

HI176-30 Mind, Body, and Society: The History of Medicine and Health

23/24

Department

History

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Elise Smith

Credit value

30

Module duration

22 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module examines how the body and mind have been conceptualised across time and place-- from changing medical constructs of health and disease, to the moral judgements placed upon 'abnormal' bodies and behaviours. Amongst other topics, we will consider the ethics of graverobbing and the international organ trade, the dark history of eugenics and scientific racism, and the roots of current debates over socialised medicine and vaccination.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This 30 CATS team-taught first-year option will introduce students to concepts in the history of the body and mind, and how they have been framed across place and time. We will cover a wide thematic range -- from changing medical constructs of health and disease, to the moral judgements placed upon unruly bodies and behaviours. Far from remaining static over time, the constitution of 'normal' and 'abnormal' minds and bodies will be shown to have changed dramatically from the early modern period to the present day. Geographically, this module will provide global perspectives on a range of topics, with case studies focused on Europe, North

America, Russia, and beyond. Lectures will be delivered by the academic staff of the History Department's Centre for the History of Medicine.

Lectures in term one will introduce basic concepts, sources and historiographic trends, as well as some key ideas, events, practices and participants that have shaped attitudes towards physical and mental properties. Lectures in term two will explore relevant themes from a range of different historical and historiographical perspectives. Topics in term three will tackle contemporary ethical concerns and debates, drawing on historical and interdisciplinary perspectives. Workshops at the end of terms one and two will equip students to start doing their own primary-source research and how to construct effective historical arguments.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Term 1

Week 1: The Early Modern Body

Week 2: Early Modern Drug Testing

Week 3: Anatomy

Week 4: Measurement and Classification

Week 5: Psychology and Empire

Reading week

Week 7: Military Medicine

Week 8: The Rise of Science

Week 9: Eugenics

Week 10: Research Workshop

Term 2

Week 1: Diseases

Week 2: Socialist Medicine

Week 3: Medicalisation and Morality

Week 4: Disability and the Challenge to Medicine

Week 5: Post-war Mental Health

Reading week

Week 7: The Global Trade in Health and Disease

Week 8: State Medicine and the NHS

Week 9: Historiography

Week 10: Writing Workshop

Term 3

Week 1: Public Health: An Introduction

Week 2: Public Health: Liberty Vs Compulsion

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Gain a broad understanding of key concepts relating to the history of medicine, health, and

societal conceptions of the mind and body.

- Identify important historiographical debates in the field.
- Identify and engage with a range of relevant primary materials and online resources.
- Gain interpersonal and communication skills through the delivery of a presentation.
- Devise well-defined essay topics, collect relevant data from a variety of sources and present results in an effective fashion.

Indicative reading list

- Clare Anderson, *Legible Bodies: Race Criminality and Colonialism in South Asia* (2004).
- Warwick Anderson, *Colonial Pathologies: American Tropical Medicine, Race, and Hygiene in the Philippines* (2006)
- Warwick Anderson, *The Cultivation of Whiteness: Science, Health and Racial Destiny in Australia* (2006).
- Rima Apple, *Perfect Motherhood: Science and Childrearing in America* (2006).
- David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth-Century India* (1993).
- Peter Baldwin, *Contagion and the State in Europe, 1830-1930* (1999).
- Alison Bashford, ed., *Medicine at the Border: Disease, Globalization and Security, 1850 to the Present*, (2006).
- Alison Bashford, *Imperial Hygiene: A Critical History of Colonialism, Nationalism, and Public Health* (2004).
- Roberta Bivins, *Alternative Medicine? A History* (2007).
- Jonanna Bourke, *Dismembering the Male* (1999).
- Laura Briggs, *Reproducing Empire: Race, Sex, Science, and U.S. Imperialism in Puerto Rico* (2003).
- Deborah Brunton (ed.), *Medicine Transformed: Health, Disease and Society in Europe, 1800-1939* (2003).
- Sherman Cochran, *Chinese Medicine Men: Consumer Culture in China and Southeast Asia* (2006).
- Simon Cole, *Suspect Identities: A History of Fingerprints and Criminal Identification* (2001).
- Roger Cooter and John Pickstone (eds), *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* (2000).
- Roger Cooter, Mark Harrison and Steve Sturdy (eds), *Medicine and Modern Warfare* (1999).
- Steven Epstein, *Impure Science: AIDS, Activism, and the Politics of Knowledge* (1996).
- Kaja Finkler, *Experiencing the New Genetics: Family and kinship on the medical frontier* (2000).
- Renée C. Fox and Judith P. Swazey *Spare Parts: Organ Replacement in American Society*. (1993).
- Stephen Jay Gould, *The Mismeasure Of Man* (1996).
- Lindsay Granshaw and Roy Porter (eds), *The Hospital in History* (1989).
- Joseph Graves, *The Emperor's New Clothes: Biological Theories of Race at the Millennium* (2001).
- Larissa Heinrich, *The Afterlife of Images: Translating the Pathological Body between China and the West* (2008).
- Linda Hogle *Recovering the Nation's Body: Cultural Memory Medicine and the Politics of Redemption* (1999).

