

Revised version, 9/15/17

E395M Health, Medicine, and American Literature since the Civil War
Fall 2017 Unique #38375 / MW 10-11:30 AM Par 214

Dr. Phillip Barrish pbarrish@austin.utexas.edu

Office hrs in Parlin 130: M 2-3:30 pm, W 12:30-2 pm, and by appointment.

This course explores representations of health, healing, and medicine in American literature since the Civil War. Our primary historical focus will be literature of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but we will also read selected literary works from later periods. Secondarily, the course will serve as an introduction to the overlapping fields of the “health humanities” (a more capacious term for the medical humanities) and “literature and medicine.”

Required Texts

Texts are listed in the order we will be reading them. Unless otherwise noted, the editions listed have been ordered through UT Coop. Other editions are acceptable.

1) Course Packet (CP)

2) Rebecca Harding Davis, *Life in the Iron Mills*. Feminist Press, 1993. ISBN: 9780935312393.

3) Henry James, *Washington Square*. Penguin, 2007. 9780141441368.

4) Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *The Yellow Wallpaper*. Dover, 1997. ISBN: 9780486298573.

5) Charles Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*. Bedford Cultural Edition, 2002. ISBN: 9780312194062.

6) Edith Wharton, *The Fruit of the Tree*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2016. ISBN: 9781530607747.

7) Sinclair Lewis, *Arrowsmith*. Penguin, 2008. ISBN: 9780451530868.

8) Nella Larsen, *Passing*. Random House, 2003. ISBN: 9780142437278.

9) Alan E. Nourse, *The Blade Runner* (1974). Purchase ebook from Simon & Schuster: <http://www.simonandschuster.com/books/The-Bladerunner/Alan-E-Nourse/Prologue-Books/9781440566936>. Cost is \$3.99 or free if you join their mailing list.

10) Rafael Campo, *Alternative Medicine*. Duke UP, 2013. ISBN: 9780822355878.

Schedule (Readings should be completed prior to the class they are listed next to.)

Wednesday, 8/30 Introduction to class topic, requirements, each other, etc.

Monday, 9/4 Labor Day—no class

Wednesday 9/6 Jones, Anne Hudson. “Why Teach Literature and Medicine: Answers from Three Decades.” *Journal of Medical Humanities* 34 (2013): 415–428.
Jones, Therese, et al. “The Almost Right Word: The Move from Medical to Health Humanities.” *Academic Medicine* 92 (2017): 932-935.
William Carlos Williams, “The Use of Force” (1938).

Monday, 9/11 (1) Charon, Rita. *Narrative Medicine: Honoring the Stories of Illness*. Oxford UP, 200. vii-xiii, 3-15. (CP)

(2) Charon, Rita, et al. "Close Reading and Creative Writing in Clinical Education: Teaching Attention, Representation, and Affiliation." *Academic Medicine* 91 (2016): 345-350. (CP)

(3) Dasgupta, Sayantani. "Narrative Humility." *The Lancet* (2008): 980. (CP)

Wednesday, 9/13 (1) Frank, Arthur W. *The Wounded Storyteller: Body, Illness, and Ethics*. Second Edition. University of Chicago Press, 2013. xi-xxi; chapter three, 53-73. (CP)

(2) Juresic, Anne. *Illness as Narrative*. University of Pittsburgh Press, 2012. 3-17. (CP)

(3) Woods, Angela. "The Limits of Narrative: Provocations for the Medical Humanities." *Medical Humanities* (British) 37 (2011): 73-78. (CP)

Monday, 9/18 (1) Herndl, Diana Price. "Disease vs. Disability: The Medical Humanities and Disability Studies." *PMLA* 120.2 (2005): 593-598. (CP)

(2) Holmes, Martha Stoddard. "Embodied Storytellers: Disability Studies and Medical Humanities." *Hastings Center Report* 45. 2 (2015): 11-15. (CP)

(3) Segal, Judy Z. "Cancer Experience and its Narration: An Accidental Study." *Literature and Medicine* 30.2 (2012): 292-318. (CP)

Presentation by Lizzie Picherit

Wednesday, 9/20 (1) Junot Diaz, "Wildwood" (2007). (CP)

(2) Thom Gunn, "Save the Word" (CP)

(3) Rafael Campo, "Ms. Twomey" (CP)

(4) Garden, Rebecca Elizabeth. "The Problem of Empathy: Medicine and the Humanities." *New Literary History* 38.1 (2007): 551-567. (CP)

(5) Garden, Rebecca. "Distance Learning: Empathy and Culture in Junot Diaz's 'Wildwood.'" *Journal of Medical Humanities* 34 (2013): 439-450. (CP)

Monday, 9/25 Rebecca Harding Davis, *Life in the Iron Mills* (1861). [Next time: Include Rosemary Garland Thompson's article on Life in the Iron Mills.]

Wednesday, 9/27 CLASSROOM VISIT BY ARTHUR FRANK in PARLIN 312 (I will provide some additional reading prior to AF'S visit.)

***Wednesday, 9/27 Evening Lecture by Arthur Frank, "Hamlet in the Hospital: An Arts-based Response to Suffering Among the Ill and Those Who Care for Them"** 7PM POB 2.302 (Avaya Auditorium). Sponsored by UT Humanities Institute.

