Welcome to the History of Medicine, Antiquity to the Scientific Revolution. We will be meeting 10am-noon on Thursday mornings at the Institute. In this course we will explore health and healing in Classical Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Early Modern period. Sufferers and healers worked with models of the body and therapeutics very different to those of our own day. But healers had to persuade patients of their skills, sufferers had to choose amongst a range of health-care options, and each sought meaning in experiences of illness in ways that may not be so alien to our experiences. The course focuses upon the organization of health-care, the transmission of medical knowledge, and the experiences of patients, and seeks to relate forms of healing to their social and cultural contexts.

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Office hours: Monday 11-2 (Gilman 369B) and by appointment.

Requirements and grading:
You are expected to attend the undergraduate lectures, Mon. & Wed. at 10 am, Gilman 132, at Homewood, to give you a basic overview. On Thursdays we will meet to discuss both primary and secondary readings, and I have also assigned sections of helpful overview texts. Please bring your copies of the readings to the discussions.

Assessment is based upon weekly discussions, 2 short papers, and the final departmental exam, which will also include material from the Methods course (any student not taking Methods will take a different version of the exam).

Overview texts (purchase used or new in paperback from Amazon or other):


The remainder of the readings can be accessed through Blackboard: [https://blackboard.jhu.edu](https://blackboard.jhu.edu). The course is called Outline of History of Medicine; look on the left pane for “Course Materials” and it’s in there. Please bring copies of the readings to class for discussion.

**Sept. 4: Medicine in the Ancient World: Greek Bodies**


**Sept. 11: Medicine in the Ancient World: The Hippocrates**


**Sept. 18: Medicine in the Ancient World: Alexandria and Beyond**


Nutton, Ancient Medicine, 130-159.

If possible, please try to tag along to the undergrad sections on Fri Sept. 19 held at the Archaeology Museum at Homewood.

Sept. 25: Medicine in the Ancient World: Roman Medicine


Nutton, Ancient Medicine, 174-190; 207-221; 222-253.

Oct. 2: Medieval Medicine: Bodies and Souls


**PAPER 1 DUE MONDAY OCT 6**

In a short (7-10 pp) compare and contrast selected aspects of case histories in Hippocrates and Galen, excerpts cited below, texts on Blackboard. For example, you might choose to examine the sources of authority, or diagnostic practices and what they reveal of the social interactions between patient and practitioner, or some other such theme.


**Oct. 9: Early Medieval Medicine**


Siraisi, Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine, 1-16.

Oct. 16 Medieval Medicine: Practice and Theory 1

Please note: this session will be re-scheduled


Siraisi, Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine, 17-77; 153-186.

Oct. 23 Medieval Medicine: Practice and Theory 2


**Oct. 30 Medieval Medicine: The Black Death**


**Nov. 6 Renaissance and Reformation**


Siraisi, Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine, 187-193.

Nov. 13 Early Modern Medicine 1: The Shock of the New

Please note: this session will be re-scheduled


Lindemann, Medicine and Society, 11-83.
Nov. 20  Early Modern Medicine 2: Patients & Practitioners


Seventeenth-century London advertisements for practitioners:
Margaret Searl, "Margaret Searl, wife to the late Samuel Searl" [London?: s.n. 1706], printed April 10. 1706.
Mrs. Mary Green, “Mrs. Mary Green, living at a haberdasher”, [London: s.n., 1693] Wing G1811.
John Case; "The Sick may have Advice for nothing", [London: s.n., 1680?] Wing S3748C.

Lindemann, Medicine and Society, 193-280.

NO CLASS  NOV 27 THANKSGIVING

Paper 2, Due Mon. Dec. 1.

Choose ONE of the following excerpts. Drawing on the skills and knowledge you have developed in this course, write an 8-10 page essay which contextualizes and interprets the excerpt. What kind of text is this? What does it tell us about health and healing in early modern Europe?

An Exact Relation of the Wonderful Cure of Mary Maillard..., London: J. Noon, 1730. The institute has a copy at R.B.R. .T866r 1730, and/or you can consult a digital copy:


Dec. 4 Early Modern Medicine 3: Making Knowledge

Please note: this session will be re-scheduled


