What are the origins of modern medicine? How did people experience disease in the past? This course addresses the changes and developments in Western medicine from the Ancient Greek world to the 19th century. In this historical survey we will look at changes in the education of practitioners, locations of healing, and how expectations that people had of medicine, the body and illness shifted with new discoveries and theories about health and disease. Among the themes we will pursue are the rise of hospitals, developments in anatomy and physiology, religion and medicine, contagious diseases outbreaks, and changes in the doctor and patient relationship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moodle Website:</th>
<th><a href="https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=38859">https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=38859</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment:</td>
<td>There are two primary forms of assessment: an essay due on Friday, 13 December and a final examination, to be held during the third term.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timetable:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/hpsc">www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/hpsc</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisites:</td>
<td>no prerequisites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course tutor(s):</td>
<td>Dr Cristiano Turbil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cturbil@ucl.ac.uk">cturbil@ucl.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office location:</td>
<td>22 Gordon Square</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule
Note: There will be brief supplementary readings from primary sources each week, in addition to the items mentioned under ‘Activity’ and in the Readings lists below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCL Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><em>Introduction to the course</em>: from archaic to Hippocratic medicine</td>
<td>5 Oct</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous activity (Individual work)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><em>Mapping the Human Body</em>: Dissection and vivisection in Hellenistic</td>
<td>12 Oct</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><em>Galenism</em>: Galen of Pergamum and Roman Medicine</td>
<td>19 Oct</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous activity (group work)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><em>Islamic Medicine</em>: translations, inheritance and innovation</td>
<td>26 Oct</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><em>Western Medieval medicine</em>: charities, hospitals and contagious diseases (leprosy and plague)</td>
<td>2 Nov</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><em>Renaissance Medicine</em>: Rethinking anatomy and physiology Vesalius and Harvey</td>
<td>16 Nov</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td><em>Medicine and the plague: Early modern understanding of disease outbreaks</em></td>
<td>23 Nov</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td><em>The birth of the clinic</em>: The Hôtel-Dieu and the rise of clinical medicine</td>
<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td><em>La médecine expérimentale</em>: Medicine, laboratories and experiments in the 19th century</td>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Synchronous activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td><em>Toward the twentieth century</em>: What can we learn from the past?</td>
<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>Synchronous Discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of the Synchronous discussions and activities will be recorded and available online.
Assessments

| Summary |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| **Description** | **Deadline**    | **Word limit**  | **Deadline for Tutors to provide Feedback** |
| Source analysis  | 5pm, 17th November | 1000 words     | 10th December 2020 |
| Research essay   | 5pm, 15th December | 3000 words     | 15th January 2021 |

Assignments

The assignments will consist of a 1000-word source analysis and a 3000-word essay on different topics of your choice in the history of medicine. Both assessments will be based on your own research, starting from primary and secondary materials.

Both assessments must be submitted via Moodle.

In order to be deemed ‘complete’ on this module students must attempt both assessments.

Criteria for Assessment for this Module:

The departmental marking guidelines for individual items of assessment can be found in the STS Student Handbook.

Aims & objectives

Aims:
This module aims to familiarise the student with views of the body, health and illness from the Ancient Greek world to 19th century. We will discuss ancient, medieval and early modern and modern understandings of the body and illness, the varieties of theory and practice of medicine, and the historical background to modern medicine. Among the themes we will pursue are the rise of hospitals, developments in anatomy and physiology, religion and medicine, contagious diseases, and changes in pharmacology.

Objectives:
The objectives of this module are to train the student to think critically about the past and to contextualize past practices and theories of medicine.

