

Name: _____

Final Examination
Core Course
MA in History of Medicine

**For Parts I and II, take no more than 1 hour.
(These two parts will be marked on a curve, with 80 as a perfect score.)**

Part I: 10%: Set down in chronological order the ten dates you consider to be most important in the history of medicine, and a brief statement of why the date is important.

Part II: 30%: From the following 10 questions, answer **six**. Please write your answer in the exam papers.

- 1) In his account of the rise of technology in medicine, Reiser emphasizes its importance to
 - Diagnosis
 - Pharmacy
 - Surgery
 - Hospital Architecture

- 2) In his account of hospitals, Risse sees their purpose as mainly
 - Economic
 - Political
 - Charitable
 - Enforcement of social discipline

- 3) Foucault
 - Pays close attention to the written word of the mad
 - Thinks that ideas 'trickled-down' from princely courts to the middle classes
 - Paints a picture of slowly improved diagnosis of mental illness
 - Divides history into well-defined periods

- 4) By writing about 'framing' disease, Rosenberg's metaphor suggests
 - The image in the viewfinder of a camera
 - The supporting structure of a building
 - The decorative pieces added to each side of a painting
 - The method of structuring information on a website

- 5) Kuriyama takes many of his examples from the practice of
 - Auscultation
 - Pulse-taking
 - Palpating the organs
 - Uroscopy

- 6) In giving an account of 'the construction of scientific facts', Latour and Wolgar
 - Emphasize the technological determinants of scientific practices
 - Discuss the economic structures for the development of scientific 'credit'
 - Replace psychological explanations with social ones
 - Argue that locally constructed knowledge becomes universal when scientists travel to meetings

7) Marks gives most of the credit for discovering the method for synthesizing progesterone from yams to:

- Margaret Sanger
- John Rock
- Katherine McCormick
- Russell Marker

8) Wilson uses the following passion to explain why men entered the birthing chamber:

- Fear
- Greed
- Desire for knowledge
- Chauvinism

9) To make his point about 'history from below', Porter uses evidence from the diary of:

- Samuel Pepys
- John Locke
- Samuel Jeake
- Elizabeth Cellier

10) Szreter argues that Britain's mortality decline was due to

- Better nutrition
- Activities undertaken on behalf of the state
- The development of new clinical interventions
- The decline in the virulence of infectious diseases

For each question in Part III, give yourself no more than 40 minutes.

Part III: 60%: Answer **three** of the following six essay questions, **being sure to illustrate your arguments with examples**:

- a) Demographic changes are partly related to changes in fertility patterns, partly to mortality patterns. Leaving aside the possible medical connections to fertility (to contraception, for example), what is/are the best argument(s) for how medical interventions affected mortality rates from the late 18th century to the early 20th century?
- b) In Foucault's discussion of madness, he writes of Reason and Unreason. He suggests that Reason is the more dangerous. Why? And what kinds of evidence does he bring to bear in making his point?
- c) One of the aspects of scientific practice to which Latour and Wolgar pay close attention is what they call 'inscription devices.' What are these? And why are they so important in their argument?
- d) Many of those historians who have explored 'the patient's point of view' have argued that patients have had far more control over the development of medical practice than is commonly supposed. What would be a good example of this argument? How would you assess its strengths and weaknesses?
- e) 'Material culture' is sometimes held to have had important effects on the development of medical knowledge. How? What would you say are good examples of the changes wrought in the realm of medical ideas by changes in medical instruments?
- f) The general field labelled 'medicine' has many links to the general field called 'politics.' One of the loci where this can be seen is in the process called 'professionalisation.' Taking the example of one or more fields of medical practice, in one period, how did politics affect the development of the profession or professional sub-group?