

HEALTH AND SOCIETY IN MODERN LATIN AMERICA: A HISTORY

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This graduate seminar will examine the origin and development of public health in Latin American and the Caribbean during the Modern (19th and 20th centuries) period. The readings trace and give some order to a number of studies, mostly in English, on the social, cultural and institutional history of medicine and health in the region, that have appeared in the past few years. The valuable historical studies on medicine and public health during the pre-Columbian and colonial period, that could be the basis for another course or a seminar, are only covered by one session in this syllabus. The course is directed to advanced undergraduate students not fully familiar with Spanish and Portuguese. In some classes documents or films are included in the discussion.

For further works in Spanish and Portuguese see the databank HISA of the Casa Oswaldo Cruz. *Scielo* offers the opportunity to download some of these articles:

<http://www.coc.fiocruz.br/areas/dad/hisa/index.htm>

<http://www.scielo.org/index.php?lang=es>

The main journal in the field published in Portuguese in Rio de Janeiro is História, Ciências, Saúde: Manguinhos. See also journals such as The Americas, Hispanic American Research Review, Latin American Research Review and the Journal of Latin American Studies that usually include articles on the history of health and medicine.

A general overview of Latin America during the 19th and 20th century is:

Thomas E. Skidmore and Peter H. Smith. Modern Latin America. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2001.

Two overviews of public health history in English are:

Dorothy Porter. Health, civilization, and the state : a history of public health from ancient to modern times. New York: Routledge, 1999.

George Rosen. A History of Public Health. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Univ. Press 1999.

For those interested in the colonial period two remarkable works on the role played by epidemic disease during the Spanish conquest and colonial period are:

Suzanne Austin Alchon. A pest in the land: New World epidemics in a global perspective. Albuquerque: Univ. of New Mexico Press, 2003.

Noble David Cook, ed. Born to die: Disease and the new world conquest. Cambridge Univ. Press, 1988.

ASSESSMENT

Evaluation will be as follows: (1) review reading assignments in brief but critical (1-page) weekly papers, which will provide the basis for your contributions to discussions (2) make at least one presentation, based on the “further reading” with a 10-page paper to be handed in during the term (3) submit a 20-page paper by the end of the term. Students must choose a research subject for their semester work that can either be an in-depth study in the history of health and medicine in a certain country or a cross-country discussion in a relevant issue. Students must hand in and discuss with the teacher an outline of the paper before the break.

PRESCRIBED BOOKS AND READINGS

Charles L. Briggs and Clara Mantini-Briggs. Stories in the time of cholera: racial profiling during a medical nightmare. Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 2003.

Paul Farmer. AIDS and Accusation: Haiti and the Geography of Blame Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 1993.

Steven Palmer. From popular medicine to medical populism: doctors, healers, and public power in Costa Rica, 1800-1940. Durham : Duke Univ. Press, 2003.

Julyan Peard, Race, Place and Medicine, the Idea of the Tropics in Nineteenth-century Brazilian Medicine Durham: Duke Univ. Press, 1999.

The readings for each week should also be consulted. The attached bibliography contains references that should assist you in your research work for this course.

1. INTRODUCTION

Required reading:

Nancy Leys Stepan. ‘Tropical Medicine and Public Health in Latin America,’ Medical History 42 (1998): 104-112.

Diego Armus, “Disease in the Historiography of Modern Latin America,” in Disease in the history of modern Latin America: from malaria to AIDS edited by D. Armus, Durham: Duke Univ. Press, 2003, 1-24.

Charles Rosenberg, “Framing disease: illness, society and history,” in CH. Rosenberg Explaining epidemics and other essays in the history of medicine. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1992, 305-318.

Further reading:

Christopher Abel. Health Hygiene and Sanitation in Latin America c. 1870 to 1950. Univ. of London, Institute of Latin American Studies, Research Papers, 42 1996.

Warwick Anderson, "Postcolonial histories of medicine," In Locating medical History: the stories and their meaning Edited by F. Huisman and J. H. Warner. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ. press, 2004.

Virginia Berridge, "History in the public health toolkit," Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health 55, 9 (2001): 611-612.

Marcos Cueto, "Introducción" in Marcos Cueto, ed., Salud Cultura y Sociedad en America Latina: Nuevas Perspectivas Históricas Lima: IEP/OPS, 1996, 13-30.

2. THE LEGACY OF PRECOLUMBIAN AND COLONIAL TRADITIONS

FILM: "Evil wind, evil air," Museo del Banco Central del Ecuador. 22 minutes. 1985. Publisher Lauris McKee.

Required reading:

Joseph W. Bastien, "Differences between Kallwaya-Andean and Greek European Humoral Medicine," Social Science and Medicine 28 (1989): 45-51.

George Foster, "On the Origin of Humoral Medicine in Latin America," Medical Anthropology Quarterly 1 (1987): 355-393.

