

History of the Body (HIGR 206)

Winter Quarter 2017
Thursdays 9 - 11:50 am
Marino Room ---- HSS 6008

Professor Claire Edington
History Department
Email: cedington@ucsd.edu
Office: HSS 4071
Office Hours: Mondays 2-4 pm, Thursdays 1-2 pm, or by appointment

Over the past few decades, the body has attracted intense scholarly interest across many disciplines, from critical theory to anthropology to philosophy. What has emerged is a dynamic conception of the body shaped by discourses and institutions, practices and technologies, that cannot be reduced to a single fixed physical form. For historians, this “corporeal turn” has manifested in works inquiring about state interest in the movement and reproduction of bodies, the representation of bodies in visual culture, the body as an object of scientific interest and the experience of individual bodies in the past. Drawing on foundational work by Foucault, Canguilhem and Butler, this course adopts a critical historical perspective to examine how notions of human difference have been inscribed onto bodies as the result of multiple, intersecting regimes of power – including race, gender, sexuality, ability. We will explore the boundaries of the human body in discussions on the relationship between the living and dead, bodies and machines, and conceptions of the body in the non-Western world. In particular, we will pay attention to the role of scientific expertise in drawing distinctions between the ‘normal’ and ‘pathological’ and ask how the body as a kind of methodology can help open us up to new conceptions of the past.

Grading

Attendance and active participation	25%
8 reaction papers (2-3 pages, double spaced, due to TED every Wednesday by 9 pm)	30%
Discussion lead	10%
Final essay (15 pages double spaced)	35%

Books for purchase.

Michel Foucault. *The birth of the clinic: An archaeology of medical perception*. London 1973.

Herculine Barbin. *Being the Recently Discovered Memoirs of a Nineteenth Century French Hermaphrodite*. 1980 edition.

Dorothy Ko. *Cinderella's Sisters: A Revisionist History of Footbinding*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2005.

Calendar.

Week 1: What does it mean to talk about the history of the body?

Emily Martin. "The End of the Body?" *American Ethnologist* 19,1 (Feb 1992): 121-140.

Kathleen Canning. "The Body as Method? Reflections on the Place of the Body in Gender History," *Gender and History* 11 (1999): 499 – 513.

Carolyn Bynum. "Why all the fuss about the body: a Medievalist's Perspective," *Critical Inquiry* 22,1 (Autumn 1995): 1-33.

Judith Butler, "Bodies that Matter," (1993) *Feminist Theory and the Body: A Reader*, eds. Janet Price and Margrit Shildrick. NY: Routledge, 1999: pp.235-245.

Further reading:

Roy Porter, "The History of the Body Reconsidered" (pp. 233-260) in *New Perspectives on Historical Writing*, ed. Peter Burke (1992).

Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Margaret Lock. "The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1,1 (1987):6-41.

Judith Farquhar and Margaret Lock, "An Emergent Cannon, Or Putting Bodies on the Scholarly Agenda" (pp. 19-182) in *Beyond the Body Proper*. Duke University Press, 2007.

Alexandra Howson and David Inglis, "The Body in Sociology: Tensions Inside and Outside Sociological Thought," *The Sociological Review* 49,3 (August 2001): 297-317.

Margaret Lock, 'Cultivating the Body: Anthropology and Epistemologies of Bodily Practice and Knowledge,' *Annual Review of Anthropology* 22: 133-155, 1993.

Deborah Lupton. "The Body in Medicine" (pp. 20-49) in *Medicine as Culture: Illness, Disease and the Body in Western Society*. London: Sage Press, 1994.

Week 2: Normal, pathological and monstrous bodies

Georges Canguilhem, "The Normal and the Pathological," and "Monstrosity and the Monstrous" from *Knowledge of Life*. New York, NY: Forham University Press, 2008.

Arnold Davidson. "The Horror of Monsters" in *The Boundaries of Humanity: Humans, Animals, Machines* (pp. 36-37). UC Press 1991, ed. James J. Sheehan and Morton Sosna.

Ambroise Paré. *On Monsters and Marvels*. University of Chicago Press, 1982 edition. (excerpts)

Further reading:

Mikhail Bakhtin. "Chapter 5: The Grotesque Image of the Body and Its Sources" (pp. 305-367) in *Rabelais and his World*. Indiana University Press, 1984.

