

History 710/740: Research Seminar in Medical History, Spring 2003

Instructor: Dr. Peter McCandless

Office: 11 Glebe St, 201

Office Hours: WRF: 1:30-3:00 or by appointment

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Seminar Topic: Disease, Migration, and the Environment

This course will focus on the interaction of human diseases, migration, and environments since the Age of Discovery. Readings will address how historians have tried to answer the following questions: How have different environments affected disease patterns among specific populations? How have the migration and actions of human beings altered disease environments? How has disease facilitated or inhibited imperialism and migration? How have societies perceived and tried to cope with their disease environments and with “other” people perceived as vectors of disease?

Object and Format

A research seminar is designed to give students the opportunity to "do" history, i.e., to conduct original research using primary sources, to engage in historiographical debate, to present arguments in oral and written contexts, and to revise work in response to external criticism. Its main product will be a 30 page analytical research paper on a topic related to the theme of the course. The class will focus on student-centered discussion of readings, student presentations of research, and collaborative instruction in historical research and writing. The course is topically, not chronologically, organized.

Requirements:

Research paper of @ 30 pages making extensive use of primary sources. Students signed up for History 710 will write papers with a primarily American focus. Students signed up for History 740 will write papers with a primarily European focus.

Response papers on reading

Discussion of assigned readings.

Oral presentation of research to class.

Student Critiques

Readings:

William McNeill, *Plagues and Peoples* (1977, 1998)

Margaret Humphreys, *Yellow Fever and the South* (1992)

Alan M. Kraut, *Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes, and the “Immigrant Menace”* (1994)

Philip F. Curtin, *Disease and Empire: The Health of European Troops in the Conquest of Africa* (1998)

COURSE SCHEDULE

RR = Required Reading SR = Supplemental Reading EJ = Electronic Journal

Books Marked with an * are not currently in the CofC Library
Articles marked ** are not currently available in the CofC Library or EJ's

Jan. 14 Introduction

Handouts:

Jan. 21 Disease and Human History Before 1500

RR: McNeill, *Plagues & Peoples*, 9-207

SR: Jared F. Diamond, *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (1997)

Sheldon Watts, *Epidemics and History: Disease, Power and Imperialism* (1998)

Kenneth Kiple, ed. *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease* (1993)

Frederick Cartwright and Michael Biddiss, *Disease and History* (1972)

Hans Zinsser, *Rats, Lice, and History* (1935)

Robert Gottfried, *The Black Death* (1983)

Philip Ziegler, *The Black Death* (1969)

Jan. 28 The New World of Diseases

RR: McNeill, *Plagues & Peoples*, 208-end

Alfred W. Crosby, "Conquistador y Pestilencia: The First New World Pandemic and the Fall of the Great Indian Empires," *The Hispanic American Historical Review*, 47 (1967): 321-37 **EJ**

Alfred W. Crosby, "Virgin Soil Epidemics as a Factor in the Aboriginal Depopulation in America," *William & Mary Quarterly* 3d series 33 (1976): 289-99 **EJ**

Francis J. Brooks, "Revising the Conquest of Mexico: Smallpox, Sources, and Populations," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 24 (1993): 1-29. **EJ**

Robert McCaa, "Spanish and Nahuatl Views on Smallpox and Demographic Catastrophe in Mexico," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 25 (1995):397-431. **EJ**

SR: Noble David Cook, *Born to Die: Disease and New World Conquest, 1492-1650* (1998)

Alfred W. Crosby, *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492* (1972)

Kenneth Kiple and Stephen V. Beck, eds. *Biological Consequences of the European Expansion, 1450-1800* (1997)

David Stannard, *American Holocaust: Columbus and the Conquest of the New World* (1992)

John W. Verano and Douglas H. Ubelaker, eds. *Disease and Demography in the Americas*

Elizabeth Fenn, *Pox Americana: The Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775-1782* (2001) (1992)

David Henige, "When Did Smallpox Reach the New World (and why does it matter)?," in Paul E. Lovejoy, ed. *Africans in Bondage: Studies in Slavery and the Slave Trade* (1986)

Russell Thornton, *American Indian Holocaust and Survival: A Population History since 1492* (1987)

Ann F. Ramenofsky, *Vectors of Death: the archaeology of European contact* (1987)