Jean Pierre Clement, "El Nacimiento de la Higiene Urbana en la América Española del Siglo XVIII," Revista de Indias 49 (1983): 77-94.

Further reading:

Joseph W. Bastien. "Qollahuaya-Andean Body Concepts: A Topographical –Hydraulic Model of Physiology," American Anthropologist 87 (1985): 595-611

Donald B. Cooper, Epidemic Disease in Mexico City, 1716-1813: An Administrative, Social, and Medical Study. Austin: Univ. of Texas Press, 1965.

George Foster, Hippocrates' Latin American legacy: humoral medicine in the New World Langhorne, Pa.: Gordon and Breach, 1994.

Audrey Butt Colson and Cesareo de Armellada, "An Amerindian derivation for Latin American Creole illnesses and their treatment," Social Science and Medicine 17, 17 (1983): 1229-1248.

Martha Eugenia Rodríguez. Contaminación e insalubridad en la ciudad de México en el siglo XVIII México: Facultad de Medicina, UNAM, 2000.

3. LOCAL LEGACIES

Required reading:

Julyan Peard, Race, Place and Medicine, the Idea of the Tropics in Nineteenth-century Brazilian Medicine. Durham: Duke Univ. Press, 1999.

Flavio Edler, "A Escola Tropicalista Baiana: um mito de origem da medicina Tropical no Brasil," História, Ciências, Saúde-Manguinhos 9, 2 (2002): 357-385.

Further reading:

David Sowell, The Tale of healer Miguel Perdomo Neira: medicine, ideologies, and power in the nineteenth-century Andes. Wilmington: Scholarly Resources, 2001.

Sidney Chalhoub, "The Politics of Disease Control: Yellow Fever and Race in Nineteenth Century Rio de Janeiro," Journal of Latin American Studies 25, 5 (1993): 441-463.

Ana Maria Carrillo, "Profesiones sanitarias y lucha de poderes en el México del siglo XIX," Asclepio 50, 2 (1998): 149-168.

Sydney Chalhoub, Cidade febril: cortiços e epidemias na Corte imperial Sao Paulo: Companhia das Letras, 1996.

4. HEALTH, MEDICINE AND EMPIRE

Document: "Do the sanitary interests of the United States demand the annexation of Cuba? by Benjamin Lee, 1889" In Selections from Public Health, reports and papers presented at meetings of the American Public Health Association, 1884-1907 New York: Arno press, 1977, 47-52.

Required reading:

Nancy Leys Stepan, "The interplay between socioeconomic factors and medical science: Yellow fever in Cuba and the United States," Social Studies of Science 8 (1978): 297-424.

Vicent J. Cirillo, "Fever and reform: the typhoid epidemic in the Spanish-American war," The Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Science 55 (2000): 363-397.

Jaime L Benchimol, "A instituição da microbiologia e a história da saúde pública no Brasil," Ciencia y Saúde Coletiva 5, 2 (2000):265-292.

Further reading:

Jaime Benchimol, Dos Micróbios aos Mosquitos: Febre Amarela e a Revolução Pasteuriana no Brasil Rio de Janeiro: Fiocruz, 1999.

Enrique Chaves-Carbalo, "Samuel T. Darling: Studies on Malaria and the Panama Canal," Bulletin for the History of Medicine 54 (1980): 95-100

Ileana Löwy, "Yellow fever in Rio de Janeiro and the Pasteur Institute Mission (1901-1905): The transfer of science to the periphery," Medical History 34 (1990): 144-163.

5. ROCKEFELLER AND U.S INFLUENCES

FILM: "The work of the Public Health Service," United States Public Health Service. 1936. 2 films. 16 minutes each. National Library of Medicine.

Required reading

Christopher Abel, "External Philanthropy and domestic change in Colombian Health Care: the role of the Rockefeller Foundation, ca 1920-1950," Hispanic American Historical Review 75, 3 (1995): 339-376

Anne-Emanuelle Birn and Armando Solorzano, "The Hook of Hookworm: public health and the politics of eradication in Mexico," In Western Medicine as contested knowledge edited by A. Cunningham. Manchester: St. Martin Press, 1997, 147-171.

Marcos Cueto, "The Cycles of Eradication: The Rockefeller Foundation and Latin American Public Health, 1918-1940," In International Health Organisations and Movements, 1918-1939 edited by P. Weindling. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1995, 222-243.

Further reading:

Anne-Emmanuelle Birn, "Eradication, control or neither? Hookworm versus malaria strategies and Rockefeller Public Health in México," Parassitologia 40 (1996): 137-147.

Ilana Lowy. "What/who should be controlled? Opposition to yellow fever campaigns in Brazil, 1900-1939," in Western medicine as contested knowledge, 124-126.

