

## SYLLABUS

### *Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care* UMass Memorial Medical Center and UMass Medical School, 2009

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Location: Room S2-321

Day and Time: Wednesdays, 5:30-8:00 pm

Books are on loan from the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities and will be used for future programs. Please treat them with care, refrain from writing in them, and return them to your liaison by the end of the seminar series (before, if you are unable to complete the program). **You will be charged the replacement cost of any book you fail to return, plus a service charge of \$10.** Other materials, marked with an asterisk\*, are in this binder, which is yours to keep.

#### **Session 1 (January 21, snow date January 28): *Difficult Encounters***

Dannie Abse, "Case History" (poem)\*  
Richard Selzer, "Four Appointments with the Discus Thrower" (story)\*  
Rafael Campo, "Like a Prayer" (essay)\*  
Anton Chekhov, "Enemies" (story)\*

#### **Session 2 (February 11, snow date February 18): *Physical Disability/Difference***

Lucy Grealey, *Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)  
Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)\*  
Ryan Knighton, excerpts from *Cockeyed* (memoir)\*

#### **Session 3 (March 11; snow date March 18): *Confronting Mortality***

Tillie Olsen, "Tell Me a Riddle" (story, in volume of same name)  
Katherine Anne Porter, "The Jilting of Granny Weatherall" (story)\*  
Grace Paley, "A Conversation with My Father" (story)\*

#### **Session 4 (April 15): *Mental and Developmental Differences***

Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (novel)  
Adam Haslett, "Notes to My Biographer" (story)\*

#### **Session 5 (May 13): *All-too-human Healers***

Abraham Verghese, *The Tennis Partner* (memoir)  
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)\*  
Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)\*

#### **Session 6 (June 17): *Brave New Worlds of Science***

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go* (novel)