- Nancy Rose Hunt, *A Colonial Lexicon: Of Birth Ritual, Medicalization, and Mobility in the Congo* (1999).
- John Iliffe, *The African AIDS epidemic: a history* (2006).
- Mark Jenner and Patrick Wallis (eds), *Medicine and the Market in England and Its Colonies, c.1450-c.1850* (2007).
- Gwen Kay, *Dying to be Beautiful* (2005).
- Shigehisa Kuriyama, *The Expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine* (1999).
- Judith Walzer Leavitt, *Brought to Bed: Childbearing in America 1750-1950*, (1986).
- Judy Walzer Leavitt, *Women and Health in America*, 2nd ed (1999).
- Lara Marks, *Sexual Chemistry: A History of the Contraceptive Pill* (2001).
- Hilary Marland (ed.), *The Art of Midwifery: Early Modern Midwives in Europe* (1993, 1994).
- Regina Morantz Sanchez, *Conduct Unbecoming a Woman: Medicine on Trial in Turn of the Century Brooklyn* (1999).
- Dorothy Nelkin, M. Susan Lindee, *The DNA Mystique: The Gene as a Cultural Icon* (1995).
- Nancy Ordoover, *American Eugenics: Queer Anatomy and the Science of Nationalism* (2003).
- Roy Porter, *Mind-Forg'd Manacles: A History of Madness in England from the Restoration to the Regency* (1987, 1990).
- Roy Porter, *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind: A Medical History of Humanity from Antiquity to the Present* (1997).
- Roy Porter and Dorothy Porter, *Patient's Progress: Doctors and Doctoring in Eighteenth-Century England* (1989).
- Robert N. Proctor, *Racial Hygiene: Medicine Under the Nazis* (1988).
- Volker Scheid, *Currents of Tradition in Chinese Medicine, 1626-2006* (2007).
- Nancy Scheper-Hughes and L. Wacquant, *Commodifying Bodies* (2003).
- Andrew Scull, *Social Order/Mental Disorder: Anglo-American Psychiatry in Historical Perspective*, 2nd ed (1984).
- Alexandra Minna Stern, *Eugenic Nation: Faults and Frontiers of Better Breeding in Modern America*. Berkeley (2005).
- Gwenda Tavan, *The Long Slow Death of White Australia* (2005).
- Charles Webster (ed.), *Caring for Health: History and Diversity* (1985, 2nd edn 2001).
- Paul J. Weindling, *Nazi Medicine and the Nuremberg Trials: From Medical War Crimes to Informed Consent* (2004).

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

See learning outcomes.

Transferable skills

See learning outcomes.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	20 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Seminars	20 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Tutorials	2 sessions of 1 hour (1%)
Private study	258 hours (86%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

History modules require students to undertake extensive independent research and reading to prepare for seminars and assessments. As a rough guide, students will be expected to read and prepare to comment on three substantial texts (articles or book chapters) for each seminar taking approximately 3 hours. Each assessment requires independent research, reading around 6-10 texts and writing and presenting the outcomes of this preparation in an essay, review, presentation or other related task.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A6

	Weighting	Study time
1000-word piece of introductory writing (essay plan or assignment of tutor's choice)	10%	
Seminar participation/presentation	10%	
2000 word essay or equivalent	30%	
3000-word essay or equivalent	50%	

Feedback on assessment

Written comments and oral feedback will be provided for non-assessed assignments.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy
- UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
 - Year 1 of VM11 History and Politics
 - Year 1 of VM11 History and Politics
 - Year 1 of VM11 History and Politics

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of UENA-VQ32 Undergraduate English and History
- UHIA-V100 Undergraduate History
 - Year 1 of V100 History
 - Year 1 of V100 History
- UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
 - Year 1 of VM11 History and Politics
 - Year 1 of VM11 History and Politics
 - Year 1 of VM11 History and Politics
- Year 1 of UHIA-VL13 Undergraduate History and Sociology

This module is Option list A for:

- UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy
 - Year 1 of V1V5 History and Philosophy
 - Year 2 of V1V5 History and Philosophy

This module is Option list G for:

- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 - Year 1 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
 - Year 1 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
 - Year 1 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)