

The Hospital, 001.101.01
Fall 2021, Greenhouse 113
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Hospitals: Virtually all of us were born in one, most of us will eventually die in one, and in between all of us will spend at least some time in one. Lots of you likely aspire to spend your careers in one. Along the way we, or some third-party payer, will spend a considerable amount of our health care benefits there. No wonder we seem so fascinated with hospitals, judging from our tastes in television drama. “E.R.”, “House”, “Grey’s Anatomy”, and “Chicago Med” are only the latest in a long line of Hollywood series set in hospitals.

Our focus will be on the history of the hospital from its origins in early modern Europe and the Islamic world, through the early modern period, to the rise of the modern urban mega hospital. The Johns Hopkins Hospital has been ranked as one of the nation’s best by US News and World Report since its annual survey began, and spent nineteen straight years at number one. So we will devote some time to its history, and the history of its affiliated programs—The School of Medicine, The Bloomberg School of Public Health, the School of Nursing, and the Phipps Psychiatric Clinic.

Hopkins invented the graduate seminar as well as the modern hospital, and though this is a freshman seminar, expect a heavy reading load and be prepared to discuss what you’ve read. Weekly readings will either be available on e-Reserves. You only get as much out of a seminar as you put into it and it’s hard to contribute if you’re not there. As Woody Allen famously observed, 80% of life is showing up. Attendance is therefore mandatory, and will count for 10% of your grade. Showing up is good, but having something informed to say is better. So in-class participation will count for 40% of your grade. To prepare for our discussions, each of **you will submit three questions on the readings, due the day before each discussion**. I will select the best of them and distribute them for our common discussion questions, along with a few questions of my own. Your questions will count for 20% of your grade. Your final project will count 30%.

You will find all of the readings and films on e-reserves

Learning Objectives:

By the third week of the semester, students should be able to:

Identify and outline the main arguments of a historical article and the evidence used to support them

Formulate critical questions on the assigned readings and be prepared to share them with the class

Listen attentively and respond constructively to discussion questions from other students

Learn to interpret film as independent visual evidence

By the sixth week of the semester, students should be able to:

Write a short proposal for a film (documentary, drama, docudrama, graphic novel) about the future of the hospital that ties into the major themes and readings of the course

Conduct searches of the primary and secondary literature on hospitals from specialized library databases such as JStor and PubMed

Constructively critique film proposals of other students

Collaboratively prepare preliminary storyboards with images and texts

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

Identify the major milestones in the history of the hospital

Understand hospitals within their larger social context, and within changing medical practice

Connect the history of hospitals to current issues of racial, geographical, and socio-economic disparities in healthcare, in the US and globally

Assess the changing role of the research hospital within the broader framework of healthcare training and delivery

Projects:

You have been asked to serve on the university's Planning and Architecture committee. Thanks to yet another generous endowment from Michael Bloomberg, Johns Hopkins has decided to update the master plans for all of its medical campuses, including the main campus in East Baltimore, the Bayview Medical Center, All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida, and Peking Union Medical College and Hospital in Beijing, modeled on but not administered by Johns Hopkins Medicine. You will be assigned to one of four working groups that will advise the President and the Board of Trustees on future planning for each of these sites. Your subcommittee's responsibility extends to updating the existing campuses, including the architectural rehabilitation of current buildings, with appropriate alterations and additions, and when necessary, their replacement. Looking

ahead, what should the campuses look like in 2050? With Bloomberg's billions behind you, cost is not a consideration.

Drawing on your extensive knowledge of the history hospitals and medicine, re-envision the medical campus of the 21st c. How can it be made more flexible to deal with the health care challenges of the future? How will it redress health care disparities of the past and present? Reimagine health care from the perspective of patients and their families, as well as those of nurses, physicians, and other health care workers. Think not only about individual buildings or wings for surgery, oncology, ophthalmology, infectious disease, and other medical specialties, but how the whole can be greater than the sum of the parts.

As prelude to your architectural prescriptions, consider the specific history of your campus and how it has evolved over time. What can and should be preserved of that history? What aspects of a sometimes-painful history should be confronted, from the names on the buildings to the integration of the campus with its larger community?

