

MEDICINE AND SOCIETY

HISTORY 79-384 Fall 2007

Room: PH A22

Time: Tuesday, Thursday 9:00-10:20

Instructor: Caroline Jean Acker

Office hours: By appointment, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

Office: Baker Hall 252

Campus phone: 268-6040

Home phone: 412-362-9638 (okay to call between 9 am and 9 pm)

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Texts:

John Harley Warner and Janet E. Tighe, eds. *Major Problems in the History of American Medicine and Public Health*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2001.

Sinclair Lewis. *Arrowsmith*. New York: Signet Classics, 2002 (1925).

Diana Hacker. *A Pocket Manual of Style*. Fourth Edition. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004.

Policies: Class discussions form an integral part of the course; therefore, consistent and punctual attendance is essential. You are expected to have read the day's reading and understood it so that discussion can build from that understanding. Class is most fun and productive when everyone has done the reading and has something to say about it. You are entitled to three unexcused absences over the course of the semester. Each additional unexcused absence will result in your class participation grade dropping by a third (for example, from B- to C+). Absences are excused upon presentation of a note from a health care provider or for religious holidays (notify instructor in advance of intention to observe a religious holiday on a class day).

There will be several forms of written assignments: one brief reaction piece; one essay (4-5 double-spaced pages); seven brief analyses (2 double-spaced pages); and one primary source research paper (10-12 double-spaced pages). Additional instructions for each assignment will be provided in class. All written assignments are due by 5:00 p.m. on due date, as specified below. Place the assignment in the mailbox numbered 79-384 in the History Department office, BH 240. I will not print assignments submitted electronically. However, in the event of printing problems, you may submit assignments to the course Blackboard to verify they were completed on time, and then provide a printed copy as soon as is convenient (such as the next time class meets).

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On the Mondays following weeks when we read chapters from Warner and Tighe, two-page analyses will be due. Each analysis can be based on any chapter(s) we have read to that point in the semester. In the analysis, develop the points of view of one or two document writers and discuss what is at stake for them in the issues they discuss or the positions they take. More detailed instructions will be provided when we begin reading this book.

Quality of writing is central to assignment grades. Writing commits you to a line of argument, and your writing should develop that argument logically, with clear evidentiary support. Students' writing will be judged for clarity, coherence, and eloquence. Broadly speaking, the following criteria determine letter grades for assignments: D: Problems of content and organization; failure to capture the essential argument of the readings; problems of grammar and style. C: Effective summary of relevant points from the readings; development of your own perspective on the theme of the assignment. Some problems of organization, grammar, and style. B: Excellent summary of relevant points from the readings; development of clear analytical perspective of your own; some original thinking of your own; minor problems of organization and clarity; few errors of grammar and style. A: Excellent summary and critical assessment of relevant points from the readings; original and thoughtful argument of your own from a clear analytical perspective; writing that is clear and sometimes elegant; no significant problems of content or organization; very few, very minor errors of grammar and style.

Course grades will be based on the following formula: reaction piece, 5%; essay, 10%; analyses, 5% each for a total of 35%; research paper, 25%; class participation, 25%.

WEEK 1: Aug. 28 and 30

Aug. 28: Introduction. Video: Hold Your Breath: A Journey into Cross-Cultural Medicine. Maren Grainer-Monsen, director.

Aug. 30: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 1 **Response essay to Hold Your Breath due.** Write 1.5-2 pages (double spaced) of thoughts sparked by the viewing of Hold Your Breath; bring it to class.

WEEK 2: Sep. 4 and 6

Sep. 4: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 2

Sep. 6: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 3

Sep. 10: First analysis due

WEEK 3: Sep. 11 and 13

Sep. 11: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 4

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Sep. 13: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 5

Sep. 17: Second analysis due.

WEEK 4: Sep. 18 and 20

Sep. 18: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 6

Sep. 20: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 7

Sep. 24: Third analysis due.

WEEK 5: Sep. 25 and 27

Sep. 25: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 8

Sep. 27: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 9

Oct. 1: Fourth analysis due.

WEEK 6: Oct. 2 and 4

Oct. 2: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 10

Oct. 4: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 11

Oct. 8: Fifth analysis due.

WEEK 7: Oct. 9 and 11

Oct. 9: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 12

Oct. 11: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 13

Oct. 15: Sixth analysis due.

WEEK 8: Oct. 16 and 18

Oct. 16: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 14

Oct. 18: Warner and Tighe, Ch. 15

Oct. 22: Seventh analysis due.

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WEEK 9: Oct. 23 and 25

Oct. 23: Discussion of research paper assignment.

Oct. 25: No class meeting; individual student meetings to discuss research paper.

WEEK 10: Oct. 30 and Nov. 1

Oct. 30: No class meeting; individual student meetings to discuss research paper.

Nov. 1: Lewis, pp. 1-90.

WEEK 11: Nov. 6 and 8

Nov. 6: Lewis, pp. 90-184

Nov. 8: Lewis, pp. 184-269

WEEK 12: Nov. 13 and 15

Nov. 13: Lewis, pp. 270-361

Nov. 15: Lewis, pp. 361-450

Nov. 20: Arrowsmith essay due.

WEEK 13: Nov. 20 and 22

Nov. 20: Discussion of primary source research.

Nov. 22: No class; Thanksgiving holiday.

WEEK 14: Nov. 27 and 29

Nov. 27: Student presentations

Nov. 29: Student presentations

WEEK 15: Dec. 4 and 6

Dec. 4: Student presentations

Dec. 6: Student presentations

Dec. 14: Research paper due.