

HPSC0110 History of Medicine

Course Syllabus

2018-19 session | Dr Cristiano Turbil | Email Address c.turbil@ucl.ac.uk

Course Information

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 1700. We will discuss ancient, medieval and early modern understandings of the body and illness, the varieties of theory and practice of medicine, and the historical background to premodern 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.

Basic course information

Course website:	n/a
Moodle Web site:	https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=38859
Assessment:	There are two primary forms of assessment: an essay due on Friday, 15 December and a final examination, to be held during the third term.
Timetable:	www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/hpsc
Prerequisites:	no prerequisites
Required texts:	Vivian Nutton. <i>Ancient Medicine</i> . Abingdon: Routledge, 2004. Lawrence Conrad, Michael Neve, Vivian Nutton, Roy Porter, and Andrew Wear. <i>The Western Medical Tradition, 800 BC to AD 1800</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.
Course tutor(s):	Dr Cristiano Turbil
Contact:	c.turbil@ucl.ac.uk
Web:	
Office location:	22 Gordon Square, Room B14

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.

UCL Week	Topic	Date	Activity
6	Introduction and archaic Greek medicine Hippocratic Medicine I: Theory	2-4 Oct	Nutton, ch 3, 4
7	Hippocratic medicine II: Practice Discussion of the Oath, et al.	9-11 Oct	Nutton, ch 5, 6, Hippocratic Oath et al.
8	Natural philosophy and Aristotle Dissection and anatomy in Alexandria	16-18 Oct	Nutton, ch 8, 9
9	Roman medicine Galen of Pergamum	23-25 Oct	Nutton, ch 13, 15-16
10	The triumph of humoral theory Religion and medicine	30 Oct- 1 Nov	Nutton, ch 18, 19
11	Reading Week	6-8 Nov	
12	Islam: inheritance and innovation Western medieval medicine	13-15 Nov	Conrad, pp. 93-125, 139-146
13	The rise of hospitals Contagious diseases: leprosy and plague	20-22 Nov	Conrad, pp. 187-198; Park, Medical Practice;
14	Renaissance medicine Vesalius and the new anatomy	27 Nov-29 no V	Conrad pp. 250-92
15	Medicine, magic and Paracelsus Harvey and the circulation of blood	4-6 Dec	Conrad, pp. 310-40
16	Ancients vs Moderns: The New Science; The rise of modern medicine	11-13 Dec	Conrad, pp. 215-225, 232-250, 340-361

Assessments

Summary

	Description	Deadline	Word limit	Deadline for Tutors to provide Feedback
	Research essay	5pm, 5 th December	3000 words	7 th January 2019
	Final examination	Third term, tba		

Assignments

The essay will consist of a 3000-word study of a topic of your choice in the history of premodern medicine, from your own research based on primary and secondary materials. Essays must be submitted via Moodle.

In order to be deemed 'complete' on this module students must attempt both the essay and the

final examination.

***Special note for affiliate students staying at UCL for 1 term only: You will have to write an additional essay this term: DEADLINE 12th November.**

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 premodern views of the body, health and illness, including Hippocratic, Aristotelian and Galenic views of theoretical and practical medicine as well as Islamic, medieval and early modern additions and reactions to their predecessors' thought.

Objectives:

The objectives of this module are to train the student to think critically about the past and to contextualise 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:

Vivian Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*. Abingdon: Routledge, 2004.

Lawrence Conrad, Michael Neve, Vivian Nutton, Roy Porter, and Andrew Wear. *The Western Medical Tradition, 800 BC to AD 1800*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

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>

Lecture Readings:

Session 1: Archaic medicine

Required: Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, ch. 3.

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

James Longrigg, 'Presocratic Philosophy and Hippocratic Medicine', *History of Science*, 27, 1989, 1-38

Session 2: Hippocratic medicine: theories of disease

Required: Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, chs. 4 & 5

Recommended: Helen King, *Hippocrates' Woman*, 1998

G.E.R. Lloyd, *Early Greek Science: Thales to Aristotle*, chap. 5.