You are encouraged to consult with architects and architectural firms as examples of what you would consider best practice. Perhaps you will find inspiration in Frank Gehry's Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in Las Vegas or Cesar Pelli's Northwestern Medicine's Lake Forest Hospital near Chicago. Could Peking Union Medical College's traditional Chinese design learn something from Thomas Payette's Aga Khan University medical center in Karachi, Pakistan or from NBBJ's Jiahui International Hospital and the Children's Medical Center in Shanghai?

In light of the current pandemic, the Board of Trustees insists you do all you can to prepare for future pandemics in your architectural planning. How can your plan take account of the space, training, and equipment required to deal with as yet unknown health threats, without losing sight of the growing burden of chronic disease and the diseases of affluence, especially among the elderly?

The Board of Trustees would like you to make a presentation at its annual meeting. They have a packed agenda, so you have only ten minutes. Capture their imagination with images, but don't ignore such practical matters as cost, the number of patients the campus is intended to serve, and the problem of expansion and population displacement in sometimes crowded urban settings. Remember that even with an unlimited budget, you can't design a medical campus that will be all things to everyone. Make the tradeoffs explicit and justify them. Would it be better to keep All Children's a pediatric facility, or expand into other specialties? Is there value in preserving the classical Chinese architecture of Peking Union Medical College, or is that relevant in a modern China?

Grading

This course is offered as one of the new freshman seminars that will be required of all first year students beginning 2022/23. Like the others, this course is for three credits, and

with S/U grading. All assignments will be graded S/U, but with detailed feedback on student performance.

Daily assignments, readings, and films

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Aug. 30 Film: “Hopkins 24/7”

Sept. 1 Reading and discussion: “The Hospital” in Roy Porter, *Blood and Guts: A Short History of Medicine* (Norton, 2003)

Guenter Risse, “Typhoid Fever and the Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1891” in *Mending Bodies and Saving Souls: A History of Hospitals* (Oxford University Press, 1999).

Sept. 6 **Labor Day, No class**

The Early Modern Hospital

Sept. 8 Reading and discussion:

Ahmed Ragab, *The Medieval Islamic Hospital: Medicine, Religion and Charity* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015), Chapter 5

John Henderson, “Healing the Body and Saving the Soul: Hospitals in Renaissance Florence” *Renaissance Studies* 15 (June 2001), 188-216

Surgery and the Hospital

Sept. 13 Reading and discussion

Surgery” and “Doctors” in Roy Porter, *Blood and Guts*

Howard Markel, “The Professor” in *The Anatomy of Addition* (Vintage, 2012).

Gert Brieger, “A Portrait of Surgery: Surgery in America, 1875–1889” *Surgical Clinics of North America* 67, 6 (December 1987) 1181-1216.

Hospitals and Epidemics

Sept. 15 Readings and discussion:

Susan L. Burns, “For Care and Salvation: Leprosy Hostels in Pre-Modern Japan circa 1200–1800” in Mohammad Gharipour (ed.) *Health and Architecture: Designing Spaces for Healing and Caring in the Pre-Modern Era* (London: Bloomsbury Press, 2021).

Jane Stevens Crawshaw, “Dying in the Lazaretti” in *Plague Hospitals: Public Health for the City of Early Modern Venice* (Routledge, 2012)

Sanatoriums

Sept. 20 Readings and discussion:

Susan Haight, “The Hill of Health: Aspects of Community at the Waipiata Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 1923-1961” *Health and History* 11 (2009) 1-20.

Flurin Condrau “Who Is the Captain of All These Men of Death’: The Social Structure of a Tuberculosis Sanatorium in Postwar Germany” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 32, 1 (Autumn, 2001), 243-262.

Asylums

Sept. 22 Film: “Titcut Follies”

Sept. 27 Readings and discussion:

Carla Yanni, “The Linear Plan for Insane Asylums in the United States before 1866” *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 62 (March 2003), 24-49.

Wanda Liebermann, “Humanizing Modernism: Jaap Bakema’s Het Dorp, a Village for Disabled Citizens, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 75, 2 (2016): 158–181.

Oliver Sacks, “The Lost Virtues of the Asylum,” *New York Review of Books*, September 24, 2009 <http://www.psychodyssey.net/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/The-Lost-Virtues-of-the-Asylum.pdf>

Military Hospitals

Sept. 29 Film: “War Hospital”

Oct. 4 Reading and discussion:

Carol Helmstadter, “Class, Gender, and Professional Expertise: British Military Nursing During the Crimean War” in Jane Brooks and Christine

Hallett, *One hundred years of wartime nursing practices, 1854–1953*
(Manchester University Press, 2015).

