

## SOCIETY AND HEALTH CARE IN AMERICAN HISTORY

History of Medicine 504

Fall, 2010

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.

Judith Walzer Leavitt and Ronald L. Numbers, eds., Sickness and Health in America: Readings in the History of Medicine and Public Health, 3rd ed. (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1997).

Paul Starr, The Social Transformation of American Medicine (New York: Basic Books, 1982).

Norman Gevitz, ed., Other Healers: Unorthodox Medicine in America (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988).

**To access additional readings:**

1. [my.wisc.edu](http://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+

**SCHEDULE**

September	8	Introduction
	13	Constructing Sickness and Health
	15	Medicine in the Old and New Worlds
	20	Professional Medicine
	22	Domestic Medicine
	27	Alternative Medicine
	29	Antebellum Medical Practice
October	4	Researching and Writing Medical History ( <b>Ebling Library</b> )
	6	Scientific Medicine ( <b>paper proposals due</b> )
	11	Medical Education
	13	Medical Research
	18	Medical Ethics
	20	Religious Healers
	25	Midwives
	27	Osteopaths and Chiropractors
November	1	Native American Healers
	3	A Medical Monopoly? ( <b>outlines due</b> )
	8	Hospitals and Dispensaries
	10	Mental Institutions
	15	The Status and Image of Physicians
	17	Race and Gender
	22	Public Health
	24	Private Lifestyle
	29	Mortality and Its Causes
December	1	Health Insurance
	6	The Medical-Industrial Complex
	8	Student Reports ( <b>papers due</b> )
	13	Student Reports
	15	Discussion of Examination Questions

## ASSIGNMENTS

### September 8: *Introduction*

### September 13: *Constructing Sickness and Health:*

Bert Hansen, "American Physicians' 'Discovery' of Homosexuals, 1880-1900: A New Diagnosis in a Changing Society," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 13-31.

Daniel M. Fox and Judith F. Stone, "Black Lung: Miners' Militancy and Medical Uncertainty, 1968-1972," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 32-44.

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

Starr, pp. 30-47.

Eric H. Christianson, "Medicine in New England," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 47-71.

### September 20: *Professional Medicine:*

Robert B. Sullivan, "Sanguine Practices: A Historical and Historiographic Reconsideration of Heroic Therapy in the Age of Rush," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 68 (1994): 211-34.

John Harley Warner, "From Specificity to Universalism in Medical Therapeutics: Transformation in the 19th-Century United States," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 87-101.

### September 22: *Domestic Medicine:*

Starr, pp. 47-59.

Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, "Martha Moore Ballard and the Medical Challenge to Midwifery," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 72-84.

William G. Rothstein, "The Botanical Movements and Orthodox Medicine," *Gevitz*, pp. 29-51.

### September 27: *Alternative Medicine:*

Starr, pp. 93-112.

Susan E. Cayleff, "Gender, Ideology, and the Water-Cure Movement," *Gevitz*, pp. 82-98.

Martin Kaufman, "Homeopathy in America: The Rise and Fall and Persistence of a Medical Heresy," *Gevitz*, pp. 99-123.

September 29: *Antebellum Medical Practice:*

Starr, pp. 60-78.

Todd L. Savitt, "Black Health on the Plantation: Masters, Slaves, and Physicians," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 351-368.

Steven M. Stowe, "Seeing Themselves at Work: Physicians and the Case Narrative in the Mid-19th-Century American South," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 161-186.

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

October 6: *Scientific Medicine:*

Starr, pp. 198-232.

Bert Hansen, "New Images of a New Medicine: Visual Evidence for Widespread Popularity of Therapeutic Discoveries in America after 1885," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 73 (1999): 629-678.

October 11: *Medical Education:*

Starr, pp. 112-127.

Robert P. Hudson, "Abraham Flexner in Perspective: American Medical Education, 1865-1910," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 200-210.

Todd L. Savitt, "Abraham Flexner and the Black Medical Schools," in *Beyond Flexner: Medical Education in the Twentieth Century*, Barbara Barzansky and Norman Gevitz, eds. (New York: Greenwood, 1992), 65-81.

October 13: *Medical Research:*

Gerald L. Geison, "Divided We Stand: Physiologists and Clinicians in the American Context," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 115-129.