André Luiz Vieira de Campos. "Combatendo nazistas e mosquitos: militares norte-americanos no Nordeste brasileiro (1941-45)," Historia, Ciencia, Saude--Manquinhos 5, 3 (1999): 603-620.

Steven C. Williams, "Nationalism and Public Health: The Convergence of Rockefeller Foundation Technique and Brazilian Federal Authority during the Time of Yellow Fever, 1925-1930," in Missionaries of Science: the Rockefeller Foundation and Latin America edited by M. Cueto, Bloomington: Indiana Univ. press, 1994, 23-51.

Steven Palmer, "Central American Encounters with Rockefeller Public Health, 1914-1921," In Close Encounters of Empire: Writing the Cultural History of U.S.-Latin American Relations edited by G. M. Joseph et. al., Durham: Duke Univ. Press, 1998, 311-322.

6. NATIONAL/REGIONAL TRADITIONS

Required reading:

Steven Palmer, From popular medicine to medical populism: doctors, healers, and public power in Costa Rica, 1800-1940 Durham: Duke Univ. Press, 2003.

Simone P. Kropf, Nara Azavedo and Luiz O. Ferreira. "Biomedical Research and Public Health in Brazil: the case of Chagas's disease (1909-1950)," Social History of Medicine 16, 1 (2003): 111-130.

Further reading:

Stanley S. Blake, "The medicalization of *nordestinos*: public health and regional identity in northeastern Brazil, 1889-1930," The Americas 60, 2 (2003): 217-248.

Donna J. Guy, "Emilio and Gabriela Coni: reformers, public health, and working women," In The Human tradition in Latin America: the nineteenth century edited by J. Ewell and W. H. Beezley. Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, 1989, 233-248.

Nancy Leys Stepan, Beginnings of Brazilian Science: Oswaldo Cruz, Medical Research and Policy, 1890-1920 New York: Science History Publications, 1976.

Carl J. Murdock, "Physicians, the state and public health in Chile, 1881-1891," Journal of Latin American Studies 27 (1995): 551-567.

7. RACE, SEGREGATION AND RESISTANCE

Required reading:

Diana Obregon, "Building National medicine: Leprosy and Power in Colombia, 1870-1970," Social History of medicine 15, 1 (2202) 89-108.

Marcos Cueto, "Indigenismo and rural medicine in Peru: the indian sanitary brigade and Manuel Nuñez Butrón," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 65 (1991): 22-41.

Ana Maria Kapeluz-Poppi, "Rural Health and State Construction in Post-Revolutionary Mexico: The Nicolaita project for rural medical services," The Americas 58, 2 (2001): 261-283.

Further reading:

Ann Zulawski, "Hygiene and 'the Indian problem': ethnicity and medicine in Bolivia, 1910-1920," Latin American Research Review 35, 2 (2000): 107-129.

David S. Parker, "Civilizing the City of Kings: hygiene and housing in Lima," In Cities of hope: people, protests, and progress in urbanizing Latin America, 1870-1930. Edited by R.Pineo and J. Baer. Boulder: Westview Press, 1998, 153-178.

Marcos Cueto. "Social Medicine and "Leprosy" in the Peruvian Amazon," The Americas 2004 [forthcoming].

Vera Blin Reber, "Blood, coughs and fever: tuberculosis and the working class of Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1885-1915," Social History of Medicine 12, 1 (1999): 73-100.

Jonathan Leonard, "Research in the Argentine Outback: The Health Quest of Salvador Mazza," Bulletin of the Pan american Health Organization 26, 3 (1992): 256-270.

8. MALARIA, WORLD WAR II AND THE COLD WAR

Films: "Health education against malaria," U.S. Public Health Service and the South Carolina State Board of Health. 16 minutes. 1944. "Pacific enemy number two, malaria," United States Navy. 10 minutes. 1944. "Medical Service for Industry," Standard Oil Co. (New Jersey). 16 mm. 1954. National Library of Medicine.

Required reading:

Randall M. Packard, "No other logical choice: global malaria eradication and the politics of international health in the post-war era," Parassitologia 40 (1998): 217-229

Randall M. Packard and Paulo Gadelha, "A Land Filled with Mosquitoes: Fred L. Soper, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the *Anopheles gambiae* Invasion of Brazil," Parassitologia 36 (1994): 197-213.

Further reading:

David P. Adams, "Malaria, Labor, and population distribution in Costa Rica: a biohistorical perspective," Journal of Interdisciplinary History 27, 1 (1996): 75-85.

Marcos Cueto, "Appropriation and Resistance: Local responses to malaria eradication in Mexico," Journal of Latin American Studies [forthcoming].

Randall M. Packard, "Malaria Dreams: Postwar Visions of Health and Development in the Third World," Medical Anthropology 17 (1997): 279-296.

