



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Health and illness before modern science - diseases public medicine conservatism and creativity in - 96346

Last update 16-09-2024

HU Credits: 1

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Medicine

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Ein Karem

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Tamar Salmon-Mack

Coordinator Email: tamisalmon@gmail.com

Coordinator Office Hours: after the lessons

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Tamar Shalmon,
Dr. Saar Hashavia,
Dr. Hagit Peleg

Course/Module description:

Some health and ethical issues studied from written Hebrew or translated medieval and early-modern sources, their cultural and social context. How health, illnesses and diseases were seen and understood, how people coped with plague, treated small children. Were they tolerant towards marginals and mental illnesses? And finally, how transition from traditional to modern medicine took place.

Course/Module aims:

Dealing with historical situations and dilemmas, through a modern view.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Knowing some interesting historical sources, and using them as a basis for contemporary and up-to-date discussion.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: actual discussion upon historical sources: historian, physician and students.

Course/Module Content:

anatomy conceptions and holistic medicine in ancient and medieval world. Hippocrates and Galen, Ibn-Sina and Rambam, and their views that ruled for about two thousands years.

2) Plague as a permanent threat. major historical epidemics and their reflections in historical documents. Discussion based on a variety of authentic sources - novels, professional reports and moralistic summaries: Boccaccio, Daniel Defoe, Avraham Catalano, Yaakov Tzahalon. Some moral and medical issues they raised.

3) Maternity and infants: washing, rapping, nutrition. The social context of breastfeeding. Infant mortality and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Anxieties and beliefs.

4) Public health in early modern society. Physicians, nurses, pharmacists, barbers: Public health laws and regulations, ethical and professional questions that arise

from legal and regulatory files in the Middle Ages and early modern times. Church synods' legislations, detailed regulations in Jewish communities (Krakow, Thessaloniki).

5) mental diseases - Ways of diagnosis and social perceptions in the pre-modern world, and the social discourse on the subject since the great changes of the 19th century.

6) literature promotes modern medicine - European and parallel Jewish popular medical writing from 17th century and on , from Tuvia Cohen until journal advice section for readers in early twentieth-century press.

Required Reading:

see Hebrew box

Additional Reading Material:

see Hebrew box

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 60 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 20 %

Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 20 %

Additional information:

Attendance is mandatory