

# MEDICINE AND WESTERN CIVILIZATION--C3020

Spring 2001

## Syllabus\*

### I. THE HUMAN FORM DIVINE

Galen (130?-201 A.D.) On the Usefulness of Parts of the Body

“The Hand” pp. 67-79

“Epode” pp. 724-33

\*Mary Shelley, Frankenstein (1816)

### II. MAGIC, RELIGION, AND THE BODY

The Old Testament (Selections from Genesis, Leviticus, Exodus and Deuteronomy)

The New Testament (Selections from John and Matthew)

Augustine (354-430) "The Creation of the Man's Soul" pp. 3-23

Paracelsus (1493-1541) Paramirum pp. 1-38

Heinrich Kramer and James Sprenger The Malleus Maleficarum (1490?) pp. 179-85

Accounts of the Miracles of Henry VI (1481-1500) pp. 77-89

Clerical Investigation into the Case of Benedetta Carlini (1619-23)

in Judith Brown Immodest Acts (1986) pp. 3-5, 141-56

B. Piergili Vita della B. Chiara (1663) in Piero Camporesi

The Incorruptible Flesh (1983) pp. 3-7

Robert Burton The Anatomy of Melancholy (1621) pp. 174-79

Cotton Mather (1663-1728) The Angel of Bethesda pp. 1-10; 28-38

### III. THE BODY ANATOMIZED

Plato (427?-347 B.C.) Timaeus pp. 109-119

Hippocrates (460-377 B.C.) "The Nature of Man" pp. 202-13

Antonio Benivieni (1443-1502) "On Some Hidden and Remarkable Causes of Disease and Recovery"

Andreas Vesalius The Fabric of the Human Body (1543) pp. 126-41

Andreas Vesalius' First Public Anatomy: An Eyewitness Report (1540)

pp. 85-9, 95-7, 181-3, 209-11, 273

The Journal of Felix Platter (1554) pp. 88-90

William Harvey An Anatomical Study on the Motion of the Heart and Blood (1628) pp. 1-37

William Hunter's illustrations of the gravid uterus (1774)

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\*Starred texts can be purchased at the Columbia University Bookstore

#### IV. ANATOMY AND DESTINY

- Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) "On Generation" pp. 725b-729b  
Vesalian and post-Vesalian illustrations of the sexual organs  
Heinrich Kramer and James Sprenger Malleus Maleficarum (1490?)  
pp. 41-48, 54-6, 118-121  
Edward Clarke Sex in Education (1874)  
Mary Putnam Jacobi The Question of Rest for Women During Menstruation (1876)  
pp. 1-25  
Sigmund Freud "The Dissolution of the Oedipus Complex" (1924) pp. 173-79  
Alfred Kinsey, Wardell Pomeroy, Clyde Martin Sexual Behavior in the Human  
Male (1948)  
Simone de Beauvoir The Second Sex (1949) pp. xiii-xxix  
Mary Jane Sherfey The Nature and Evolution of Female Sexuality (1972)  
pp. 21-53, 132-45

#### V. PSYCHE AND SOMA

- Maimonides (1135-1204) "On the Management of Health" pp. 105-10  
Montaigne "On the Power of the Imagination" (1580) pp. 36-48  
William Wordsworth "Goody Blake and Harry Gill" (1798)  
\*Sigmund Freud Dora: An Analysis of a Case of Hysteria (1945)  
Harry Gold et. al "The Use of Placebos in Therapy" NY State Journal of Medicine  
46 (1946) pp. 1718-27

#### VI. PLAGUE

- Thucydides "The Pestilence at Athens" (5th c. B.C.) pp. 97-102  
Ulrich von Hutten "Of the Beginning of the French Pox" (1519) pp. 1-7  
Jacques de Bethencourt "Concerning the Name of the Venereal Disease" (1527)  
pp. 15-18  
\*Daniel Defoe Journal of the Plague Year (1722)