ATTENDANCE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.

Monday, 10/2 (1) Haber, Samuel. "The Doctors' Dilemmas," in Haber, *The Quest for Honor and Authority in the American Professions, 1750-1900*. University of Chicago Press, 1991. 45-66. (CP: Preface included with PDF is optional.)

(2) Starr, Paul. *The Social Transformation of American Medicine: The Rise of a Sovereign Profession and the Making of a Vast Industry*. Basic Books, 1982. 79-92. (CP)

(3) Henry James, *Washington Square* (1880), chapters 1-17.

Presentations by Ricky Shear and Brie Winnega

Wednesday, 10/4 (1) (18) 1847 AMA Code of Medical Ethics: “Introduction” and “Of the Obligations of Patients to Their Physicians.” (CP).

(2) Chang, Stacy. “Beyond Patient-Centered Care?” Dell Medical School Blog. October 27, 2015. (CP)

(3) *Washington Square*, chapters 18-35.

Monday, 10/9 (1) Miscellaneous excerpts from the Bedford Cultural Edition of *The Yellow Wallpaper* (CP)

(2) Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *The Yellow Wallpaper* (1892)

Wednesday, 10/11 Presentations by Raelynn Gosse and Jane Aman

***Wednesday, 10/11 Evening Lecture by Alondra Nelson, “The Social Life of DNA.” 7PM POB 2.302 (Avaya Auditorium). Sponsored by UT Humanities Institute. LECTURE CANCELED**

Monday, 10/16 (1) Browner, Stephanie P. *Profound Science and Elegant Literature: Imagining Doctors in Nineteenth-Century America*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005. 182-186. (CP)

(2) Charles Chesnutt, “Po Sandy” (444-454 of Bedford Cultural Edition of *Marrow*) and *The Marrow of Tradition* (1901), chapters 1-20.

Wednesday, 10/18 Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 21-37.

Monday, 10/23 (1) Reverby, Susan. *Ordered to Care: The Dilemma of American Nursing, 1850-1945*. Cambridge University Press, 1987. 95-105. (CP)

(2) Edith Wharton, *The Fruit of the Tree* (1907), chapters

Wednesday, 10/25 (1)

(1) Wharton, *The Fruit of the Tree*, chapters

(2) Albright, Angela. “Nursing: Against Suicide.” In James L. Werth, Jr., ed., *Contemporary Perspectives on Rational Suicide*. Taylor & Francis, 1999. 89-94. (CP)

(3) Garland-Thomson, Rosemarie. “The Cultural Logic of Euthanasia: ‘Sad Fancyings’ in Herman Melville’s ‘Bartleby.’” *American Literature* 76.4 (2004): 778-782. (CP)

Monday, 10/30 (1) Presentations by Rosa Nussbaum and Anna Whelan

(2) Sinclair Lewis, *Arrowsmith* (1925), chapters 1-15

(3) De Kruif, Paul. *Microbe Hunters*. Harcourt, Brace & World, 1926. 105-116, 137-144. (CP)

Wednesday, 11/1 (1) Lewis, *Arrowsmith*, chapters 16-27

(2) Brown, E. Richard. *Rockefeller Medicine Men: Medicine and Capitalism in America*. University of California Press, 1979. 1-5, 111-134. (CP)

Monday, 11/6 (1) Lewis, *Arrowsmith*, chapters 28-40

(2) Anderson, Warwick. *Colonial Pathologies: American Tropical Medicine, Race, and Hygiene in the Philippines*. Duke University Press, 2006. 1-11 (CP)

Wednesday, 11/8 Presentations by John Carranza and Sarah Schuster

Monday, 11/13 Nella Larsen, *Passing* (1929) and secondary reading to be announced

Wednesday, 11/15 Larsen, *Passing*

***Sunday, 11/19 Paper prospectus due on Canvas by 6:00 pm; minimum 300 words + bibliography (minimum 5 sources)**

Monday, 11/20 Peer group meetings to discuss prospectuses

Wednesday, 11/22 Thanksgiving (no class)

Monday, 11/27 (1) Paul R. Erlich, *The Population Bomb* (1968), excerpts. (CP)
 (2) Alan E. Nourse, *The Blade Runner* (1974). Purchase ebook from Simon & Schuster: <http://www.simonandschuster.com/books/The-Bladerunner/Alan-E-Nourse/Prologue-Books/9781440566936>. Cost is \$3.99 or free if you join their mailing list.

Wednesday, 11/29 (1) Gilens, Martin. *Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy*. University of Chicago Press, 1999. 1-9. (CP)
 (2) William Burroughs, *Blade Runner: A Movie* (1979) (in course packet).

Monday, Dec 4 Presentations by Rae Piwarski and Danielle Dye

Wednesday, Dec 6 Rafael Campo, *Alternative Medicine* (2013), poems to be announced.

Monday, Dec 11 No Class—(I'll be available for paper consultations)

Requirements and Grading

30% Class Participation.

15% Class presentation on any topic related to course themes or readings.

55% Research paper (20 pages) on any topic related to course themes or readings.

***Attendance, punctuality, and timely completion of all assigned reading** are givens; problems in these areas will lower your final course grade. That said, please don't hesitate to let me know if you are experiencing difficulties with any aspect of the course.