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HISTORY 204: HISTORY OF MEDICINE, 1750 TO THE PRESENT (Spring, 2003)

Required books

James Jones, Bad Blood

Sinclair Lewis, Arrowsmith

Charles Rosenberg, Cholera Years

Abraham Verghese, My Own Country

John Warner, Janet Tighe, Major Problems in the History of American Medicine and Public Health (WT)

E-reserve (ER)

Schedule of Lectures and Reading Assignments: (*Primary sources are in italics.*)

INTRODUCTION

1/8 Introduction

1/10 Concepts of health and disease: medicalizing behaviors

Hutchinson, "On Circumcision as Preventive of Masturbation" (1890-91) (ER)

Colby, "Mechanical Restraint of Masturbation in a Young Girl" (1897) (ER)

Engelhardt, Jr., "The Disease of Masturbation" (ER)

1/13 Concepts of health and disease: the social meaning of disease

Bierhoff, "The Problem of Prostitution and Venereal Diseases" (1911) (ER)

Patterson, WT, 17-25

1/15 The culture of biomedicine

Reverby, Rosner, WT, 3-9; Rosenberg, WT, 9-16

Kleinman, et.al., "Culture, Illness, and Care" (ER)

THE 18TH CENTURY MEDICAL WORLD

1/17 Disease Encounters

Andrew Blackbird, WT, 40

Calloway, WT, 41-48

Merrens, Terry, "Dying in Paradise" (ER)

1/20 Explaining disease

Le Page du Pratz, "A Virginia Domestic Guide", WT, 28-30, 37-39

Rosenberg, WT, 108-114

1/22 Medical practitioners

"A Medical Apprentice," WT, 63-64

Ulrich, WT, 73-80; Rosner, WT, 80-90

1/24 *Film: Midwife's Tale*

1/27 Medical practices: Smallpox inoculation

Mather, Douglass, "A Broadside," Boylston, WT, 30-37

Blake, WT, 48-54

1/29 Medical practices: Heroic systems

"George Washington's Physicians," WT, 57-58

Rush, "Defense of Blood-Letting" (1812) (ER)

THE 19TH CENTURY MEDICAL WORLD

- 1/31 Cities and epidemics
Rosenberg, *The Cholera Years*, Introduction, Parts I (1832) and III (1866)
- 2/3 Orthodox doubts and the rise of competing medical systems
Thomson, Bigelow, Nichols, "Domestic Practitioners," WT, 71-3, 94-5, 129-130, 135-36
- 2/5 **FIRST EXAMINATION**
- 2/7 Developments in European medical science, 1800-1860
Laennec, A Treatise on the Diseases of the Chest (1819) (ER)
Louis, Researches on the Effects of Bloodletting (1836) (ER)
- 2/10 Medical reform in antebellum America
"A New Work Medical Student," "A Medical Apprentice," "A County Medical Society,"
Ware, WT, 93-4, 96-7, 127-8, 133-5
Savitt, WT, 120-3; Warner, WT, 143-49
- 2/12 Excluding women
Channing, "A New York State Doctor," Blackwell, Clarke, WT, 67-69, 131-133, 136-142
- 2/14 Civil War experiences and sanitary reform
Griscom, Martineau, Cumming, Smith, Alcott, "Maine Physician," "Sanitary Reformers," WT, 161-81
Hoy, WT, 181-89; Blustein, WT, 190-195
- 2/17 Medical breakthroughs: anesthesia, germ theory, and antisepsis
"A Yale Medical Student," WT, 101-02
- 2/19 The bacteriological revolution and the demographic revolution
Bowditch, Blake, Bartholow, WT, 198-207
- 2/21 Shifting nature of medical authority
Warner, WT, 216-24; Hansen, WT, 224-32
- 2/24 Germs and strangers
Powderly, Hunter, "A Georgia Physican," "Popular Health," WT, 241-48, 250-53, 256
Kraut, WT, 264-68; Risse, 268-273
- 2/26 The culture of bacteriology
Sinclair Lewis, Arrowsmith (paper or essay due)
- 2/28 History of medicine through slides

