

**HISC115**

# **Making Modern Medicine:**

The history of scientific medicine from the  
Renaissance anatomy theatre to the human genome  
project and beyond

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# MAKING MODERN MEDICINE

In the last few decades, medicine and the life sciences have become the locus for some of society's most extravagant hopes and acute anxieties. Making Modern Medicine is aimed at students who would like to uncover the history behind the headlines and take the 'longer view' of some of these questions. We will investigate the origins of aspects of contemporary life familiar to us all, from the vitamins we swallow down with breakfast to giving birth in hospital, bringing a historical perspective to bear on topics such as the storms over American health care reform, the politics of pharmaceutical patents and the emergence of the new genetic determinism.

## Course outline and Readings

The textbooks for the course are Roy Porter's *Blood and Guts, a short history of medicine* and a custom course packet from the UCSD Bookstore.

### 1. Friday 9/26 Introduction to the course

FIRST WEEK

### 2. Monday 9/29 Disease through the ages *Blood and Guts*, Ch. 1.

### 3. Wednesday 10/1 Humoral Medicine *Blood and Guts*, pp. 21-36.

### 4. Friday 10/3 Renaissance Anatomy *Blood and Guts*, Ch. 3.

SECOND WEEK

### 5. Monday 10/6 The pre-modern hospital *Blood and Guts*, pp. 135-142.

### 6. Wednesday 10/8 The French Revolution and the Paris Hospital *Blood and Guts*, pp. 144-152.

### 7. Friday 10/10 The stethoscope Laennec, René: *On Mediate Auscultation*, excerpts, in *Source Book of Medical History*, pp. 313-330.

### THIRD WEEK

#### **8. Monday 10/13**

##### **Institutions of medicine**

*Blood and Guts*, pp. 37-52.

#### **9. Wednesday 10/15**

##### **Women's medical education**

Jex-Blake, Sophia, (1872). *Medical Women*, pp. 5-37.

#### **10. Friday 10/17**

##### **Public Health and sanitation**

No reading

### FOURTH WEEK

#### **11. Monday 10/20**

##### **The laboratory**

*Blood and Guts*, Ch. 4.

#### **12. Wednesday 10/22**

##### **The chemistry of the body**

Various authors, excerpts from *Source Book of Medical History*, pp.

#### **13. Friday 10/24**

##### **Ghastly kitchens**

Bernard, Claude, (1865), *An Introduction to the Study of Experimental Medicine*, pp. 5-26.

### FIFTH WEEK

#### **14. Monday 10/27**

##### **Microbes**

Pasteur, Louis (1881) *An Address on Vaccination in Relation to Chicken Cholera and Splenic Fever*

#### **15. Wednesday 10/29**

##### **The industrial roots of drug production**

Weatherall, M. 1990. *In search of a cure: a history of the pharmaceutical industry*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 36-64; *Blood and Guts*, Ch. 6.

#### **16. Friday 10/31**

##### **Midterm discussion**

## SIXTH WEEK

### **17. Monday 11/3**

#### **Surgery**

*Blood and Guts*, Ch. 6.

### **18. Wednesday 11/5**

#### **Imperial Medicine**

Cunningham, Andrew and Bridie Andrews (eds.). 1997. *Western medicine as contested knowledge*, pp. 1-15.

### **19. Friday 11/7**

#### **Medicine and WWI**

No reading

## SEVENTH WEEK

### **20. Monday 11/10**

#### **The medicalization of childbirth**

Leavitt, Judith, (1986), *Brought to Bed: Childbirth in America, 1750 to 1950*, pp. 171-195.

### **21. Wednesday 11/12**

#### **The medicalization of sex**

Van De Velde, T. H. (1930) *Ideal marriage: its physiology and technique*, pp.11-19.

### **22. Friday 11/14**

#### **The medicalization of eating**

Ellis, Carleton and MacLeod, Annie, (1922), *Vital Factors of Food: Vitamins and Nutrition*, pp. v-xiii, 292-299.

## EIGHTH WEEK

### **23. Monday 11/17**

#### **Racial hygiene**

Proctor, Robert, (1988), *Racial Hygiene: Medicine under the Nazis*, pp. 177-222.

### **24. Wednesday 11/19**

#### **WWII and the war on disease**

Bush, Vannevar, (1945), 'Science, the Endless Frontier: a report to the President' pp. 231-239

### **25. Friday 11/21**

#### **Therapeutic optimism and medical nemesis**

*Blood and Guts*, Ch. 8.

NINTH WEEK

**26. Monday 11/24**

**AIDS**

Shilts, Randy, (1987), *And the Band Played On: Politics, People and the AIDS Epidemic*, pp. 53-69

**27. Wednesday 11/26**

**The human genome project**

Davies, Kevin, (2002), *Cracking the genome: inside the race to unlock human DNA*, pp.11-32

**28. Friday 11/28**

**Thanksgiving, no class**

TENTH WEEK

**29. Monday 12/1**

**Decade of the Brain**

Micale, Mark. 'The Psychiatric Body' in Pickstone, John and Cooter, Roger, (eds.) *Medicine in the Twentieth Century*, pp. 337-345.

**30. Wednesday 12/3**

**Health Care reform**

Class discussion, no reading

**31. Friday 12/5**

**Neo-liberal medicine and the new therapeutic optimism**

Class discussion, no reading