Henry F. Dobyns, *Their Number Become Thinned: Native American Population Dynamics in Eastern North America* (1983)

*Stephen J. Kunitz, *Disease and Social Diversity: the European Impact on the Health of Non-Europeans* (1994)

Stephen J. Kunitz, *Disease change and the role of medicine : the Navajo experience* (1983)

Feb. 4 Disease and Slavery – Paper Topics Due

RR: Philip Curtin, “Epidemiology and the Slave Trade,” *Political Science Quarterly* 83 (1968) 190-216 **EJ**

Dauril Alden and Joseph C. Miller, “Out of Africa: The Slave Trade and the Transmission of Smallpox to Brazil, 1560-1831” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18 (1987) 195-224 **EJ**

SR: Joseph C. Miller, *Way of Death: Merchant Capitalism and the Angolan Slave Trade* (1988)

Kenneth Kiple, *The Caribbean Slave: A History* (1984)

Kenneth Kiple, ed. *The African Exchange: Toward a Biological History of Black People* (1987)

Richard B. Sheridan, *Doctors and Slaves: a Medical and Demographic History of Slavery in the British West Indies* (1985)

John Thornton, *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World* (1992), 142-161

Sheldon Watts, *Epidemics and History: Disease, Power and Imperialism* (1998)

Todd Savitt, *Medicine and Slavery: The Diseases and Health Care of Blacks in Antebellum Virginia* (1978)

Peter Wood, *Black Majority* (1975), chap. 3

Feb. 11 Disease and Environment in Colonial America

RR: Karen O. Kupperman, “Fear of Hot Climates in the Anglo-American Experience,” *William and Mary Quarterly* 41 (1984) 213-240 **EJ**

Darrett B. Rutman and Anita H. Rutman, “Of Agues and Fevers: Malaria in the Early Chesapeake,” *William and Mary Quarterly* 3d ser., 33 (1976) 31-60 **EJ**

H. Roy Merrens and George D. Terry, “Dying in Paradise: Malaria, Mortality and the Perceptual Environment in Colonial South Carolina,” *Journal of Southern History* 50 (1984) 533-50 **EJ**

SR: Joyce B. Chaplin, *An Anxious Pursuit: Agricultural Innovation & Modernity in the Lower South, 1730-1815*, pp. 92-108 (1993)

Peter Coclanis, *The Shadow of a Dream: Economic Life and Death in the South Carolina Low Country, 1670-1920*, pp. 36-47 (1989)

Peter Coclanis, “Death in Early Charleston: An Estimate of the Crude Death Rate for the White Population of Charleston, 1722-32,” *South Carolina Historical Magazine* 84 (1984) 280-291

**Mary Dobson, “Mortality Gradients and Disease Exchanges: Comparisons from Old England and Colonial America,” *Social History of Medicine* 2 (1989) 259-297

**John Kukla, “Kentish Agues and American Distempers: the transmission of malaria from England to Virginia in the seventeenth century,” *Southern Studies* 25 (1986): 133-147

**Gerald Cates, “‘The Seasoning’: Disease and Death Among the First Colonists of Georgia,” *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 64 (1980) 146-58

Carville V. Earle, “Environment, Disease, and Mortality in Early Virginia,” in Thad W. Tate and David L. Ammerman, eds., *The Chesapeake in the seventeenth century : essays on Anglo-American society* (1979)

John Duffy, *Epidemics in Colonial America* (1953)
St. Julien Ravenel Childs, *Malaria and Colonization in the South Carolina Lowcountry, 1526-1696* (1940)

Feb. 18 Debate: African Disease Immunities

RR: Sheldon Watts, "Yellow Fever Immunities in West Africa and the Americas in the Age of Slavery and Beyond: A Reappraisal," *Journal of Social History* 34 (2001) 955-67
Kenneth Kiple, "Response to Sheldon Watts, 'Yellow Fever Immunities in West Africa and the Americas in the Age of Slavery and Beyond: A Reappraisal,'" *Journal of Social History* 34 (2001) 969-74
Sheldon Watts, "Response to Kenneth Kiple," *Journal of Social History* 34 (2001) 975-76
[All on EJ]