3/1-3/9 SPRING BREAK

THE 20TH CENTURY MEDICAL WORLD

- 3/10 The modern hospital
Jackson, Warren, "Physican Charles," "Editor," WT, 64-67, 351-54
Ludmerer, WT, 304-09
- 3/12 Modern medical reform
"Educational Reformer," "American College," WT, 277-283, 286-89
Numbers, WT, 298-303
- 3/14 Consequences of medical reform — changing face of practitioners
Vandervall, WT, 283-86
- 3/17 Consequences of medical reform — decline of community services
Rockefeller, WT, 292-96
Tighe, WT, 309-15
- 3/19 **SECOND EXAMINATION**
- 3/21 Biomedicine's modern miracles

- 3/24 Biomedicine's limits: The challenge of venereal disease
de Kruif, WT, 431-35
Lederer, Parascondola, WT, 444-50
- 3/26 Biomedicine's power: the medicalization of everyday life
"Questions", "Psychiatrist," "US Army," WT, 319-320, 322-27
- 3/28 Race and human subjects research
Cartwright, WT, 103-106; Lewis, WT, 366-367
Lederer, WT, 416-422
- 3/31 Tuskegee Syphilis Study
James Jones, *Bad Blood* (**paper or essay due**)
- 4/2 Film: *Ms Evert's Boys*
- 4/4 The medicalization of Jews
Justice Holmes, "The Elite," "A Leading Research Scientist," WT, 327-329, 395-403
- 4/7 Tuskegee's legacy
Angell, "The Ethics of Clinical Research" (ER)
Varmus, Satcher, "Ethical Complexities" (ER)
"A Physician", WT, 406-09

SOME CHALLENGES FACING MODERN MEDICINE

- 4/9 Diseases of "civilization"
"Public Health", "Surgeon General," WT, 467-68, 481-84
- 4/11 Guest speaker: STDs in Nashville
- 4/14 AIDS in America
Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (**paper or essay due**)
- 4/16 Invisible populations: Race, gender, and AIDS
- 4/18 Disparities in health and health care
Institute of Medicine, "Assessing Potential Sources of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Care" (ER)
- 4/21 Conclusion

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Your course syllabus includes a schedule of lectures and readings. Please read the assignment BEFORE coming to class and be prepared to discuss the material.

Regular attendance and participation in class is expected. Although there is no specific grade for discussion, I will raise the final grades of those students who are on the border between two grades if they have participated regularly and intelligently in class discussion.

Your final grade will be based on the following:

- 1) Three in-class essay examinations, each worth 20% of your grade.
- 2) One 4-5 page paper, worth 20% of your grade. You will have the option of writing the paper on any one of the following books: Sinclair Lewis, Arrowsmith; James Jones, Bad Blood; Abraham Verghese, My Own Country. A more specific assignment will be distributed later in the semester.
- 3) Five 1-page critical essays, together worth 20% of your grade. The five essays will be distributed as follows:
 - a) Two of these essays will be on the two books for which you did not write the longer paper.
 - b) You will have the option of writing the other three essays on any of the *primary* sources

assigned this semester. The only constraints are the following: they must be handed in at the beginning of class on the day we discuss the reading; and the first essay must be handed in some time in January, the second in February, and the third in March.

Summary of requirements

Feb.5	First examination
Feb. 26	First paper (or essay)
Mar.19	Second examination
Mar.31	Second paper (or essay)
Apr.14	Third paper (or essay)
Apr.25 Noon,	ALTERNATE FINAL EXAMINATION
Apr.30 3 p.m.,	FINAL EXAMINATION

POLICIES AND PENALTIES

Exams: I do not permit make-up examinations unless there is a medical, family, or personal *emergency*, in which case you **must** (if it is at all possible) come talk to me beforehand.

Papers: Any paper handed in late will be docked one grade per day. In other words, a B will drop to a B- after the first day, to a C+ after the second day, etc. This applies to both the long paper and the short essays. Papers are due at the beginning of class.

Rewrites:

- A) 4-5 page paper: You will not be permitted to rewrite this paper. You may, however, choose to write an additional paper on one of the other books, provided we have not yet discussed the book in class. In the event that you choose this option, the lower grade will be worth 5%; the higher grade, 15%.
- B) 1-page critical essays: Again, rewrites are not permitted. You may, however, drop the lowest grade of the five. Please note, though, *that everyone must write all five essays*. Anyone failing to do so will have their essay grade lowered by one grade (for example, a B drops to a B-).

If you are having difficulty with the material in this course, do not wait until the end of the semester to come see me or the teaching fellow. It is possible to learn how to write good essay examinations and papers, and we are willing to help you do so.

Vanderbilt's Honor Code governs all work in this course. If you have any questions, please ask me--not another student--for clarification.