C123: Asian Medical History
Mondays 12 – 1pm [optional reading seminar follows 1 – 2pm]
Lecture Theatre, 2nd floor Wellcome Centre for History of Medicine,
Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1AD

Course Convenor:
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24 Eversholt Street     office hours: Tuesday 2-4pm

20 lecture hours

First Term: 10 lectures
1.  29th September:  Orientation
2.  6th October:   Construction of the Chinese Medical Body 1
3.  13th October: Construction of the Chinese Medical Body 2
4.  20th October: Diagnosis & Treatment
5.  27th October Construction of the Indian Medical Body

Reading Week: week commencing 3rd November
6.  10th November: Self-cultivation and Asian Medicine 1
7.  17th November: Self-cultivation and Asian Medicine 2
8.  24th November: Tibetan Medicine
9.  1st December: Physicians, Spirit Mediums and Gentlemen of Remedies
10.  8th December: Theories of Disease

Second Term: 10 lectures
11. 12th January Alchemy, Medicine and Religion (China)
12. 19th January Alchemy, Medicine and Religion (India)
13. 26th January The Pharmacological Traditions
14. 2nd February Narcotic Culture: A History of Opiate Use in China
15. 9th February Food and Medicine

Reading Week: week commencing 16th February
16. 23rd February The Construction of Tradition: TCM
17. 1st March Transmission of Asian Medicine to Europe
18. 8th March Medical Pluralism in India
19. 15th March Reception of Western Medicine in China/India
20. 22nd March The Evaluation of Traditional Medicines
Asian medicine aims to provide knowledge of the background and development of key concepts and practices in the history of Chinese medicine, with a secondary focus on the history of Indian medicine; the transmission of these Asian medical systems to Europe and the transmission of Western medicine to China and India; the historical processes effecting the reception of traditional medicines in the modern world. The course will give a broad historical perspective, while at the same time focussing on the social, cultural and political contexts of key times of medical innovation. Lecturers on Indian medical systems will be given by Dr Dominik Wujastyk and Dr Sanjoy Battacharya.

Course Reading
Students are expected to spend three hours a week reading the books listed. Only highlighted texts are required readings. Almost all the readings can be found in the Wellcome library. A few necessitate a trip to SOAS library which you can enter with your student ID.

*** Items marked with three asterisks and highlighted are required background reading and can be found in the Teaching Collection.

** Items marked with two asterisks must be read and knowledge of their general theses will be assumed in relevant questions set in the final examination and in the essays.

§ Required reading for essay and exam questions on the topic in question held as photocopy in student loan collection. See the C123 box files.

Unmarked items are thoroughly recommended, but please refer to notes about usefulness.

For an extended reading see the list associated with essay options.

Assessment
2 Pieces of Written Work: 1 Essay 25% due 8th December, and 1 Essay 25%, due 23rd February. (essays 2,500 words max 5,000) Examination (50%)
Background Reading

The following are easy illustrated readings which will give you a general understanding of Chinese and Indian history and culture. Concentrate on the late Warring States and early Empires as well as 19th and 20th C China. For the second term read sections on religion.


Reference


Chinese Medicine, Essential Readings


Sivin, Nathan. Traditional Medicine in Contemporary China (Ann Arbor: Center for Chinese Studies, The University of Michigan, 1987), 43 - 80.** [reading week term 1]


Indian Medicine: General Readings

Essential if you plan to answer Indian or comparative questions for essay or exam


1. 29th September: Orientation  
[1 - 2pm: DVD] The Dragon’s Ascent/Science for Survival

2. 6th October: Construction of the Chinese Medical Body 1  


Basic information on Yin, Yang, qi and shen.


Or  
For those with an interest in philosophy of science – quite difficult reading, but very rewarding.

