HISTORY 369—Fall 2014

THE HISTORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND EPIDEMIC DISEASE IN AMERICA

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II. Texts

Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (New York: W.W. Norton, 1997)

Jonathan Engel, *The Epidemic: A History of AIDS* (Smithsonian, 2006)

Margaret Humphreys, *Yellow Fever and the South* (1st pub. 1992; Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998).

Alan Kraut, *Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes and the “Immigrant Menace”* (1st pub. 1994; Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1995).

Charles Rosenberg, *The Cholera Years* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1962).

All texts have been ordered at The Regulator Bookshop on Ninth Street and may also be at the bookstore in the Bryan Center or online. Other readings are on Sakai.

III. Assignments:

1. Final examination

Final will be a take-home exam, handed out last day of class and due Dec. 15 at 5 pm.

1. Two papers; topics listed under resources on Sakai. Late papers will be penalized by a drop in grade. Penalty is 1/3 grade per day (e.g. if paper earns a B+, then one day late = B, two days late = B-, etc.) If we do not have your paper by the time designated we will notify you by email so you know we don’t have it. Sometimes computer glitches happen (do tell!) or papers get otherwise lost. Papers can be turned in as printed out documents (preferred) or by email.

#1—7-8 page paper due 09/23/2014, by 2 pm.

#2—8-10 page paper due 11/18/2014, by 2 pm.

3. Readings should be done for the class under which they are listed in the syllabus.

The readings come either from the assigned books or from pdfs posted on

Sakai.

1. 10 unannounced quizzes will occur during the course. They will be made up of short questions based on the readings for that day. The point of the quizzes is to encourage you to keep up with the readings and come to class prepared. If you miss a class with a quiz for an excused reason (see below) then your quiz grade average will be based on the other completed quizzes. If you miss a quiz with no excuse, your grade for that quiz will be zero. Each quiz is worth 2 points, for a total of 20 points.
2. Attendance is expected. More than 4 unexcused absences will lead to reduction of your final grade. Contact me if you have a valid reason to miss class. If you are sick, submit a STINF. If you are away on university “business” (athletics, other representation) provide the usual forms.

IV. Grading

The final grade is based on the papers and exams. Percentages are as follows:

paper #1 20%

paper #2 30%

quizzes 20%

final 30%

You may rewrite one or both papers if you feel you can do better and raise your grade by doing so. Feel free to talk to one of us about revision. Just fixing typos won’t make much difference; substantive revision might raise your grade. To be considered revised papers must be turned in by the last day of class.

Our grades are due 48 hours after the final. Once turned in they cannot be changed for any reason except clerical error. Given the multiple components of your grade you’ll have plenty of feedback about how you’re doing. Come talk to us if you have concerns. Email or phone and we’ll set up a time, or drop by 206 Carr Building.

Laptops and tablets are allowed in class, but should be used for class-related purposes such as taking notes or looking up material relevant to the lecture. Surfing the web, looking at videos of cute kitties, updating Facebook, or visitation to other, non-relevant sites is inappropriate. It distracts those seated behind you, and lowers your attention to lecture. Act like an adult, please, and don’t force me to ban laptops from the class room.

History 369: The History of Epidemic Disease and Public Health in America

8/26 Introduction

8/28 Historical Epidemiology of Infectious Disease

Reading: Diamond, *Guns, Germs and Steel*, pp. 13-52, 85-92, 157-175, 195-214

(Prologue, chs. 1, 4, 9, 11)

9/2 Disease in the New World

Reading: Diamond, *Guns, Germs and Steel*, pp. 67-81, 354-376 (chs. 3, 18)

9/4 Smallpox in Colonial America

## Reading: John Blake, “The Inoculation Controversy in Boston, 1721-1722,” *New England Quarterly* 25 (1952): 489-506; Elizabeth Fenn, “Biological Warfare in Eighteenth-Century North America: Beyond Jeffery Amherst,” *Journal of American History* 86 (2000): 1552-1580.

9/9 The 1793 Philadelphia Yellow Fever Epidemic

Reading: Martin S. Pernick, “Politics, Parties and Pestilence: Epidemic Yellow Fever in Philadelphia and the Rise of the First Party System,” *William and Mary Quarterly* 29 (1972): 559-586.

9/11 The Cholera Years, 1832

Reading: Rosenberg, *Cholera Years*, pp. 1-98.

9/16 The Cholera Years and Civil War, 1849 to 1865

Reading: Rosenberg, *Cholera Years*, pp. 101-172; Kraut, *Silent Travelers*, pp. 31-49; Richard Shryock, “A Medical Perspective on the Civil War,” *American Quarterly* 14 (1962): 161-173.

9/18 Disease in the 1860s

Reading: Rosenberg, *Cholera Years*, pp. 175-242; your chosen cholera essay.

9/23 Yellow Fever and the Origins of the “Germ Theory”

Reading: Humphreys, *Yellow Fever*, pp. 1-111. **First paper due**.

9/25 Yellow Fever and the New Public Health

Reading: Humphreys, *Yellow Fever*, pp. 113-182.

9/30 “The Immigrant Menace,” (East) (TB)

Reading: Kraut, *Silent Travelers*, pp. 50-77, 136-165; Lawrence Flick, “The Essentials of the Crusade against Tuberculosis,” *Public Health, Papers and* *Reports* 32 (1906): 128-135; Richard Harrison Shryock, “The Historical Significance of the Tuberculosis Movement,” in Shryock, *Medicine in America*, pp. 139-145.