Sarah Mitchell. "From 'monstrous' to 'abnormal': the case of conjoined twins in the 19th century" (pp. 53-72) in *Histories of the Normal and Abnormal: social and cultural histories of norms and normativity*, ed, Waltraud Ernst. Routledge, 2012.

Week 3: Body politics and biopower

Michel Foucault. "Part 5: Right of Death and Power over Life" from *The history of sexuality, vol. I: An introduction*. Harmondsworth, 1981.

Michel Foucault. *The birth of the clinic: An archaeology of medical perception* (London 1973)

Further reading:

Emily Martin. "Toward an Anthropology of Immunology: The Body as Nation State." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 4, 4 (1990): 410-426.

Bryan Turner. "Social Fluids: Metaphors and Meanings of Society" *Body and Society* 9,1 (2003): 1-10.

Week 4: Bodies and sex(uality)

Herculine Barbin: Being the Recently Discovered Memoirs of a Nineteenth Century French Hermaphrodite. Introduction by Michel Foucault (1980 ed).

Arnold Davidson, "Chapter 2: Sex and the Emergence of Sexuality" (pp. 50-92) in *The Emergence of Sexuality*. Harvard University Press, 2001.

Geertje Mak, 'Doubting Sex from Within: A Praxiographic Approach to a Late Nineteenth-Century Case of Hermaphroditism', *Gender & History*, 18:2 (2006) 332-356.

Further reading:

Robert A. Nye, "Honor, Impotence, and Male Sexuality in Nineteenth Century French Medicine," *French Historical Studies* (Spring 1989): 48-71.

Thomas Laqueur. *Making Sex: The body and gender from the Greeks to Freud*. Harvard University Press, 1990.

Critique of Laqueur: KT K. Park and R. A. Nye. 'Making Sex: Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud', *New Republic*, 18 February 1991, 53-57; KT D Outram, 'Review of Making Sex', *Isis* 84 (1993): 347-52.

Alice Domurat Dreger. *Hermaphrodites and the medical invention of sex*. Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Karen Harvey, 'The Century of Sex? Gender, Bodies and Sexuality in the Long Eighteenth Century', *The Historical Journal* 45 (2002): 899-916.

Week 5: Bodies and gender

Dorothy Ko. *Cinderella's Sisters: A Revisionist History of Footbinding*. UC Press, 2005.

Carroll Smith-Rosenberg and Charles Rosenberg, "The Female Animal: Medical and Biological Views of Woman and Her Role in Nineteenth-Century America," *Journal of American History* (1973), 223-256.

Further reading:

Harvey, Karen, 'The substance of sexual difference: change and persistence in representations of the body in eighteenth-century England', *Gender and History* 14 (2002) 202-223.

Laqueur, Thomas and Caroline Callaghan (red.), *The Making of the Modern Body: Sexuality and Society in the Nineteenth Century* (Berkeley 1987)

Week 6: Bodies and race

Dorothy Roberts. *Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction and the Meaning of Liberty*. Vintage Press, 1998 (Excerpts).

Walter Johnson, "Reading Bodies and Marking Race" (pp. 135-161) in *Soul by Soul: Life inside the Antebellum Slave Market*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999.

Stephen Gould, "Chapter 2: American Polygeny and Craniometry before Darwin: Blacks and Indians as Separate, Inferior Species" (pp. 62-104) from *The Mismeasure of Man*. WW. Norton & Co., 1996.

Further reading:

Zine Magubane. Which bodies matter? Feminism, poststructuralism, race, and the curious theoretical odyssey of the Hottentot Venus. *Gender and society*, xv (2001), 816–34.

Londa Schiebinger. "The Anatomy of Difference: Race and Sex in Eighteenth Century Science," 23:4 (1990), 387-405.

Joyce Chaplin. "Race" in David Armitage and Michael Braddick, *The British Atlantic World* (2002), 154-174.

Hudson, Nicholas. 1996. From 'Nation' to 'Race': The Origin of Racial Classification in Eighteenth-Century Thought. *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 29(3): 247-264.

Week 7: Bodies and colonial power

Jean Comaroff, "Medicine, Colonialism, and the Black Body," in John and Jean Comaroff, *Ethnography and the Historical Imagination* (Westview Press, 1992), pp. 215- 234.

