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PUBH 595.50: History and Theory of Epidemiology

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PUBH 595-History and Theory of Epidemiology

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Format: Online with Blackboard. Course procedures and expectations are those normally used in the online MPH program at the University of Montana. If questions arise Anna Buckner (anna.buckner@umontana.edu) will be the teaching assistant for this class or you can contact Jamie Lockman, the Program Coordinator at 243-2571 or jamie.lockman@mso.umt.edu. For purposes of assignments and class activities, the week starts on Monday 12:01 a.m. and ends on Sunday at Midnight. Office hours will be established the first week of the semester, during which time Dr. Molgaard will be available for phone calls or immediate email responses. Outside office hours, he will respond to emailed questions within 48 hours unless prior notice has been given to the class.

Blackboard Help: UOnline has made available an interactive tutorial for using Blackboard as a student. The tutorial and other resources can be found at the following web site:
<http://www.umt.edu/xls/blackboard/>

Required Texts:

- 1) Cipolla, Carlo. (1992) *Miasmas and Disease – Public Health and the Environment in the Pre-Industrial Age*. Yale University Press. New Haven.
- 2) Cipolla, Carlo. (1979) *Faith, Reason, and the Plague: A Tuscan Story of the Seventeenth Century*. Harvester Press, Brighton, Great Britain.
- 3) Cipolla, Carlo. (1993) *Before the Industrial Revolution: European Society and Economy 1000-1700*. W.W. Norton & Company. New York.
- 4) Johnson, Steven. (2006) *The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic--and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World*. Riverhead Books. New York.

Other readings as assigned will be available on electronic course reserve through Mansfield Library

Course Description:

This course covers the development and evolution of epidemiology, the basic science of public health. Major schools of epidemiology from the Roman-Greek, Italian and English traditions will be compared and contrasted.

Online Format:

This course will be delivered over the Internet with support from UMOline. Readings from the textbooks and discussion questions from the texts and the instructor will form the basis of weekly class postings on the online discussion board. There will also be two exams given throughout the semester, one at midterm and one near the end of the semester. The course will conclude with a final term paper.

Course Evaluation:

Weekly postings to the discussion board will make-up class participation which constitutes 40 percent of the course grade. Each exam will be worth 15 percent of the final grade and the final term paper will constitute 30 percent of the overall grade.

Final Term Paper

For the final paper, students will choose one of the following topics and discuss the important epidemiological concepts that were displayed during that event or within that theory. Additional instructions will be given later on in the semester.

Topics

1. Egyptian Epidemiological Tradition
2. Epidemiology of Influenza
3. The Manchurian Plague
4. Small Pox during the Revolutionary War
5. Roman Malaria Plague
6. Yellow Fever in the U.S.

Course Schedule

- I. **The Roman-Greek Tradition and Theory: Weeks 1-2**

Readings and Concepts:

To access the e-reserve materials, go to:

<http://eres.lib.umt.edu/eres/default.aspx>

Click on Course Reserves. You can either search by department, Public Health, or instructor, Molgaard.

Click on PUBH 595. 51. The password is "PUBH 595"

Click on the Readings folder and download the readings for the week.

Week 1

Saracci. *Introducing the History of Epidemiology*. (E-reserve material)

Hippocrates. *On Airs, Water and Places*. (E-reserve material)

Homer. *The Iliad*. Book 1: Verses 10-68. (E-reserve material)

Week 2

Galen. *On Food and Diet*. Chapters 2 and 5 (Electronic Book available through the Mansfield Library)

To connect to this title, make sure you are logged on so that you can access university services. (<http://onestop.umt.edu>)

Go to <http://www.lib.umt.edu/> and search for "On Food and Diet". Click on "Galen, on food and diet [electronic resource] / Mark Grant." Click "Connect to this title online".

Little, Lester. *Plague and the End of Antiquity*. (E-reserve material)

i. Chapter 1: Life and Afterlife of the First Plague Pandemic. Pgs. 3-32

Chin. *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*. Section on Plague. Pgs. 381-387.(E-reserve material)

II. The Early Christian Tradition and Theory: Weeks 3-5

Readings and Concepts:

McCormick, Michael. *Origins of the European Economy: Communications and Commerce AD 300-900*. Chapters 1, 3, and 4. (E-reserve material)

Week 3

Chapter 1: The End of the Ancient World

- i. Long-Term Trends in the Late Roman Economy
- ii. People and Food
- iii. Population Health

Week 4

Chapter 3: Land River Communications in Late Antiquity

- i. Routes, Ships, Men
- ii. Land Communications and the closing of the overland corridors
- iii. River Communications and the case of the Rhone route

Week 5

Chapter 4: Sea Change in Late Antiquity

- i. Transport and Commerce
- ii. Public money and private ships
- iii. Ports, ships, and cargoes
- iv. Secular change 1: the flow of goods
- v. Secular change 2: the transformation of late Roman shipping

III. The Italian Tradition and Theory: Weeks 6-10, Midterm, Week 8

Readings and Concepts

Cipolla. *Before The Industrial Revolution*.

Week 6

Part I: A static approximation

- 1. Demand
- 2. The Factors of Production
- 3. Productivity and Production

Week 7

Part II: Toward a dynamic description

- 4. The Urban Revolution: The Communes
- 5. Population: Trends and Plagues
- 6. Technology
- 7. Enterprise, Credit, and Money
- 8. Production, Incomes, and Consumption
- 9. The Emergence of the Modern Age
- 10. The Changing Balance of Economic Power in Europe

Week 8

Cipolla. *Miasmas and Disease*.

1. The Health Boards in Italy and Epidemiological Concepts
2. 'Miasmas, Filth, and Rubbish'
3. Medical Reports and the Florentine's Health Magistrates
4. Doctors, Diseases, and People
5. Conclusion

Week 9

Cipolla. *Fighting the Plague in Seventeenth Century Italy*. (E-reserve material)
Chapter 1: Theory, Observation, and Policy

Week 10

Cipolla. *Faith, Reason, and the Plague*.

IV. The English Tradition and Theory: Weeks 11-14

Readings and Concepts:

Johnson. *The Ghost Map*.

Week 11

1. The Night-Soil Men
2. Eyes Sunk, Lips Dark Blue
3. The Investigator
4. That is to Say, Jo Has Not Yet Died
5. All Smell is Disease

Week 12

6. Building the Case
7. The Pump Handle
8. The Ghost Map
9. Broad Street Revisited

Week 13

Rosenberg, Charles. *The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849, and 1866*. (E-reserve material)

Week 14

Howard-Jones. *The Scientific Background of the International Sanitary Conferences 1851-1938*. (E-reserve material)

V. Summary and Conclusions: Week 15

VI. Final Exam: Week 16

Plagiarism: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321>.

Plagiarism is the representing of another's work as one's own. It is a particularly intolerable offense in the academic community and is strictly forbidden. Students who plagiarize may fail the course and may be remanded to Academic Court for possible suspension or expulsion. (See UM Student Conduct Code).

Students must always be very careful to acknowledge any kind of borrowing that is included in their work. This means not only borrowed wording but also ideas. Acknowledgment of whatever is not one's own original work is the proper and honest use of sources. Failure to acknowledge whatever is not one's own original work is plagiarism. (Source: <http://www2.umt.edu/catalog/acpolpro.htm>)

Accommodation: In accordance with University of Montana's mission to provide equal educational opportunities for all students, necessary accommodations for students with disabilities will be made whenever possible. If you require accommodations, please provide written information regarding your disability from the Disability Services as soon as possible so that accommodations can be made.