

HISTORY 189b—SPRING 2004

THE HISTORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND EPIDEMIC DISEASE IN AMERICA

I. Instructor Margaret Humphreys, M.D., Ph.D.
206 Carr Building
684-2285
meh@duke.edu
Office hours: MW 2-3:30

II. Texts

Mirko Grmek, History of AIDS (1st pub. 1990; Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993).

Margaret Humphreys, Yellow Fever and the South (1st pub. 1992; Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998).

Alan Kraut, Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes and the “Immigrant Menace” (1st pub. 1994; Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1995).

William McNeill, Plagues and Peoples. (1st pub. 1976; updated ed. New York: Anchor Books, 1998).

Charles Rosenberg, The Cholera Years (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1962).

All texts have been ordered at The Regulator Bookshop on Ninth Street and are also on reserve in Perkins. Readings with an (R) insignia are articles or book extracts on **electronic** reserve.

Several movies will be shown throughout the course. Some are available in Lilly; some are in the professor’s personal possession. Arrangements can be made to borrow these for viewing if class has to be missed for an important, crucial, or life-threatening reason. But it makes me very nervous to have these films out of my hands, so try to avoid it.

Assignments:

1. Midterm and final examinations

Midterm will be a blue-book type exam written in the classroom

Final will be a take-home exam, handed out last day of class and due Friday, April 30th at noon.

2. 2 five-page papers (for topics, see Blackboard under course assignments)

#1--5 page paper due 2/17/2004

#2--5 page paper due 4/13/2004

Grading

The final grade is based on the papers and exams. Percentages are as follows:

paper #1	20%
paper #2	20%
midterm	20%
final	40%

Class participation is strongly encouraged, but given the current class size cannot be taken into account in grading. Class attendance is required; let me know if you have to miss class for any reason. Roll will be taken.

My grades are due 48 hours after the final. Once turned in they cannot be changed for any reason except clerical error. Given the multiple components of your grade you'll have plenty of feedback about how you're doing. Come talk to me if you have concerns. If my office hours don't suit your schedule, email me or phone and we'll set up another time.

History 189b: The History of Epidemic Disease and Public Health in America

1/8 Introduction

1/13 Historical Epidemiology of Infectious Disease

Reading: McNeill, Plagues and Peoples, pp. 19-32, (skim 35-160), 161-207

1/15 Disease in the New World

Reading: McNeill, Plagues and Peoples, pp. 208-295.

1/20 Smallpox in Colonial America

Reading: John Blake, "The Inoculation Controversy in Boston, 1721-1722," New England Quarterly 25 (1952): 489-506 [R]; Fenn on smallpox and germ warfare in the 18th century at <http://www.historycooperative.org/journals/jah/86.4/fenn.html>.

1/22 The 1793 Philadelphia Yellow Fever Epidemic

Reading: Martin S. Pernick, "Politics, Parties and Pestilence: Epidemic Yellow Fever in Philadelphia and the Rise of the First Party System," William and Mary Quarterly 29 (1972): 559-586. (R)

1/27 The Cholera Years, 1832

Reading: Rosenberg, Cholera Years, pp. 1-98.

1/29 The Cholera Years, 1849

Reading: Rosenberg, Cholera Years, pp. 101-172; Kraut, Silent Travelers, pp. 31-49.

2/3 Disease in the 1860s

Reading: Richard Harrison Shryock, "A Medical Perspective on the Civil War," in Shryock, Medicine In America: Historical Essays (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1966): 90-108; T. Avery Gibbs, "The Effects of Measles upon the Health of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, 1861-1862," unpublished manuscript. (Both R); Rosenberg, Cholera Years, pp. 175-242.