SR: Sheldon Watts, *Epidemics and History: Disease, Power and Imperialism* (1998)
Kenneth Kiple, *The Caribbean Slave: A History* (1984)
Kenneth Kiple, ed. *The African Exchange: Toward a Biological History of Black People* (1987)
Todd L. Savitt, *Medicine and Slavery: The Diseases and Health Care of Blacks in Antebellum Virginia* (1978)

Feb. 25 Disease and Southern Distinctiveness

RR: Humphreys, *Yellow Fever and the South*

SR: Todd L. Savitt and James Harvey Young, *Disease and Distinctiveness in the American South* (1988)
Margaret Humphreys, *Malaria in the United States: Poverty, Race, and Public Health* (2001)
John H. Ellis, *Yellow Fever & Public Health in the New South* (1992)
Edward J. Larson, *Sex, Race, and Science: Eugenics in the Deep South* (1995)
Elizabeth Etheridge, *The Butterfly Caste: A Social History of Pellagra in the South* (1972)
Ernst Ackerknecht, *Malaria in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1760-1900* (1945)
Ronald L. Numbers and Todd L. Savitt, eds., *Science and Medicine in the Old South* (1989)
Jill Dubsich, "Low Country Fevers: Cultural Adaptations to Malaria in Antebellum South Carolina," *Social Science and Medicine* 21 (1985): 641-649

March 11 Disease and Imperialism – Paper Outline and Bibliography Due

RR: Curtin, *Disease & Empire*
Sheldon Watts, "From Rapid Change to Stasis: Official Responses to Cholera in British-Ruled India and Egypt: 1860 to c. 1921," *Journal of World History* 12 (Fall 2001) 321-74 **EJ**

SR: Sheldon Watts, *Epidemics and History: Disease, Power and Imperialism* (1998)
Philip F. Curtin, *Death by Migration: Europe's Encounter with the Tropical World in the Nineteenth Century* (1989)
Jonathan Sadowsky, *Imperial Bedlam: Institutions of Madness in Colonial Southwest Nigeria* (1999)

Megan Vaughan, *Curing their Ills: Colonial Power and African Illness* (1991)
Warwick P. Anderson and Mark Harrison, "Special Section: Race and Acclimatization in Colonial Medicine," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* (1996) 70: 62-118 **EJ**
Philip D. Curtin, "The End of the 'White Man's Grave'? Nineteenth-Century Mortality in West Africa," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 21 (1990), pp. 63-88. **EJ**
David Arnold, "'An Ancient Race Outworn': malaria and race in colonial India," in Bernard Harris and Waltraud Ernst, *Race, Science, and Medicine, 1700-1960* (1999)
Randall M. Packard, *White Plague, Black Labor: Tuberculosis and the Political Economy of Health and Disease in South Africa* (1989) [Available through library as E-book]*Biswamoy Pati and Mark Harrison, eds., *Health, Medicine and Empire: Perspectives on Colonial India* (2001)
*Mark Harrison, *Climates & Constitutions : health, race, environment and British imperialism in India, 1600-1850* (1999) [available at Citadel]
*Mark Harrison, *Public Health in British India: Anglo-Indian Preventive Medicine 1859-1914* (1994)
*David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State medicine and epidemic disease in nineteenth-century India* (1993) [available through library as E-book/on order]

March 18 Immigrants and Disease

RR: Kraut, *Strange Travelers*

SR: Philip F. Curtin, *Death by Migration: Europe's Encounter with the Tropical World in the Nineteenth Century* (1989)
Paul Farmer, *AIDS and Accusation: Haiti and the Geography of Blame* (1992)
*Paul Farmer, *Infections and Inequalities : the modern plagues* (1999) [Citadel]
Randall M. Packard, *White Plague, Black Labor : Tuberculosis and the Political Economy of Health and Disease in South Africa* (1989)
**Waltraud Ernst, "European madness and gender in nineteenth century British India," *Social History of Medicine* 9 (1996): 357-382
Charles Rosenberg, *The Cholera Years* (1962, 1987)
**H. Markel and A.M. Stern, "Which Face? Whose Nation? Immigration, Public Health, and the Construction of Disease at America's Ports and Borders, 1891-1928," *American Behavioral Scientist*, 42 (1999) 1314-1332