Héctor Gómez-Dantes and Anne-Emanuelle Birn, "Malaria and Social Movements in México: The Last 60 Years," Parassitologia 42 (2000): 69-85.

9. SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES**Required reading:**

Donna Guy, "White Slavery, public health and the socialist position on legalized prostitution in Argentina, 1913-1936," Latin American Research Review 23, 3 (1988): 60-80.

Katherine E. Bliss, "The Science of Redemption: Syphilis, sexual promiscuity and reformism in revolutionary Mexico," Hispanic American Historical review 79, 1 (1999): 1-40.

Sergio Carrara, "A geopolítica simbólica da sífilis: um ensaio de antropologia histórica," História, Ciências, Saúde: Manguinhos 3, 3 (1996-1997): 391-408.

Further reading:

Katherine E. Bliss, Compromised positions: prostitution, public health, and gender politics in revolutionary Mexico City Univ. Park: Pennsylvania State Univ. Press, 2001.

Sergio Carrara, Tributo a Vênus: a luta contra a sífilis no Brasil, da passagem do século anos anos 40 Rio de Janeiro: Fiocruz, 1996.

Glenford D. Howe, "Military-civilian intercourse, prostitution and venereal disease among black West Indian soldiers during World War I," Journal of Caribbean History 31, 1 (1997): 88-102.

Donna J. Guy, Sex and Danger in Buenos Aires: prostitution, family, and nation in Argentina Lincoln: Univ. of Nebraska Press, 1991.

Diana Obregón, "Médicos, prostitución y enfermedades venéreas en Colombia: (1886-1951)," Historia, Ciencia, Saude—Manguinhos 9 (supl. 2002): 161-86.

10. POPULATION CONTROL

FILM: "Delivering family planning services," Agency for International Development. 1974. 30 minutes. National Library of Medicine.

Required reading:

Donald T. Critchlow, "Birth control, population control and family planning: an overview," Journal of Health Policy 7, 1 (1995): 1-21.

Bonnie Mass, "A Historical sketch in the American Population Control Movement," International Journal of the Health Services 4 (1974): 651-676.

P. Singer, "Population and economic development in Latin America," International Journal of Health Services 3, 4 (1973): 731-736.

Further reading:

S. P. Johnson, World population and the United Nations Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1987.

P.J. Donaldson, "On the origins of the United States Government's international population policy," Population Studies 44, 3 (1990): 385-399.

Carter L. Marshall, "Health Malnutrition and the Roots of the World population growth," International Journal of the Health Services 4 (1974): 677-890.

John Sharpless, "World population growth, family planning and American foreign policy," Journal of Policy History 7, 1 (1995): 72-102.

11. AIDS

FILM: "Brazil: winning against Aids," Oley, PA : Bullfrog Films. 27 min. 2001.

Required reading:

Paul Farmer, AIDS and Accusation: Haiti and the Geography of Blame Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 1993.

Tina Rosenberg, "Look at Brazil," The New York Times Magazine, 28 January 2001, 10.

Further readings:

Maria Cristina da Costa Marques, A história de uma epidemia moderna - a emergência política AIDS/HIV no Brasil. Sao Paulo: Editora UEM, 2003.

Marcos Cueto, Culpa y Coraje: Historia de las políticas del VIH/Sida en el Perú. Lima: Consorcio de Investigación Económica y Social/Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, 2001.

Patrick Larvie, "Nation, Science and Sex: AIDS and the New Brazilian Sexuality," in Disease in the history of modern Latin America: from malaria to AIDS edited by D. Armus, Durham: Duke Univ. Press, 2003, 290-314.

Richard G. Parker, ed., A AIDS no Brasil, 1982-1992 Rio de Janeiro: ABIA, 1994.

12. THE RETURN OF EPIDEMICS

Document: Weekly Epidemiological Record 66, 9 (1 March 1991): 61-63.

Required reading:

Charles L. Briggs and Clara Mantini-Briggs, Stories in the time of cholera: racial profiling during a medical nightmare Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 2003.

Marcos Cueto, "Stigma and blame during an epidemic, Cholera in Peru 1991," In Diseases in the History of Modern Latin America, 268-289.

Further reading:

Marcos Cueto, The Return of Epidemics, Health and Society in Peru during the Twentieth Century. Aldershot, UK: Ashgate, 2001.

Asa Cristina Laurell, "Crisis, Neoliberal Health Policy, and Political Processes in Mexico," International Journal of Health Services 21, 3 (1991): 457-470.

Christopher Abel and Peter Lloyd-Sherlock, "Health in Latin America: Themes, Trends and Challenges," Healthcare reform and poverty in Latin America, edited by P. Lloyd-Sherlock, London: Institute of Latin American Studies, 1-20.

Nancy Scheper-Hugher, Death without weeping, the violence of everyday life in Brasil Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 1992.