

HISTORY 271 - L01 (2010-01)

Health, Disease and the Body: The History of Medicine in Western Culture

Instructor:

Yvonne Petry
Room 114, Luther College
Ph.585-5039
Email: yvonne.petry@uregina.ca

Time and Location:

12:30-1:20 Monday, Wednesday and Friday; Luther College Room 211

Prerequisite: One 100-level History course or completion of 15 credit hours.

Textbooks:

- 1) Roy Porter. *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind: A Medical History of Humanity*. 1999.
- 2) David Rothman et al, eds. *Medicine and Western Civilization*. 1995.

Course Description:

This course is a survey of the history of medicine in western society. Our approach will be to examine medical beliefs, practices and practitioners as a part of cultural history. The course will be organized chronologically, beginning with the foundations of western medicine in ancient Greece. A section on medieval medicine will include a discussion of the rise of medical schools, the influence of Arabic medicine, healing and the saints, and the impact of the Black Death. We will then look at the early modern era, a period when medicine became interwoven with alchemy, astrology and magic. In the last section of the course, we look at the diseases which arose from increased urbanization and trace the emergence of modern medicine in the nineteenth century.

Assignments and Exams:

Mid-term Exam	15%
Term Paper Proposal	10%
Term Paper	35%
Final Examination	30%
Class Participation	10%

Due Dates:

Mid-Term Exam	Monday, February 22
Term Paper Proposal due	Monday, March 1
Term Paper due	Monday, April 12
Final Exam	Monday, April 19

Announcements and Reminders

- All students are expected to attend class, submit written assignments on time, and prepare for class discussions.
- You have two required texts for this course. The first is a textbook, Roy Porter's *Greatest Benefit to Mankind*. The Course Outline provides a suggested reading schedule for this book. The second text is a sourcebook, *Health, Disease and Society in Europe*. We will be using the sourcebook in class, so please bring it with you. Selections from the sourcebook will be assigned in class, some as recommended reading and others as required reading. We will be using required readings in small and large group discussions, so you need to be prepared for these. Preparation for and participation in these discussions will contribute to your mark for class participation.
- There is a UR Course website for this course, accessible from the U of R homepage. Our website will include copies of most assignments, handouts and powerpoint presentations, as well as additional materials not distributed in class, such as the course bibliography and a glossary of terms. NOTE: If you want to email me, please use the university email address listed on the course syllabus, not the email option on the course website.
- Essay style must conform to that outlined in the Department of History Guidelines for Footnotes and Bibliography, which will be distributed in class and is available on our course website and the History Department's website. **Essays submitted without proper citations will be not graded, but returned to you without a grade.** Failure to hand in a term paper will result in a failing grade for the course.
- The penalty for late submission of written assignments (without prior consent of the instructor) is a deduction of **2% per day**.
- Please turn off your cell phones during class time.
- If you need to leave class early on a given day, please inform me at the start of the class.
- Plagiarism - the unacknowledged borrowing of someone else's words or ideas (whether intentional or unintentional) - is a serious form of academic misconduct and can result in disciplinary action. Cases of plagiarism will be reported to the Assistant Dean of Luther College. See pp.34-35 of the University of Regina Undergraduate Calendar for more information.
- **If there is any student in this course, who, because of a disability, may have a need for accommodations, please come and discuss this with me, as well as contacting the Coordinator of the Disability Resource Office at 585-4631.**

HISTORY 271-L01 COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 and 2 – The Foundations of Western Medicine

Textbook: Chapters 2 and 3

Week 3 and 4 – Medicine, Religion and Epidemic Disease in the Middle Ages

Textbook: Chapters 4 and 5

Week 5 and 6 – Early Modern Medicine: Developments and Sidetracks

Textbook: Chapters 8 and 9

Mid-Semester Break – February 15-19

Week 7 and 8 – Religion, Disease and European Expansion

Week 9 - Gender and Medical Advancement in the Eighteenth Century

Textbook: Chapters 10 and 11

Week 10 and 11 – Hospitals, Public Health and Germ Theory

Textbook: Chapters 13-14

Week 12 – Gender, Religion and Medicine in the Nineteenth Century

Textbook: Chapter 12

No class on Friday, April 2 (University Holiday)

Week 13 – Mental Illness in the Nineteenth Century

Textbook: Chapter 16

Week 14 – Conclusions, Review and Preparation for Final Exam

Textbook: Chapter 21

*"Textbook" refers to *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind*. Readings from the sourcebook will be assigned in class.