

History of Medicine Student-Faculty Seminar: Optional Enrichment Elective

Syllabus, Fall 2007

Instructors

Ellen More, Ph.D., LSL (History of Medicine)—Sponsoring Department
Thomas Cropley, M.D., Medicine (Dermatology)
Richard Glew, M.D., Medicine (Infectious Disease)

Course Requirements:

- Attendance (at least 5 of the 6 classes: September 18-November 27, 2007);
- Participation in a presentation *or* an individually written paper;
- Eligibility for a letter of commendation requires *both* a presentation and a paper.

Goals and objectives:

The goals of this elective include helping students to acquire a deeper understanding of the historical context for the pressing issues of today's health care system. Today's clinician faces daily challenges to her/his best medical judgment imposed by an increasingly corporate environment for health care, by the problems of a large population of the uninsured, by an intrusive campaign to sell pharmaceuticals, and by the multiple cultures of the patient population. Through a better understanding of medical history, they can gain needed perspective on the social, professional, and moral climate in which they will be practicing.

A secondary objective will be to encourage, by example, the development of an open learning environment in which students of any year (first through fourth) and faculty will participate in small-group discussion collaboratively and jointly to create a collegial learning environment.

Class Hours: 1.5 contact hours biweekly, for 12 weeks (9 contact hours total)

Readings:

Text:

Roy Porter, ed., *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Medicine* (1996; Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2006).

Reserve Readings:

Kenneth M. Ludmerer, *Time to Heal* (Oxford, 1999), pp. 260-287.

Roger Bulger, "The Medical Center: University of Massachusetts," in *New Medical Schools at Home and Abroad* (Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, 1978), pp. 125-146.

Class Schedule:

September

- 18 Introduction
Reading:
Porter, "Introduction"
Presentation:
Dr. Cropley, "The 'Army Itch': A Dermatological Mystery"

October

- 2 Disease and Public Health
Reading:
Porter, Chapter 3, "What is Disease?" Chapter 7, "Drug Treatment and the Rise of Pharmacology"
Presentations:
Lexie Tumolo, "Public Health and the Fight against Syphilis"
Darrah Doyle and Joanna Chaurette, "Anti-syphilitic Therapies, esp. Penicillin"
- 16 Arabic Medicine and the West
Readings:
Porter, Chapter 2
Presentation: Nicholas Csikesz
- 30 Disease Management: Social Causes and Individual Responses
Reading:
Porter, Chapter 4, "Primary Care"; Chapter 9, "Medicine, Society and the State"
Presentations:
Sushrit Jangi and Nishari Mehta, "Malaria Control in early 20th C. India"
Mame (Mairread) Donahue and Shaun Fitzgerald, "The History of Diabetes"

November

- 13 History of Pathology and Care of the Newborn
Reading:
Porter, Chapter 5, "Medical Science"
Presentation:
Magdalena Slosar, Jennifer Murphy, and Kristin Johansen, "The Microscope in Laboratory Medicine"
Karen Teelin, "Advice on the Newborn: New Mothers and their Doctors"
- 27 History of Medical Education, esp. UMMS
Reading:
Ludmerer, *Time to Heal*, Chapter 14, 260-287 (On reserve)
Bulger, "The Medical Center: University of Massachusetts" (On reserve)
Porter, Chapter 10
Presentation:
Krunal Patel and Sophie Delano, "Aspects of the History of UMMS"