3. 13th October: Construction of the Chinese Medical Body 2  

Lo, Vivienne “脉 The Channels: A preliminary examination of a Lacquered Figurine from the Western Han Period,” in Early China 21 (1996) [written with He Zhiguo], 81-123. §

4. 20th October: Diagnosis & Treatment  


Despeux, Catherine. “From Prognosis to Diagnosis of Illness in Tang China” (See photocopy of Lo & Cullen Mediaeval Chinese Medicine [in press] in Teaching Collection, C123 Box files).

5. 27th October Construction of the Indian Medical Body  
Staal, Frits (1993). 'Indian bodies.' In Thomas P. Kasulis, Roger T. Ames,

Wimal Dissanayake (eds.), Self as body in Asian theory and practice, chap. 4, pp. 59-102. New York: SUNY.
6. 10th November: Self-cultivation and Asian Medicine 1


The Hat.ayogapradýpik¯a, a medieval yoga text: downloadable from http://www.YogaVidya.com/


7. 17th November: Self-cultivation and Asian Medicine 2


8. 24th November: Tibetan Medicine


For a detailed bibliography on Tibetan medicine itself, see Aschoff, J, Annotated Bibliography of Tibetan Medicine 1789-1995, Ulm (1996).

9. 1st December: Physicians, Spirit Mediums and Gentlemen of Remedies

Berg, Daria. Carnival in China (Leiden: Brill, 2002), 61 – 161.***


10. 8th December: Theories of Disease (Wujastyk and Lo)

Sivin, Nathan. Traditional Medicine in Contemporary China (Ann Arbor: Center for Chinese Studies, The University of Michigan, 1987), 273 - 288.***

K.F. Kiple. The Cambridge World History of Human Disease (CUP: 1939 ed) 354 -362. following the useful survey by Angela Leung.***


Meulenbed, Gerrit Jan. ‘The constraints of theory in the evolution of nosological classifications: a study on the position of blood in Indian medicine (ayurveda)’ in Meulenbed, GJ. Medical Literature from India, Sri Lanka and Tibet, 91 – 106.

11. 12th January Alchemy, Medicine and Religion (China)


12. 19th January Alchemy, Medicine and Religion (India)

White, David E. The Alchemical Body (Chicago, 1996), chapters 1 and 3.

13. 26th January  The Pharmacological Traditions
Unschuld, Paul. Medicine in China: A History of Pharmaceutics (University of California, 1986).**

Mitchell, Feng and Wiseman. Shang Han Lun (On Cold Damage). (Brookline: Paradigm Publications, 1999), 1 – 33.**


13. 2nd February  Narcotic Culture: A History of Opiate Use in China (Professor Frank Dikotter, SOAS)

Laamann, L. “Pain and Pleasure: Opium as Medicine in Late Imperial China” in Twentieth Century China vol. 28, No 1 (Nov 2002), 1 – 20. **

14. 9th February  Food and Medicine


Anderson. The Food of China ( New Haven: Yale, 1988), 229 – 243.**


Week commencing 16th February=Reading Week

16. 24th February  The Construction of Tradition: TCM


17. 3rd March Transmission of Asian Medicine to Europe

Bivins, Roberta. Acupuncture, Expertise and Cross-Cultural Medicine (Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2000).**


Zysk, Ken. ‘New Age Ayurveda or What happens to Indian medicine when it comes to America’ in Traditional South Asian Medicine (2001 vol. 6), 10 – 26.

18. 10th March Medical Pluralism in India
(Dr Sanjoy Bhattacharya, Wellcome Centre)


19. 17th March Reception of Western Medicine in China/India
(Dr Sanjoy Bhattacharya, Wellcome Centre)

Wong, K Chimin and Wu Lien-Teh History of Chinese medicine : being a chronicle of medical happenings in China from ancient times to the present period (Tianjin: Tianjin Press, 1932).


20. 24th March The Evaluation of Traditional Medicines

Vincent and Furnham, Complementary Medicine (Chichester: Wiley, 1997),


WHO report of Traditional Medicine Strategy

www.who.int/medicines/organization/trm/wpe4.jpg

House of Lords Report on Complementary Medicine:
http://www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk/pa/ld199900/ldselect/ldsctech/123/12301.htm