Ronald L. Numbers and John Harley Warner, "The Maturation of American Medical Science," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 130-142.

October 18: *Medical Ethics:*

Todd L. Savitt, "The Use of Blacks for Medical Experimentation and Demonstration in the Old South," *Journal of Southern History* 48 (1982): 331-48.

Susan E. Lederer, "The Controversy over Animal Experimentation in America, 1880-1914," in *Vivisection in Historical Perspective*, ed. Nicolaas A. Rupke (London: Croom Helm, 1987), pp. 236-58.

Allan M. Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 392-404.

October 20: *Religious Healers:*

Rennie B. Schoepflin, "Christian Science Healing in America," Gevitz, pp. 192-214.

David Edwin Harrell, Jr., "Divine Healing in Modern American Protestantism," Gevitz, pp. 215-227.

October 25: *Midwives:*

Charlotte G. Borst, "The Training and Practice of Midwives: A Wisconsin Study," Leavitt & Numbers, pp. 237-252.

October 27: *Osteopaths and Chiropractors:*

Norman Gevitz, "Osteopathic Medicine: From Deviance to Difference," Gevitz, pp. 124-156.

Walter I. Wardwell, "Chiropractors: Evolution to Acceptance," Gevitz, pp. 157-191.

November 1: *Native American Healers:*

Stephen J. Kunitz, "The History and Politics of US Health Care Policy for American Indians and Alaskan Natives," American Journal of Public Health 86 (1996): 1464-1473.

November 3: *A Medical Monopoly?*

Ronald L. Numbers, "The Fall and Rise of the American Medical Profession," Leavitt & Numbers, pp. 225-236.

Norman Gevitz, "Autonomous Profession or Medical Specialty: The Stomatological Movement and American Dentistry," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 62 (1988): 407-428.

November 8: *Hospitals and Dispensaries:*

Starr, pp. 145-179.

Vanessa Northington Gamble, "Roots of the Black Hospital Reform Movement," Leavitt & Numbers, pp. 369-391.

Charles E. Rosenberg, "Social Class and Medical Care in 19th-Century America: The Rise and Fall of the Dispensary," Leavitt & Numbers, pp. 309-322.

Morris J. Vogel, "Patrons, Practitioners, and Patients: The Voluntary Hospital in Mid-Victorian Boston," Leavitt & Numbers, pp. 323-333.

November 10: *Mental Institutions:*

Gerald N. Grob, "The Severely and Chronically Mentally Ill in America: Retrospect and Prospect," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 334-348.

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

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

John C. Burnham, "American Medicine's Golden Age: What Happened to It?" *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 284-294.

November 17: *Race and Gender:*

Todd L. Savitt, "Entering a White Profession: Black Physicians in the New South, 1880-1920," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 61 (1987): 507-540.

Regina Markell Morantz-Sanchez, "The 'Connecting Link': The Case for the Woman Doctor in 19th-Century America," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 213-224.

November 22: *Public Health:*

Starr, pp. 180-197.

John Duffy, "Social Impact of Disease in the Late 19th Century," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 418-425.

Allan M. Brandt, "AIDS in Historical Perspective: Four Lessons from the History of Sexually Transmitted Diseases," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 426-434.

November 24: *Private Lifestyle:*

Nancy Tomes, "The Private Side of Public Health: Sanitary Science, Domestic Hygiene, and the Germ Theory, 1870-1900," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 506-528.

Allan M. Brandt, "The Cigarette, Risk, and American Culture," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 494-505.

November 29: *Mortality and Its Causes:*

Gerald N. Grob, "Disease and Environment in American History," in *Handbook of Health, Health Care, and the Health Professions*, ed. David Mechanic (New York: Free Press, 1983), pp. 3-22.

Gretchen A. Condran, Henry Williams, and Rose A. Cheney, "The Decline in Mortality in Philadelphia from 1870 to 1930: The Role of Municipal Services," *Leavitt & Numbers*, pp. 452-466.

John Parascandola, "The Introduction of Antibiotics into Therapeutics," Leavitt & Numbers, pp. 102-112.

December 1: *Health Insurance:*

Starr, pp. 290-334.

Ronald L. Numbers, "The Third Party: Health Insurance in America,"  
Leavitt & Numbers, pp. 269-283.

December 6: *The Medical-Industrial Complex:*

Starr, pp. 379-449.