- 2/5 Yellow Fever and the Origins of the “Germ Theory”
 Reading: Humphreys, Yellow Fever, pp. 1-111.
- 2/10 Yellow Fever and the New Public Health
 Reading: Humphreys, Yellow Fever, pp. 113-182.
- 2/12 Ebola and the threat of emerging diseases
- 2/17 “The Immigrant Menace,” pt. 1.
 Reading: Kraut, Silent Travelers, pp. 50-77; 97-135.
 (first paper is due today)
- 2/19 “The Immigrant Menace,” pt. 2
 Reading: Kraut, Silent Travelers, pp. 136-165; Lawrence Flick, “The Essentials of the Crusade against Tuberculosis,” Public Health, Papers and Reports (APHA, 1906 meeting), reprinted Arno Press, 1976 ; Richard Harrison Shryock, “The Historical Significance of the Tuberculosis Movement,” in Shryock, Medicine in America, pp. 139-145. (Both R)
- 2/24 The Campaign for Clean Food and Pure Drugs
 Readings: Upton Sinclair, The Jungle (1st pub 1905, NY: Viking Press, 1946), pp. 95-99, 32-41, 61-63; James Harvey Young, The Toadstool Millionaires (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1961): pp. 205-244; James Harvey Young, “The Pig that Fell in the Privy,” Bulletin of the History of Medicine 59 (1985): pp. 467-480. (all R)
- 2/26 Saving the Babies
 Readings: Richard A. Meckel, Save the Babies (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1990), pp. 62-91; Elizabeth Fee and Evelyn Hammonds, “Science Politics and the Art of Persuasion: Promoting the New Scientific Medicine in New York City,” in D. Rosner, ed. Hives of Sickness (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1995), pp. 155-156, 165-185. (Both R)
- 3/2 “The Immigrant Menace,” pt 3.

Reading: Guenter Risse, "'A Long Pull, a Strong Pull, and All Together.'" San Francisco and Bubonic Plague, 1907-1908," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 66(1992): 260-86 (R); Kraut, Silent Travelers, pp. 78-96.

3/4 Midterm

3/9-11 Spring break

3/16 The Germ of Laziness

Reading: Alan I. Marcus, "The South's Native Foreigners: Hookworm as a Factor in Southern Distinctiveness," in Todd Savitt and James Harvey Young, eds., Disease and Distinctiveness in the American South (Knoxville: U. Tennessee Press, 1988): pp. 78-99; James H. Cassedy, "The 'Germ of Laziness' in the South, 1900-1915: Charles Wardell Stiles and the Progressive Paradox," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 45 (1971): 159-169. (Both R).

3/18 Pellagra

Readings: Elizabeth W. Etheridge, "Pellagra: An Unappreciated Reminder of Southern Distinctiveness," in Savitt and Young, Disease and Distinctiveness, pp. 100-119; Joseph Goldberger, "The Etiology of Pellagra," "Cause and Prevention of Pellagra," and "Treatment," in Public Health Reports 29 (1914): 1683-1686, 2354-2357, 2821-2825. (Both R)

3/23 The 1918 Influenza Epidemic

Reading: Alfred W. Crosby, Jr., "The Influenza Pandemic of 1918," in June Osborn, ed., Influenza in America (New York: Prodist, 1977), pp. 5-13; Katherine Anne Porter, "Pale Horse, Pale Rider," in The Collected Stories of Katherine Anne Porter (New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1965), pp. 269-317. (both R)

3/25 Syphilis

Reading: Allan M. Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study," Hastings Center Report 8 (1978): 21-29; Elizabeth Fee, "Sin vs. Science: Venereal Disease in Baltimore in the Twentieth Century," Journal of the History of Medicine 43 (1988): 141-164. (Both R)

3/30 Malaria, World War II, and the CDC

Readings: Margaret Humphreys, "Kicking a Dying Dog: DDT and the Demise of Malaria in the American South, 1942-1952," Isis 87 (1996): 1-17; Ernest Carroll

Faust, "Clinical and Public Health Aspects of Malaria in the United States," American Journal of Tropical Medicine 25 (1945): 185-201. (Both R)

4/1 Occupational and Environmental Health

Reading: Kraut, Silent Travelers, 166-196; David Rosner and Gerald Markowitz, "The Early Movement for Occupational Safety and Health, 1900-1917," in Judith Walzer Leavitt and Ronald L. Numbers, eds., Sickness and Health in America: Readings in the History of Medicine and Public Health (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 507-521.(R)

4/6 Polio

Readings: Naomi Rogers, "A Disease of Cleanliness: Polio in New York City, 1900-1990," in Rosner, Hives of Sickness, pp. 115-130; Naomi Rogers, "Dirt, Flies, and Immigrants: Explaining the Epidemiology of Poliomyelitis, 1900-1916," Journal of the History of Medicine 44 (1989): 486-505.

4/8 The History of AIDS, pt. 1

Readings: Grmek, History of AIDS, pp. 3-95.

4/13 The History of AIDS, pt. 2

Readings: Grmek, History of AIDS, pp. 99-197.
(second paper is due today)

4/15 Anthrax and Bioterrorism

Readings: Morton Swartz, "Recognition and Management of Anthrax—An Update," New England Journal of Medicine 345 (2001): 1621-6 (file under assignments on Blackboard website); MMWR on anthrax, at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5043a1.htm>.

4/20 Course summary and evaluations.