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March 25

Research: meet with instructor

April 1

Research: optional meetings with instructor

April 8

Research: optional meetings with instructor

April 15

Papers Due: 2 copies

Students swap papers for critiques

April 22

Papers Returned & Discussed

Critiques Due: 2 copies

April 29

Revised Papers Due, plus first version

“EXAM”: Research Presentations

OTHER READINGS

- Ernst Ackerknecht, *Malaria in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1760-1900* (1945)
- David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State medicine and epidemic disease in nineteenth-century India* (1993)
- David Arnold, *Imperial Medicine and Indigenous Societies* (1988)
- *Peter Baldwin, *Contagion and the State in Europe, 1830-1930* (1999)
- Frederick Cartwright and Michael Biddiss, *Disease and History* (1972)
- St. Julien Ravenel Childs, *Malaria and Colonization in the South Carolina Lowcountry, 1526-1696* (1940)
- *L. J. Bruce-Chwatt and J. de Zulueta, *The Rise and Fall of Malaria in Europe* (1980)
- Carlo Cipolla, *Miasmas and Disease: Public Health and the Environment in the Pre-Industrial Age* (1992)
- *William Coleman, *Yellow Fever in the North: Methods of Early Epidemiology* (1987)
- Noble David Cook, *Born to Die: Disease and New World Conquest, 1492-1650* (1998)
- Alfred W. Crosby, *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492* (1972)
- Alfred W. Crosby, *Ecological Imperialism : the Biological Expansion of Europe, 900-1900.* (1986)
- Philip F. Curtin, *Death by Migration: Europe's Encounter with the Tropical World in the Nineteenth Century* (1989)
- Jared F. Diamond, *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies.* (1997)
- Mary J. Dobson, *Contours of Death and Disease in Early Modern England* (1997)
- Rene and Jean Dubos, *The White Plague: Tuberculosis, Man, and Society* (1952)
- John Duffy, *Epidemics in Colonial America* (1953)
- *Michael Durey, *The Return of the Plague: British Society and the Cholera, 1831-32* (1979)
- Richard J. Evans, *Death in Hamburg: Society and Politics in the Cholera Years, 1830-1910* (1987)
- Elizabeth Fenn, *Pox Americana: The Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775-1782* (2001)
- Gordon A. Harrison, *Mosquitoes, Malaria, and Man: a History of the Hostilities Since 1880* (1978)
- Bernard Harris and Waltraud Ernst, *Race, Science, and Medicine, 1700-1960* (1999)
- Mark Harrison, *Public Health in British India: Anglo-Indian Preventive Medicine 1859-1914* (1994)
- Gerald W. Hartwig and K. David Patterson, eds. *Disease in African history : an introductory survey and case studies* (1978)
- J. N. Hays, *The Burdens of Disease: Epidemics and Human Response in Western History* (1998)
- Donald R. Hopkins, *Princes and Peasants: Smallpox in History* (1983)
- Margaret Humphreys, *Malaria in the United States: Poverty, Race, and Public Health* (2001)
- Arlo Karlen, *Man and Microbes: Disease and Plagues in History and Modern Times* (1995)
- Kenneth Kiple, *The Caribbean Slave: A History* (1984)