10/2 The Campaign for Clean Food and Pure Drugs

Readings: Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle* (1st pub 1905, NY: Viking Press, 1946), pp. 95-99, 32-41, 61-63; James Harvey Young, *The Toadstool Millionaires* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1961): pp. 205-244; James Harvey Young, “The Pig that Fell in the Privy,” *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 59 (1985): pp. 467-480. Suzanne White Junod, “Food Standards and the Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich,” adapted from David F. Smith and Jim Phillips, eds., *Food, Science, Policy and Regulation in the Twentieth Century: International and Comparative Perspectives.* FDA History website. (direct link from Sakai.)

10/7 Saving the Babies

Readings: Richard A. Meckel, *Save the Babies* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1990), pp. 62-91; Elizabeth Fee and Evelynn Hammonds, “Science, Politics and the Art of Persuasion: Promoting the New Scientific Medicine in New York City,” in D. Rosner, ed. *Hives of Sickness* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1995), pp. 155-156, 165-185.

10/9 “The Immigrant Menace,” (West) (plague)

Reading: Guenter Risse, “”A Long Pull, a Strong Pull, and All Together:” San

Francisco and Bubonic Plague, 1907-1908,” *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 66(1992): 260-86; Kraut, *Silent Travelers*, pp. 78-96.

10/14 Fall Break

10/16 The 1918 Influenza Epidemic (and 1976, Redux?)

Reading: Alfred W. Crosby, Jr., “The Influenza Pandemic of 1918,” in June Osborn, ed., *Influenza in America* (New York: Prodist, 1977), pp. 5-13; Arthur Viseltear, “A Short Political History of the 1976 Swine Influenza Legislation,” in ibid., 28-58.

10/21 SARS, Avian Influenza, Influenza-H1N1, MERS and U.S. Preparedness

Reading: Information on SARS, Avian Influenza, H1N1 and MERS on CDC website. ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)); choose button for “Diseases and Conditions” and look up each disease listed.

10/23 The Germ of Laziness

Reading: Alan I. Marcus, “The South’s Native Foreigner’s: Hookworm as a Factor in Southern Distinctiveness,” in Todd Savitt and James Harvey Young, eds., *Disease and Distinctiveness in the American South* (Knoxville: U. Tennessee Press, 1988): pp. 78-99; James H. Cassedy, “The ‘Germ of Laziness’ in the South, 1900-1915: Charles Wardell Stiles and the Progressive Paradox,” *Bulletin of the* *History of Medicine* 45 (1971): 159-169.

10/28 Pellagra

Readings: Elizabeth W. Etheridge, “Pellagra: An Unappreciated Reminder of Southern Distinctiveness,” in Savitt and Young, *Disease and Distinctiveness*, pp. 100-119; Joseph Goldberger, “The Etiology of Pellagra,” “Cause and Prevention of Pellagra,” and “Treatment,” in *Public Health Reports* 29 (1914): 1683-1686, 2354-2357, 2821-2825; CH Lavinder, “The Prevalence and Geographic Distribution of Pellagra in the US”; Julia McIver, “The Start of School Lunches,” excerpt from 1932 Narrative [Annual] Report, Pamlico County, North Carolina, Home Demonstration Agency, “4-H Club Members Learned by Doing,” and “Negro Farmers Enjoyed a Prosperous Year,” excerpts from *Better Rural Living*, *The Annual Report of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service*, 1948.

10/30 Syphilis

Reading: Allan M. Brandt, “Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study,” *Hastings Center Report* 8 (1978): 21-29; Elizabeth Fee, “Sin vs. Science: Venereal Disease in Baltimore in the Twentieth Century,” *Journal of the* *History of Medicine* 43 (1988): 141-164; James C. Thomas and Karen K. Thomas, “Things Ain’t What They Ought to Be: Social Forces underlying Racial Disparities in Rates of Sexually Transmitted Diseases in a Rural North Carolina County,” *Social Science and Medicine*, 49(1999): 1075-1084.

11/4 Occupational and Environmental Health

Reading: Kraut, *Silent Travelers*, 166-196; David Rosner and Gerald Markowitz, “The Early Movement for Occupational Safety and Health, 1900-1917,” in Judith Walzer Leavitt and Ronald L. Numbers, eds., *Sickness and Health in America: Readings in the History of Medicine and Public Health* (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press), 507-521.

11/6 Malaria at the Movies (or, Making the Micro Monstrous)

Readings: None

11/11 Malaria, World War II, and the CDC

Readings: Margaret Humphreys, “Kicking a Dying Dog: DDT and the Demise of

Malaria in the American South, 1942-1952,” *Isis* 87 (1996): 1-17; Ernest Carroll Faust, “Clinical and Public Health Aspects of Malaria in the United States,” *American Journal of Tropical Medicine* 25 (1945): 185-201.

11/13 Polio

Readings: Naomi Rogers, “A Disease of Cleanliness: Polio in New York City, 1900-1990,” in Rosner, *Hives of Sickness*, pp. 115-130; Naomi Rogers, “Dirt, Flies, and Immigrants: Explaining the Epidemiology of Poliomyelitis, 1900-1916,” *Journal of the History of Medicine* 44 (1989): 486-505.

11/18 The History of AIDS, pt. 1

Readings:Engel, *The Epidemic*,1-102.

**Second paper due**.

11/20 The History of AIDS, pt. 2

Readings: Engel, *The Epidemic*, 103-231.

11/25 The History of AIDS, pt. 3.

Readings: Engel, *The Epidemic*, 232-326.

12/2 Ebola

Readings: TBA (pending events of the coming months)

12/4 Bioterrorism and course summary

Readings: Readings: Morton Swartz, “Recognition and Management of

Anthrax—An Update,” New England Journal of Medicine 345 (2001): 1621-6; MMWR on anthrax, 2001.