line at learn.ou.edu. Please use your OU email account, or arrange for email to be forwarded from that account to the one you use. This will ensure that you receive course-related emails. I encourage you to check the course web site regularly. I will continue to add material throughout the semester, including assigned readings and links to relevant web sites.

Required Texts:
Jacalyn Duffin, History of Medicine
Lynn Payer, Medicine and Culture
Anne Fadiman, The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down
Steven Epstein, Inclusion
Paul Farmer, Pathologies of Power
Ronald Munson, *Raising the Dead*  
J. Eric Oliver, *Fat Politics*

**Grading Policy:**
- Participation: 15%
- Papers (3): 45% (15% each)
- Midterm exam: 15%
- Final exam: 25%

**Schedule:**

**Week 1**  
Mon  Aug 22. Introduction

Wed  Aug 24. Discussion: How does culture shape medical theory and practice?  
Reading: Lynn Payer, *Medicine and Culture*, forewords, two introductory chapters and chapters on French and West German medicine

Fri  Aug 26. Discussion: What's so great about American medicine?  
Reading: Lynn Payer, *Medicine and Culture*, chapters on British and American medicine

**Week 2**  
Mon  Aug 29. Lecture: Anatomy  
Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 2

Wed  Aug 31. Lecture: Anatomy

Fri  Sept 2. Discussion: Anatomy in the 21\textsuperscript{st} century  

**Week 3**  
Mon  Sept 5. LABOR DAY. NO CLASS.

Wed  Sept 7. Lecture: Physiology  
Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 3

Fri  Sept 9. Discussion: The Body in Comparative Perspective  
**Week 4**

Mon  Sept 12. Lecture: Pathology  
Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 4

Wed  Sept 14. Film: "The Deadly Deception"

Fri  Sept 16. Discussion: Does race matter in medicine?  

**Week 5**

Mon  Sept 19. Discussion: What difference does gender make in medicine?  
Reading: Steven Epstein, *Inclusion*, chapter 11


PAPER #1 DUE

**Week 6**

Mon  Sept 26. Lecture: Pharmacology  
Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 5

Reading: TBA

Fri  Sept 30. Discussion: Regulation of Drugs  
Reading: In-class handouts

**Week 7**

Mon  Oct 3. Discussion: Regulation of Drugs  
Reading: In-class handouts

Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 7

Fri  Oct 7. TEXAS FRIDAY. NO CLASS.

**Week 8**

Mon  Oct 10. Lecture: AIDS in America

Wed Oct 12. Film: "6000 a Day"

Fri Oct 14. **MIDTERM**

**Week 9**

Mon Oct 17. Lecture: Surgery in the 19th Century  
   Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 10


Fri Oct 21. Discussion: Organ Transplantation  
   Reading: Ronald Munson, *Raising the Dead: Organ Transplants, Ethics, and Society* (Oxford University Press, 2002), chapters 1-3

**Week 10**

Mon Oct 24. Film: "Unnatural Causes"

Wed Oct 26. Discussion: Inequality and Health  

Fri Oct 28. Discussion: American Health Care in Comparative Perspective  
   **PAPER #2 DUE**

**Week 11**

Mon Oct 31. Lecture: Smoking as a Public Health Hazard

Wed Nov 2. Discussion: America's Obesity Epidemic  

Fri Nov 4. Film: "Bad Sugar"

**Week 12**

Mon Nov 7. Lecture: Psychiatry
Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 12

**Wed** Nov 9.  Lecture: Psychiatry
Reading: TBA

**Fri** Nov 11.  Discussion: Different Perspectives on Mental Illness
Reading: TBA

**Week 13**
**Mon** Nov 14.  Lecture: Gynecology

**Wed** Nov 16.  Lecture: Obstetrics
Reading: J. Duffin, *History of Medicine*, ch. 11

**Fri** Nov 18.  Discussion: Body and Gender from the 18th to the 20th Centuries

**Week 14**
**Mon** Nov 21. Film: "Rx for Survival"
Reading: In-class handout

**Wed** Nov 23. THANKSGIVING VACATION. NO CLASS.

**Fri** Nov 25. THANKSGIVING VACATION. NO CLASS.

**Week 15**
**Mon** Nov 28. Lecture: Genetics and Reproduction (and The History of the Embryo) I

**Wed** Nov 30. Lecture: Genetics and Reproduction (and The History of the Embryo) II

**Fri** Dec 2. Discussion: Problems and potentials of genetic and reproductive technologies
**PAPER #3 DUE**
Week 16
Mon Dec 5. Discussion: Problems and potentials of genetic and reproductive technologies

Wed Dec 7. Film: "The Pill"

Fri Dec 9. Final discussion

FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 16, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.