□□□**Health and Society**

Honors Seminar, Fall 2003
T/Th 1:30-2:50
Professor Golden

Office: Armitage Hall, 4th Floor
Office Hours: T/Th 12:25-1:25 and by appointment

Overview:

This course looks at the history of American medicine and at Americans' experiences of illness. We discuss the effects of epidemic and endemic diseases, look at the ramifications of infectious and chronic ailments, examine physical disabilities and mental illness and pay attention to the effects of each of these experiences on individuals and on communities. Additionally, we examine the creation of the hospital, clinic and HMO and investigate the development of the healing professions (including orthodox and alternative medicine, nursing and midwifery). Also explored is the evolution of public health measures and legal debates over their consequences.

A seminar differs from other classes in that it is a collective experience that requires a sense of intellectual community. Our goal is to develop an open and continuing conversation about the health and society in the United States. Success in achieving that goal depends upon the participation of everyone. For this reason, regular attendance and participation are crucial. I will be calling on students to lead portions of the discussion.

Please keep in mind that your grade is based on three things: attendance and class participation (especially in the analysis of films), reviews of three of the assigned books and daily assignments which consists of writing a short summary of the reading and three discussion questions at least one of which must address something you didn't understand. We will review the requirements for the daily assignments in class. Instructions for the book reviews will be handed out in class and discussed in detail.

Grading:

Attendance and Class Participation	30%
Book Reviews	40%
Writing Assignments	30%

Required Reading:

Ann Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*

Laurie Kaye Abraham, *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead*
Alan Kraut, *Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes and the "Immigrant Menace"*
Susan Reverby, *Tuskegee's Truths*

Theme 1: The Culture of Biomedicine

Sept. 2: Introduction

Sept. 4:
Reading: Kleinman
Due: description and three questions

Sept. 9:
Reading: *The Spirit Catches You*, pp. 3-77
Due: description and three questions

Sept. 11:
Reading: *The Spirit Catches You*, pp. 78-153
Due: description and three questions

Sept. 16:
Reading: *The Spirit Catches You*, pp. 154-249
Due: description and three questions

Sept. 18:
Reading: *The Spirit Catches You*, pp. 250-288
Due: description and three questions
Discussion: How to write a book review

Sept. 23:
Film: Spirit Doctors
Due: Review of *The Spirit Catches You*,

Theme 2: Individual Rights and Social Needs

Sept. 25:
Reading: *Silent Travelers*, pp. 1-77
Due: description and three questions

Sept. 30:
Reading: *Silent Travelers*, pp. 78-165
Due: description and three questions

Oct. 2:
Film: Influenza, 1918

Oct. 7:
Reading: *Silent Travelers*, pp. 166-254
Due: description and three questions

Oct. 9:
Reading: *Silent Travelers,* pp. 255-276
Due: description and three questions
Introduction to Mutter Museum

Oct. 14:
Mutter Museum Visit
Due: Review of *Silent Travelers*

Theme 3: Human Subjects and Human Values

Oct. 16:
Reading: *Tuskegee's Truths* pp. 1-69,
Due: description and three questions

Oct. 21:
Film: Miss Evers' Boys

Oct. 23:
Reading: *Tuskegee's Truths*, pp. 73-131
Due: description and three questions

Oct 28:
Reading: *Tuskegee's Truths*, pp. 132-181
Due: description and three questions

Oct 30:
Reading: *Tuskegee's Truths* pp.193-212; 251-275
Due: description and three questions

Nov. 4:
Reading: *Tuskegee's Truths* pp. 404-417; 424-442,
Due: description and three questions

Nov. 6:
Reading: *Tuskegee's Truths*, pp. 578-603
Due: description and three questions

Nov. 11:
Film: Living Longer
Due: review of *Tuskegee's Truths*

Theme 4: Health Care Disparities

Nov 13:

Reading: *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead*, pp. 1-59
Due: description and three questions

Nov. 18:

Reading: *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead*, pp. 60-133
Due: description and three questions

Nov 20:

Film: Dr. Solomon's Dilemma

Nov 25:

Reading: *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead* pp. 133-198.
Due: description and three questions

Dec. 2:

Reading: *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead*, pp. 198-242
Due: description and three questions

Dec. 4

Reading: *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead*, pp. 243-314

Dec. 9

Due: Review of *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead*