

History of Public Health (HILD 30)

Fall Quarter 2017

MWF 1-1:50, CENTR 216

Instructor: Wendy Gonaver

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Office hours: Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. or by appointment

Course description: HILD 30 explores the history of public health from the plague hospitals of Renaissance Italy to the current and future prospects for global health initiatives, emphasizing the complex biological, cultural, and social dimensions of health, sickness, and medicine across time and space.

Requirements

Participation (25%). Attendance and participation in discussions and learning activities at both lecture and section are mandatory. Beginning on 10/9, please sign in before the start of class. If you miss more than two classes thereafter, your participation grade will drop 5 points with each additional absence. Similarly, if you miss more than two sessions with your T.A. after 10/9, your participation grade will drop 5 points.

Mid-term exam (25%). A take-home, open-book exam (short essay) **due on 11/3. Submit an electronic copy to turnitin.com by 5 p.m.** The midterm exam and grading rubric will be given on 10/27.

Homework assignment (10%). This credit-only assignment, **due by noon on 11/27**, will help you prepare for the guest lecture on 12/1 and the final paper. A more specific prompt will be given on 11/20.

Final paper (40%). A paper (1,250-1,750 words) **due on 12/11. Submit an electronic copy to turnitin.com by 5 p.m.** The final paper will rely heavily upon the required book and the guest lecture on 12/1. A more specific prompt and grading rubric will be given on 11/20.

Opportunities to earn extra credit might be announced during lecture. There is no individualized extra credit.

Late work will not be accepted except, of course, in the case of medical or family emergency or religious observance. If you cannot meet a deadline for any of the aforementioned reasons, please contact me by email as soon as possible so that we can determine an alternative due date.

Finally, ***please*** observe the usual rules regarding academic honesty, respectful communication, and the use of cellphones and other internet-capable devices during class.

Required text for purchase: Renée C. Fox, *Doctors Without Borders: Humanitarian Quests, Impossible Dreams of Médecins Sans Frontières*. Johns Hopkins University Press (2014). ISBN: 9781421416922

All other readings will be available on the TED course site.

Schedule of readings & topics

Week 1 Topics and themes in public health

F (9/29): Overview

Week 2 Epidemics in antiquity through the early modern era

M (10/2): Lisa M. Lee, "Public Health Theory: Review and Path to Convergence" *J Law Med Ethics*, 40 (2012): 85-98

W (10/4): Lecture: Quarantine and Borders

F (10/6): Lecture: The Ottoman State and Public Health

Week 3 Colonial medicine in the 17th and 18th centuries

M (10/9): David Jones, "Virgin Soils Revisited," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 33 (2003): 703-742.

W (10/11): Lecture & primary source exercise: Yellow Fever and Small Pox

F (10/13): Lecture & primary source exercise: Slavery and Public Health

Week 4 Rise of the modern state in the 19th century

M (10/16): Patricia Lorcin, "Imperialism, Colonial Identity and Race in Algeria, 1830-1870: the Role of the French Medical Corps," *Isis* 90 (1999): 653-679.

W (10/18): Lecture: War and Medicine

F (10/20): Lecture & primary source exercise: Cholera

Week 5 "Tropical medicine" in the late 19th and early 20th centuries

M (10/23): Warwick Anderson, "Excremental Colonialism" in *Colonial Pathologies: American Tropical Medicine, Race, and Hygiene in the Philippines* (Duke University Press, 2006).

W (10/25): Lecture: Germ Theory

F (10/27): Lecture: Industrialization and Public Health

Week 6 Progressivism, World Wars and universalism

M (10/30): Angela Vergara, "The Recognition of Silicosis: Labor Unions and Physicians in the Chilean Copper Industry, 1930s-1960s," *BHM*, 79 (2005): 723-748.

W (11/1): Lecture: The League of Nations and The World Health Organization

F (11/3): **Midterm paper due! Submit electronic copy to turnitin.com**

Week 7 Decolonization and neoliberalism

M (11/6): Claire Wendland, "Animating Biomedicine's Moral Order," *Current Anthropology*, 53 (2012): 755-788.

W (11/8): Lecture & primary source exercise: Alma Ata Declaration

F (11/10): **No class: Veteran's Day holiday**

Week 8 Activism and epidemics

M (11/13): Lecture & primary source exercise: HIV and Public Health

W (11/15): Movie (excerpt) and in-class activity: *How to Survive a Plague*

F (11/17): Ayaz Quereshi, "AIDS Activism in Pakistan: Diminishing Funds, Evasive State," *Development and Change*, 46 (2015): 320-338.

Week 9 Humanitarian assistance

M (11/20): Lecture & in-class activity: Neglected Tropical Diseases

W (11/22): **No class.** Finish the required book over the holiday break.

F (11/24): **No class: Thanksgiving holiday**

Week 10 Doctors Without Borders

M (11/27): **HW assignment due** and class discussion about book

W (11/29): Lecture: Security

F (12/1): Guest Lecturer: Nabil Al-Tikriti, "MSF and Humanitarian Health Policy"

Week 11 The future of global health

M (12/4): Lecture: Pain and the Opioid Crisis

W (12/6): In-class activity: comparative health systems

F (12/8): final paper assistance

Final paper due on 12/11 by 5 p.m. to turnitin.com.