HMED C118: Disease in History
Schedule of lectures: 2003-2004

Course leaders: Prof. Bill Bynum & Dr. Sanjoy Bhattacharyya

Thursdays, 12-1, Lecture Room
Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1AD.

25th Sept. – Organisational Meeting [BB]

2nd Oct. – Historical approaches to disease [BB]

9th Oct. – The historical ecology of disease [BB]

16th Oct – Disease in the hospital: Bright’s Disease & Rheumatic Heart Disease [BB]

23rd Oct. – Disease in the laboratory: Germ theory [BB]

30th Oct. – Disease and colonial order: Plague [SB]

6th Nov. Reading week – No lecture

13th Nov. – Disease and economic order: Hookworm & Plague [SB]

20th Nov. – Disease and military order: Malaria [SB]

27th Nov. – Disease and social order: Cholera [BB]

4th Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 1: Malaria [SB]

11th Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 2: Smallpox [SB]

Christmas break

15th Jan. – Experience of illness & management of disease 3: Tuberculosis [SB]

22nd Jan. – Disease and imperial superiority: Tuberculosis & Mental disease [SB]

29th Jan. – Disease and imperialism: Tropical Diseases [SB]

5th Feb. – Disease and heredity [BB]

12th Feb. – Disease as social diagnosis: Poverty [BB]
19th Feb. – Reading week: No lecture

26th Feb. – Disease & Deviance: Homosexuality [BB]

4th March. – Negotiating disease 1: Influenza, public health & the law [SB]

11th March – Negotiating disease 2: Smallpox, compulsory vaccination & the law [SB]

18th March – Making of an epidemic: Anorexia nervosa [BB]

25th March – Historical perspectives on AIDS [BB]

Note:
* BB = Prof. Bill Bynum
* SB = Dr. Sanjoy Bhattacharya
HMED C-118
DISEASE IN HISTORY: READING ASSIGNMENTS

KEY: Note: Unstarred items are additional useful texts for energetic students
  * Highly Recommended
  ** Required

SET TEXTS:
** Charles E. Rosenberg and Janet Golden (eds), Framing Disease: Studies in Cultural History (Rutgers University Press, 1992 [pb])

** W. F. Bynum, Science and the Practice of Medicine in the Nineteenth Century (Cambridge University Press, 1994 [pb])

Note: Other required items will be handed out in the form of xeroxes, if copyright permits. All texts will be available through the Wellcome’s Student Loan Collection and, in many instances, from the UCL Library as well.

2nd Oct. – Historical approaches to disease [BB]
** Charles E. Rosenberg, ‘Framing Disease’, in Rosenberg & Golden

** Bynum, Science, ch. 1


There are also several essays of interest in Arthur L. Caplan et al. (eds), Concepts of Health and Disease: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1981). (In Student Loan, Wellcome Library)

9th Oct. – The historical ecology of disease [BB]

** 16th Oct – Disease in the hospital: Bright’s Disease & Rheumatic Heart Disease [BB]**

** Steven J. Peitzman, ‘From Bright’s Disease to ESRD’, in Rosenberg & Golden

** Bynum, Science, ch. 2

** R. Bright, *Reports of Medical Cases* (Longman et al., 1827), pp. 67-76

** Christopher Lawrence, ‘Definite and Material: Coronary Thrombosis and Cardiologists in the 1920s’, in Rosenberg & Golden

** Peter English, ‘Emergence of Rheumatic Fever in the 19th Century’, in Rosenberg & Golden


** 23rd Oct. – Disease in the laboratory: Germ theory [BB]**

** Bynum, Science, chs 4-5

** ‘Introduction’ to Andrew Cunningham and Perry Williams (eds), *The Laboratory Revolution in Medicine* (Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 1-13


** 30th Oct. – Disease and colonial order: Plague [SB]**


6th Nov. Reading week – No lecture

**PLEASE WORK ON REVIEW!**

13th Nov. – Disease and economic order: Plague & Hookworm [SB]


**20th Nov. – Disease and military order: Malaria [SB]**


** Socrates Litsios, ‘Malaria Control, the Cold War, and the Postwar Reorganisation of International Assistance’, *Medical Anthropology*, Vol. 17, No. 3, pp. 255-278.