Course expectations
The objectives of this module are to train the student to think historically and contextualise past practices and theories of medicine.
**Reading list**

**Best General Introductions:**
There are two basic textbooks we will use for this module. Many copies of each are available just around the corner at the Wellcome Library, 183 Euston Rd. Each has its strengths as well as its faults. They are:


Note that the first of the two textbooks, Nutton’s *Ancient Medicine*, which we will read extensively in the first half of term, is available online via the Wellcome Library. You must register as a reader at the Wellcome (it’s free and fairly easy) and then, with your library membership information, you can access the book anywhere at: [http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/record=b1586991~S8](http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/record=b1586991~S8)

**Additional readings:**

- Nancy Siraisi, *Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine: An Introduction to Knowledge and Practice* (Chicago: Chicago UP, 1990) Full text online via Library
Lecture Readings:

**Week 1:** *Introduction to the course: from archaic to Hippocratic medicine*

**Required:** Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, chs. 3-4


Look at:


**Recommended:** Kirk, et al., *The Presocratic Philosophers*


Helen King, *Hippocrates’ Woman*, 1998


**Week 2: Mapping the Human Body: Dissection and vivisection in Hellenistic**

**Required:** Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, chs. 9 & 11.

**Recommended:** H. von Staden, *Herophilus: The Art of Medicine in Early Alexandria*

Celsus, *On Medicine*, vol. 1, 3-35


**Week 3: Galenism: Galen of Pergamum and Roman Medicine**

**Required:** Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, chs. 15 &16

Read also the brief treatise by Galen, ‘The Best Doctor is also a Philosopher’: [https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/pluginfile.php/465064/mod_resource/content/1/Galen%20Best%20Doctor.pdf](https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/pluginfile.php/465064/mod_resource/content/1/Galen%20Best%20Doctor.pdf)

**Recommended:** Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, ch. 13


O. Temkin, *Galenism: Rise and Decline of a Medical Philosophy*, ch.1


**Week 4: Islamic Medicine: translations, inheritance and innovation**

**Required:** Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp. 93-125

See primary sources on Moodle.

**Recommended:** P. Pormann and E. Savage-Smith, *Medieval Islamic Medicine*, ch. 1

Michael Dols, *Medieval Islamic Medicine*, pp. 1-42

**Week 5: Western Medieval medicine: charities, hospitals and contagious diseases (leprosy and plague)**
Week 6: Renaissance Medicine: Rethinking anatomy and physiology with Vesalius and Harvey

   Andreas Vesalius, Preface, On the Fabric of the Human Body, see translation at: http://vesalius.northwestern.edu/books/FA.a.html
   Selections from Harvey, On the Motion of the Heart and Blood in Animals (1628), in Rothman, 68-75.

   Jean A Givens, Visualizing Medieval Medicine and Natural History, 2006

Week 7: Medicine and the plague: Early modern understanding of disease outbreaks

Required:
   Mary Lindemann, Medicine and Society in Early Modern Europe (2nd ed. 2010), Ch. 2, ‘Plagues and peoples’, pp. 50-83.
   The London Bills of Mortality: download at least one example from the online database Wellcome Images, or other online sources. Why were they made, and what information do they contain? http://images.wellcome.ac.uk
   Browse the digitized medicine and recipe collections at the Wellcome Library: http://library.wellcome.ac.uk/using-the-library/subject-guides/food-and-medicine/domestic-medicine-and-receipt-books-16th-17th-century/


**Week 8: ‘The birth of the clinic’**: The Hôtel-Dieu and the rise of clinical medicine


Chap. Charity and Bienfaisance: The Treatment of the Poor in the Montpellier Region 1740-1815, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1982

**Week 9: La Médecine Expérimentale: Medicine, laboratories and experiments in the 19th century**

*Look up:* Liebig, Virchow, Müller, Bernard, Welch; Koch, Pasteur, Lister


In addition, think about this extract from C. Bernard: ‘I consider hospitals only as the entrance to scientific medicine; they are the first field of observation which a physician enters; but the true sanctuary of medical science is a laboratory. ... In leaving the hospital, a physician... must go into his laboratory; and there, by experiments on animals, he will account for what he has observed in his patients... There...he will achieve true medical science’ (C. Bernard, Introduction à l’étude de la médecine experimentele, 1865, 146-147) available here: [https://archive.org/details/b21270557](https://archive.org/details/b21270557)

Week 10: Toward the twentieth century: What can we learn from the past?

Required: TBC

Recommended: TBC