Franz Fanon, "Medicine and Colonialism" in *A Dying Colonialism* (New York: Grove Press, 1965), pp. 121-145.

Heidi Gengenbach. Boundaries of Beauty: Tattooed Secrets of Women's History in Magude District, Southern Mozambique. *Journal of Women's History* 14,4 (Winter 2003): 106-141.

Warwick Anderson, "The Third-World Body," in Roger Cooter and John Pickstone, ed. *Companion to Medicine in the Twentieth Century* (New York: Routledge, 2003), pp. 235- 245.

Further reading:

Megan Vaughan. *Curing their Ills: Colonial Power and African Illness*. Stanford University Press, 1991.

Susan Pedersen. 'National bodies, unspeakable acts: the sexual politics of colonial policymaking', *Journal of Modern History* 63 (1991): 647-680

Ann Laura Stoler, *Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the Intimate in Colonial Rule*. University of California Press, 2012.

Week 8: Bodies and Disability

Douglas Baynton, "Disability and the Justification of Inequality in American History," in: *The New Disability History: American Perspectives*, ed. Paul K. Longmore and Lauri Umansky (New York: NYU Press, 2001), 33-57.

Catherine J. Kudlick, "Disability History: Why We Need Another Other" *The American Historical Review* 108, 3 (June 2003): 763-93.

J. Evans, "Feeble monsters: making up disabled people" (pp. 274-287) In *Visual Culture: The Reader* eds. J. Evans and S. Hall. London: Sage, 1999.

Julie Livingston, "Insights from an African History of Disability," *Radical History Review* (Winter 2006): 111-126.

Further reading:

Roger Cooter, "The Disabled Body," in *Medicine in the Twentieth Century*, ed. Roger Cooter and John Pickstone (Amsterdam: Harwood Academic Publishers, 2000): 367-383.

Paul K. Longmore and David Goldberger, "The League of the Physically Handicapped and the Great Depression: A Case Study in the New Disability History", *The Journal of American History* 87,3 (December 2000): 888-922.

A.W. Bates, "Indecent and demoralising representations: public anatomy museums in mid-Victorian England," *Medical History* 52 (2008):1-22.

Week 9: Dead bodies

Thomas Laqueur. Part 1: 'The Deep Time of the Dead' (pp. 29-106) from *The Work of the Dead: A Cultural History of Mortal Remains*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2016.

Roger Cooter, "The Dead Body," (pp. 469-485) in Roger Cooter and John Pickstone, ed. *Companion to Medicine in the Twentieth Century*. New York: Routledge, 2003.

Ruth Richardson, "The Corpse as an Anatomical Object" (pp. 30-51) in *Death, Dissection and the Destitute*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.

Daniel Asen. Vital Spots, Mortal Wounds and Forensic Practice: Finding Cause of Death in Nineteenth Century China. *East Asian Science, Technology and Society* 3 (2009): 453-474.

Further reading:

Geoffrey Gorer, "The Pornography of Death" (pp. 192-199) in *Death, Grief, and Mourning*. New York: Doubleday, 1965.

Week 10: Bodies and machines (Class meeting date TBD)

Donna Haraway, "A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, technology and socialist-feminism in the late twentieth century" (pp. 149-181) in *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. New York: Routledge, 1991.

Steven Shapin. "More than Machines: Review of Jessica Riskin's *The Restless Clock: A History of the Centuries-Long Argument of What Makes Living Things Tick*" *London review of books*. December 2016.

Anson Rabinbach. *The Human Motor: Energy, Fatigue and the Origins of Modernity*. University of California press, 1992. (excerpt)

Further reading:

N. Katherine Hayles, *How We Became Posthuman: Virtual Bodies in Cybernetics, Literature, and Informatics*. University of Chicago Press, 1999.

Gaby Wood. *Edison's Eve: A Magical History of the Quest for Mechanical Life*. Anchor Press, 2003.

Langdon Winner, "Resistance is futile: The posthuman condition and its advocates" in *Is Human Nature Obsolete?: Genetics, Bioengineering, and the Future of the Human Condition*. Ed. Harold W. Baillie and Timothy K. Casey. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2004.