#### VII. THE CONTAMINATED AND THE PURE

- Jordan of Turre (fl. 1313-1335) "The Symptoms of Lepers"  
Bernardino Ramazzini The Diseases of Workers (1713) pp. 3-33, 95-107, 287-93  
Edwin Chadwick The Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population of Great  
Britian (1842) pp. 75, 80-105, 204-27, 315-18, 421-25  
Ignaz Semmelweis The Etiology of Childbed Fever (1860)  
pp. 61-75, 114-19, 163-67  
Joseph Lister "On the Antiseptic Principle in the Practice of Surgery" (1867)  
pp. 73-83  
Louis Pasteur "On the Extension of the Germ Theory to the Etiology of  
Certain Common Diseases" (1880) pp. 390-402  
Robert Koch "The Etiology of Tuberculosis" (1882) pp. 298-323

## VIII. VARIETIES OF MADNESS

- Hippocrates (460-377 B.C.) "On the Sacred Disease" pp. 179-93  
William Cowper (1731-1800) "Memoir" pp. 366-82  
William Wordsworth "Ruth" (1800)  
Philippe Pinel Treatise on Insanity (1801) pp. 1-33, 43-72, 78-102  
Sander Gilman Seeing the Insane 19th c. representations of the mad  
S. Weir Mitchell Fat and Blood: An Essay on the Treatment of Certain  
Forms of Neurasthenia and Hysteria (1877; 3rd ed. 1884) pp. 47-70  
Charlotte Perkins Gilman "The Yellow Wallpaper" (1899) pp. 9-36

## IX. THE GOOD PRACTITIONER

- Claude Levi-Strauss "The Sorcerer and His Magic" (1963) pp. 167-85  
Hippocrates "The Oath"  
Asaf Judaeus (7th c.) "Oath"  
Arnauld of Villanova (1235?-1311) "Bedside Manners" pp. 131-140  
Benjamin Rush The Vices and Virtues of Physicians (1801) pp. 293-307  
American Medical Association "Code of Ethics" (1847) pp. 29-34  
Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1910) "The Influence of Women on the Profession  
of Medicine" pp. 3-32  
Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961) "Indian Camp" pp. 16-21  
William Carlos Williams "Old Doc Rivers" (1932) pp. 13-41

## X. THE PHYSICIAN AS INNOVATOR

- Edward Jenner "Vaccination against Smallpox" (1798) pp. 153-181  
Leopold Auenbrugger "On Percussion of the Chest" (1761) pp. 123-37  
R. T. H. Laennec "A Treatise on Diseases of the Chest and on Mediate  
Auscultation" (1818) pp. 159-76  
Rudolf Virchow "Cellular Pathology" (1853) pp. 71-101  
Claude Bernard An Introduction to the Study of Experimental Medicine (1865)  
pp. 5-13, 35-43, 94-103  
Henry Beecher "Ethics and Clinical Research" (1966) pp. 288-93

## XI. THE SEGREGATION OF THE SICK

- Philippe Pinel "The Clinical Training of Doctors" (1793) pp. 67-98  
Dorothea Dix On Behalf of the Insane Poor (1843) pp. 3-32  
Florence Nightingale Notes on Hospitals (1859) pp. 1-12  
Valentine Francis A Thesis on Hospital Hygiene (1859)  
pp. 11-12, 141-68, 186-207  
Massachusetts General Hospital "Rules and Regulations" (1861) pp. 40-45  
Joseph Lister "On the Effects of the Antiseptic System of Treatment upon the  
Salubrity of a Surgical Hospital" (1870) pp. 84-101  
Clifford Beers The Mind that Found Itself (1908) pp. 34-45; 126-130  
George Orwell (1903-1950) "How the Poor Die" pp. 86-95  
\*Michel Foucault The Birth of the Clinic (1963)

## XII. PAIN, SUFFERING, AND DEATH

- Frances Burney "A Mastectomy" (1811) pp. 596-616  
James Young Simpson "Answer to the Religious Objections Advanced Against the  
Employment of Anesthetic Agents in Midwifery" (1849) pp. 110-22  
Jean Stafford "The Interior Castle" (1953) pp. 195-217  
\*Leo Tolstoy (1829-1910) The Death of Ivan Ilych  
Pius XII "The Prolongation of Life" (1958) pp. 501-4  
Harvard Ad Hoc Committee "The Definition of Brain Death" (1968) pp. 504-07.

## XIII. MEDICINE AND WESTERN CIVILIZATION

- \*Thomas Mann The Magic Mountain (1924)

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Vol. 1  
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Professors David Rothman and  
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