**27th Nov. – Disease and social order: Cholera [BB]**

** Bynum, *Science*, ch. 3


4th Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 1: Malaria


11th Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 2: Smallpox


** S. Bhattacharya, ‘Re-devising Jennerian Vaccines?: European Technologies, Indian Innovation and the Control of Smallpox in South Asia, 1850-1950’, in Biswamoy Pati and Mark Harrison (eds), *Health,*


15th Jan. – Experience of illness & management of disease 3:

**Tuberculosis [SB]**


** Barbara Bates, ‘Quid pro Quo in Chronic Illness: Tuberculosis in Pennsylvania, 1876-1926’, in Rosenberg & Golden


22nd Jan. – Disease and imperial superiority: Tuberculosis & Mental disease [SB]


**29th Jan. – Disease and imperialism: Tropical Diseases [SB]**

** John Farley, ‘Parasites and the Germ Theory of Disease’, in Rosenberg & Golden

** Michael Worboys, ‘Germs, Malaria and the Invention of Mansonian Tropical Medicine: From “ Diseases in the Tropics” to “Tropical Diseases”’, in David Arnold (ed.), *Warm Climates and Western Medicine: The Emergence of Tropical Medicine, 1500-1900* (Rodopi, 1996), pp. 181-207

** Michael Worboys, ‘The Emergence of Tropical Medicine: A study in the establishment of a scientific specialty’, in Gerard Lemaire, Roy MacLeod, Michael Mulkay and Peter Weingart (eds), *Perspectives on the Emergence of Scientific Disciplines* (Chicago: Aldine, 1976), pp. 75-98.

** Bynum, Science, ch. 6


**5th Feb. – Disease and heredity [BB]**


12th Feb. – Disease as social diagnosis: Poverty [BB]

** John M. Eyler, ‘The Sick Poor and the State: Arthur Newsholme on Poverty, Disease, and Responsibility’ in Rosenberg & Golden

** Elizabeth Fee, ‘Henry E. Sigerist: His Interpretations of the History of Disease and the Future of Medicine’, in Rosenberg & Golden

19th Feb. – Reading week: No lecture

26th Feb. – Disease & Deviance: Homosexuality [BB]


** Bert Hansen, ‘American Physicians’ Discovery of Homosexuals, 1880-1900: A New Diagnosis in a Changing Society’ in Rosenberg & Golden


4th March. – Negotiating disease 1: Influenza, public health & the law [SB]


**11th March – Negotiating disease 2: Smallpox, compulsory vaccination & the law [SB]


**18th March – Making of an epidemic: Anorexia nervosa [BB]
** Joan Jacobs Brumberg, ‘From Psychiatric Syndrome to “Communicable” Disease: The Case of Anorexia Nervosa’, in Rosenberg & Golden


25th March – Historical perspectives on AIDS [BB]


HMED C118: Disease in History: First Term Essay

Deadline – 20th November 2003

The essay for this term will take the form of a book review of about six sides (about 1,500 words) of one of the following books:


You should pretend that you have been asked to review it for *The Guardian* or *The Times Literary Supplement* (both of them ordinarily pay but in this case, the fee will be waived). Your review should above all demonstrate that you have read and thought about the book. While you should briefly discuss (or summarize) the book's contents, you should primarily assess the aims of the book and evaluate how well the volume achieves the author's stated aims. If, in addition, you are able to bring in bits of other work on the general topic, so much
the better. The review should be about 4-6 sides in length. Copies of the books are in the student loan collection.

There are other monographs on the history of disease which would be acceptable by arrangement.
The essays in Rosenberg and Golden explore a variety of ways in which diseases have been ‘framed’ historically. For your own second term essay, we want you to assume that a second edition of the volume has been called for, and the news of your first term’s efforts has got abroad, with the natural consequence that you have now been asked to contribute an essay to this new edition. Obviously you cannot write on a disease which is already in the first edition. The world is full of lots of diseases, and we leave the final choice to you, with the caveat that you must not write on the same disease as your first term’s book review, and if you choose a disease covered in the lectures but not in Rosenberg and Golden, your own essay should go beyond the lecture and required reading. Your essay should be DOUBLE SPACED and be properly referenced. It should be 8-10 pages (ca. 2-3,000 words).

There are good introductory essays on some of the major kinds of disease (nutritional, endocrinological, mental, tropical sexually transmitted; plus a general essay on cancer) in the *Companion Encyclopedia* from which you have already had Kiple’s article as a handout. In addition, there are articles on most individual diseases in Kenneth Kiple (ed.) *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease*. There is a reference-only copy in the Student Loan Collection. Each of the articles has a bibliography, which should guide you to further sources. Subject index and key word searched on the Wellcome catalogue should also be helpful. Kiple is not particularly good on individual psychiatric conditions, but the essay by Jack Pressman on ‘Concepts of mental illness in the West’ has a good bibliography. You should have much freedom of choice (and consequently the demand on resources should be spread thinly). There are a variety of approaches that you could adopt; e.g. debates about a disease's status, its treatment, its cause, its experience, etc. General histories of x or y disease are
unlikely to prove very satisfactory; ideally your essay should pick up on some aspect of contention or debate, with a social dimension, and a remembrance of the range of factors which go into the ‘framing’ of disease.