Session 3: Hippocratic medicine: patients and practitioners

Required: Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, ch. 6 and The oath and Epidemics selections

Recommended: *Hippocratic Writings* (Penguin edition, ed. G.E.R. Lloyd)

V. Nutton, 'Beyond the Hippocratic Oath', in Wear et al., *Doctors and Ethics*, 10-37

Session 4: Natural philosophy and the Hellenistic World

Required: Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, ch. 8

Recommended: Plato, *Timaeus*

Longrigg, *Greek Rational Medicine*, ch. 5

Session 5: Dissection, vivisection and new frontiers

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

James Longrigg, 'Alexandrian Medical Science', *History of Science*, 1981, 19: 155-206

Session 6: Roman Medicine

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

Recommended: Ludwig Edelstein, *Ancient Medicine*, 173-191

Elizabeth Rawson, 'The Life and Death of Asclepiades of Bithynia', *Classical Quarterly*, 1988, ns 32: 358-370

Session 7: Galen of Pergamum

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

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

R.J. Hankinson, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Galen*, ch. 1-2

Session 8: The triumph of humoral theory

Required: Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, ch. 19

Recommended: O. Temkin, *Double Face of Janus*, ch. 11 and 202-222

Wesley Smith, *The Hippocratic Tradition*, 61-122

Session 9: Religion and medicine

Required: Nutton, *Ancient Medicine*, ch. 18

Recommended: Darrel W. Amundsen, 'Medicine and Faith in Early Christianity', *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 1982, 56: 326-50

Lindberg, *Beginnings of Western Science*, 149-159

Session 10: Islam: inheritance and innovation

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

Recommended: P. Pormann and E. Savage-Smith, *Medieval Islamic Medicine*, ch. 1
Michael Dols, *Medieval Islamic Medicine*, pp. 1-42

Session 11: Western medieval medicine

Required: Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp. 139-146. 153-168

Recommended: L. Garcia-Ballester, 'The New Galen' in K.D. Fischer, ed., *Text and Tradition: Studies in Ancient Medicine and its Transmission*, 1998, 55-83

Danielle Jacquart, 'The Influence of Arabic Medicine in the Medieval West,' in *Encyclopedia of the History of Arabic Science*, ed. Roshdi Rashed. 1996, 3 vols

Session 12: The rise of hospitals

Required: Katharine Park, 'Medical Practice' in *The Cambridge History of Science: Vol. 2, Medieval Science* (available via the library website; click on View Chapter PDF)

Recommended: Carole Rawcliffe, 'The Hospitals of Later Medieval London', *Medical History* 28 (1984) 1-21

McVaugh, Michael R. "Bedside Manners in the Middle Ages." *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 71.2 (1997) 201-223

Session 13: Contagious diseases: leprosy and plague

Required: Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp. 187-198.

Boccaccio, *Decameron*: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/decameronintro.asp>

Recommended: Samuel Cohn, *The Black Death transformed*

François-Olivier Touati, 'Contagion and Leprosy,' in Lawrence Conrad and Dominik Wujastyk, eds, *Contagion: Perspectives from Pre-Modern Societies*, 2000.

Session 14: Renaissance medicine

Required: Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp. 250-264, 298-310

Recommended: Karen Meier Reeds, 'Renaissance Humanism and Botany', *Annals of Science*, 1976, 33: 519-542

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

Session 15: The new anatomy: Vesalius

Required: Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp.264-292

Recommended: O'Malley, *Andreas Vesalius of Brussels*, esp. 17-20, 47-61; ch 6 & 11

Roger French, *Dissection and Vivisection in the European Renaissance*

Session 16: Medicine, magic, and Paracelsus

Required: Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp. 310-325

Recommended: Paracelsus, *Paracelsus: Essential Readings*, introduction

Charles Webster, 'Alchemical and Paracelsian Medicine', in Webster, *Health, Medicine and Mortality*, ch. 9

Session 17: Harvey and the circulation of blood

Required: Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp. 325-340

Recommended: Harvey, *The Circulation of the Blood and Other Writings*

Roger French, *William Harvey's Natural Philosophy*, esp. introduction and ch 1-5

Donald Bates, 'Harvey's Account of his Discovery,' *Medical History* 36 (1992) 361-78

Session 18: Ancients v. Moderns: The New Science of the seventeenth century

Required: Conrad, et al., *Western Medical Tradition*, pp. 340-361.

Recommended: Andrew Wear, *Knowledge and Practice in English Medicine 1550-1680*, 2000.
Jon Parkin, *Science, Religion and Politics in Restoration England*, 1999.

Session 19: The rise of modern medicine

Required: TBC

Recommended: TBC