Nursing and the Hospital

Oct. 6 Film: “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest”

Oct. 11 Reading and discussion:

Janet James, “Isabel Hampton and the Professionalization of Nursing in the 1890s” in Morris Vogel and Charles Rosenberg (eds.) *The Therapeutic Revolution: Essays in the Social History of American Medicine* (University of Pennsylvania, 1979).

The Birth of the Clinic

Oct. 13 Reading and discussion:

Mark Micale, “The Salpetriere in the Age of Charcot: An Institutional Perspective on Medical History in the Late Nineteenth Century” *Journal of Contemporary History* 20 (1985), 703-731.

“The Laboratory” and “Therapies” in *Blood and Guts*

The Rise of the Modern Hospital

Oct. 18 Film: “Hospital” (Frederick Wiseman)

Oct. 20 Readings and discussion:

Allan M. Brandt and David C. Sloane, “Of Beds and Benches: Building the Modern American Hospital,” in Peter Galison and Emily Thompson (eds.) *The Architecture of Science* (1999): 281-302.

Stuart W. Leslie, “Architectural Prescriptions: Johns Hopkins Medicine and the Shift from the Pre-Modern to the Modern Hospital,” in Mohammad Gharipour (ed.) *Health and Architecture: Designing Spaces for Healing and Caring in the Pre-Modern Era* (London: Bloomsbury Press, 2021).

Health Disparities and the Hospital

Oct. 25 Film: “Partners of the Heart”

Oct. 27 Readings and discussion:

Karen Thomas, “The Hill-Burton Act and Civil Rights: Expanding Hospital Care for Black Southerners, 1939-1960” *Journal of Southern History* 72, 4 (Nov., 2006), 823-870

Stefan Timmermans, “A Black Technician and Blue Babies” *Social Studies of Science* 33 2 (April 2003), 197–229. (on line)

Maternity Hospitals

Nov. 1 Film: “Remaking American Medicine: Hand in Hand”

Nov. 3 Reading and discussion

Judith Leavitt, “‘Alone Among Strangers’: Childbirth Moves to the Hospital” in *Brought to Bed: Childbearing in America, 1750-1950.*”

David Sloane, “Not Designed Merely to Heal”: Women Reformers and the Emergence of Children’s Hospitals,” *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Vol. 4, No. 4 (October 2005): 331-354

The Hospital in Film and Television

Nov. 8 Films: “Pioneers of Television: Doctors and Nurses” “Grey’s Anatomy” Episode 1

Nov. 10 Reading and discussion:

Amy Long, “Diagnosing Drama: Grey’s Blind Casting, and the Politics of Representation” *Journal of Popular Culture* (Oct. 2011)

Elena C. Strauman and Bethany C. Goodier “Not your grandmother’s doctor show: A review of Grey’s Anatomy, House, and Nip/Tuck.” *Journal of Medical Humanities* 29 (2008): 127–131.

The Hospital as Metaphor

Nov. 15 Film: “The Hospital” (Chayefsky)

Nov. 17 Reading and discussion

Jeffrey Meyers, "Cancer Ward and the Literature of Disease" *Twentieth Century Literature* Vol. 29, No. 1 (Spring, 1983), pp. 54-68.

Barbara Clow, "Who's Afraid of Susan Sontag?" *Social History of Medicine* 14, (2001) 293-312.

Nov. 22-26 Thanksgiving Break

The Hospital and the City

Nov. 29 Reading and discussion

Andrew Simpson, "Health and Renaissance: Academic Medicine and the Remaking of Modern Pittsburgh" *Journal of Urban History* 41 (2015): 19-27.

The Future of the Hospital

Dec. 1 Reading and discussion:

Theodore David, "The Decline of the Hospital as a Healing Machine" in Sarah Schrank and Didem Ekici (eds.) *Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture and the Body* (New York: Routledge, 2017).

"Medicine and Modern Society" in *Blood and Guts*

Jereon Tas, "The Future of the Hospital is a Network"

<https://www.philips.com/a-w/about/news/archive/blogs/innovation-matters/20190911-the-hospital-of-the-future-is-a-network.html>

Final Project Reports

Dec. 6

