Instructor: Ronald L. Numbers (Office: 1432 MSC, 1300 University Ave.)

Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 Mondays & Wednesdays

Class Times: Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:00-12:15

Place: 1010 MSC, 1300 University Ave.

Credits: Three

Prerequisites: Junior standing and consent of instructor

Description: This course is designed to acquaint students with the history of health care in America. Although the focus will be on the past, efforts will be made to relate the past to the present.

Instruction: The course will consist of seminar discussions and short presentations by the instructor and students.

Requirements: All students are required to attend class, read (and perhaps summarize) the assigned materials, prepare a short research paper, give one oral report, and take a final written or oral examination. Undergraduates will write a research paper of 5-10 double-spaced, typed pages, based on primary sources; graduate-student papers may be twice as long.

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated primarily on the basis of their research papers and final examinations, with attendance, reading summaries, and participation in class playing a secondary role.

Textbooks: Available at the UW Bookstore and on reserve at the Helen C. White Library.


To access additional readings:

1. my.wisc.edu (can click directly on "My UW" from the UW homepage

2. click on "academics" tab at the top

3. go to "Library/Reserves by Department"

4. Find "Medical History and Bioethics" in the list; make sure the term selector box below is set for "Fall 2008-2009"

5. Click on "show course list" - a list of all MHB courses comes up. The courses with electronic reserves for the current semester are indicated by a red box with a white +.

6. Click on that red box/white+
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ASSIGNMENTS

September 8:  *Introduction*

September 13:  *Constructing Sickness and Health*:


September 15:  *Medicine in the Old and New Worlds*:

  Starr, pp. 30-47.


September 20:  *Professional Medicine*:


September 22:  *Domestic Medicine*:

  Starr, pp. 47-59.


September 27:  *Alternative Medicine*:

  Starr, pp. 93-112.


September 29:  *Antebellum Medical Practice:*

Starr, pp. 60-78.


October 4:  *Researching and Writing Medical History (Ebling Library)*

October 6:  *Scientific Medicine:*

Starr, pp. 198-232.


October 11:  *Medical Education:*

Starr, pp. 112-127.


October 13:  *Medical Research:*


October 18:  *Medical Ethics:*


October 20: *Religious Healers*:


October 25: *Midwives*:


October 27: *Osteopaths and Chiropractors*:


November 1: *Native American Healers*:


November 3: *A Medical Monopoly*?


November 8: *Hospitals and Dispensaries*:


November 10: **Mental Institutions:**


November 15: **The Status and Image of Physicians:**

Starr, pp. 79-92, 127-144.


November 17: **Race and Gender:**


November 22: **Public Health:**

Starr, pp. 180-197.


November 24: **Private Lifestyle:**


November 29: **Mortality and Its Causes:**


**December 1: Health Insurance:**

Starr, pp. 290-334.


**December 6: The Medical-Industrial Complex:**

Starr, pp. 379-449.