- Kenneth Kiple, ed. *The African Exchange: Toward a Biological History of Black People* (1987)
- Kenneth Kiple, ed. *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease* (1993)
- *Kenneth Kiple, ed. *Plague, Pox, and Pestilence* (London, 1997)
- Kenneth Kiple and Stephen V. Beck, eds. *Biological Consequences of the European Expansion, 1450-1800* (1997)
- Kenneth F. Kiple and Virginia H. King, *Another Dimension to the Black Diaspora: Diet, Disease, and Racism* (1981)
- Alan M. Kraut, *Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes, and the Immigrant Menace* (1994)
- Katherine J. Kudlick, *Cholera in Post-Revolutionary Paris* (1996)
- Joseph C. Miller, *Way of Death: Merchant Capitalism and the Angolan Slave Trade* (1988)
- R. J. Morris, *Cholera, 1832: Social Response to an Epidemic* (1976)
- Biswamoy Pati and Mark Harrison, eds. *Health, Medicine and Empire: Perspectives on Colonial India* (2001)
- Margaret Pelling, *Cholera, Fever, and English Medicine 1825-1865* (1978)
- Claude Quétel, *History of Syphilis* (1990)
- Ann F. Ramenofsky, *Vectors of Death: the archaeology of European contact* (1987)
- James C. Riley, *The Eighteenth-Century Campaign to Avoid Disease* (1987)
- Charles Rosenberg, *The Cholera Years* (1962, 1987)
- Todd Savitt and James Harvey Young, *Disease and Distinctiveness in the American South* (1988)
- Richard B. Sheridan, *Doctors and Slaves: a Medical and Demographic History of Slavery in the British West Indies* (1985)
- Megan Vaughan, *Curing their Ills: Colonial Power and African Illness* (1991)
- John W. Verano and Douglas H. Ubelaker, eds. *Disease and Demography in the Americas* (1992)
- Hans Zinsser, *Rats, Lice, and History* (1935)
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- Eugenia W. Herbert, "Smallpox Inoculation in Africa," *Journal of African History* 16 (1975) 539-559.
- David Henige, "When Did Smallpox Reach the New World (and why does it matter)?," in Paul E. Lovejoy, ed. *Africans in Bondage: Studies in Slavery and the Slave Trade* (1986).
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- Máthé-Shires, László. "IMPERIAL NIGHTMARES: THE BRITISH IMAGE OF "THE DEADLY CLIMATE" OF WEST AFRICA, C. 1840-74," *European Review of History* [Great Britain] 2001 8(2): 137-156.
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- Crosby, Alfred W. Title: INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND THE DEMOGRAPHY OF THE ATLANTIC PEOPLES. Citation: *Journal of World History* 1991 2(2): 119-133
-
- McNeill, J. R. Title: ECOLOGY, EPIDEMICS AND EMPIRES: ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND THE GEOPOLITICS OF TROPICAL AMERICA, 1600-1825. Citation: *Environment and History* [Great Britain] 1999 5(2): 175-184.

"THE COUNTRIE CONTINUES SICKLIE": WHITE MORTALITY IN JAMAICA, 1655-1780. Citation: *Social History of Medicine* [Great Britain] 1999 12(1): 45-72.

Author(s): Kasakoff AB ; Adams JW

Title: The effects of migration, place, and occupation on adult mortality in the American North, 1740-1880 Source: *HISTORICAL METHODS* 33, no. 2 (SPR 2000): 115-130

Markel H

Title: When germs travel (Human migration and infectious disease) Source: *AMERICAN SCHOLAR* 68, no. 2 (SPR 1999): 61+

"The eyes have it": Trachoma, the perception of disease, the United States public health service, and the American Jewish immigration experience, 1897-1924

Author: Markel H Source: *BULLETIN OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE* 74, no. 3 (FAL 2000): 525-560 Libraries: 689 [In your library] COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

Markel H ; Stern AM

Title: Which face? Whose nation? Immigration, public health, and the construction of disease at America's ports and borders, 1891-1928 Source: *AMERICAN BEHAVIORAL SCIENTIST* 42, no. 9 (JUN-JUL 1999): 1314-1331

Geography, race and nation: Remapping "tropical" Australia, 1890-1930

Author: Anderson W Source: *MEDICAL HISTORY* (2000): 146-159 Libraries: 258

Framing tropical disease in London: Patrick Manson, *Filaria perstans*, and the Uganda sleeping sickness epidemic, 1891-1902 Haynes DM Source: *SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE* 13, no. 3 (DEC 2000): 467-493 Libraries: 144 [In your library] COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

Gerald Grob, "Disease and the Environment in American History," in *Handbook of Health, Health Care, and the Health Professions*, ed. David Mechanic (1983), 3-22.

Jill Dubsich, "Low Country Fevers: Cultural Adaptations to Malaria in Antebellum South Carolina," *Social Science and Medicine* 21 (1985): 641-649

Charles F. Kovacik, "Health Conditions and Town Growth in Colonial and Antebellum South Carolina," *Social Science and Medicine* 12 (1978):131-136

IMPERIALISM, ECOLOGY AND DISEASE, CHOLERA IN INDIA, 1850-1950

Author: KLEIN I Source: *INDIAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY REVIEW* 31, no. 4 (OCT-DEC 1994): 491-518 Libraries: 276 [In your library] COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON