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How Did We Get Here? Practical Lessons in the History of Medicine Mini-Elective Spring 2020

<u>Course Dates:</u>	January 10, 17, 24, 31 Fridays, 1:00-3:00 PM
<u>Maximum Students:</u>	10
<u>Class Year:</u>	MS1 and MS2
<u>Course Director:</u>	Eugene Ginchereau, M.D., FACP Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine and Nursing
<u>Contact Information:</u>	Brett Curtis (brc68@pitt.edu)
<u>Registration:</u>	Betsy Nero, Office of Medical Education betsy@medschool.pitt.edu

Description:

Among developed countries, the US leads the world in medical discovery and education, yet spends the most on healthcare and ranks the lowest for quality. Many have argued for a wide range of solutions to the myriad of problems facing American healthcare. However, the question remains: "How did we get here?"

This course, through the lens of history, provides lessons about how we arrived at the present from the past, so we can propose better solutions for the future of healthcare. Questions addressed will include: Why is medical education structured the way it is? How did the modern social conception of a "doctor" form? How did the hospital as we know evolve? Why is healthcare so uniquely expensive in the United States?

This mini-elective is designed to be a very short introduction to the history of medicine for busy medical students. With the course instructors, they will engage actively with history through exercises designed to incorporate active learning into real world lessons and didactic sessions reinforcing those concepts. This will allow students to understand the influence of the past and lingering historical trends on medical education, the medical profession, hospital and medical system in lessons. The perspective gained from this elective will prepare students to become more effective learners, practitioners and future leaders.

Objectives:

1. To provide students with historically accurate and engaging stories of the history of medicine
2. To give historical context to pertinent issues facing them today
3. To help students understand how lessons from the past may inform better solutions for improving medicine in the future

Requirements:

Attend all sessions.

Pre-Requisites:

None.

COURSE OUTLINE

How Did We Get Here? Practical Lessons in the History of Medicine

January 10, 17, 24, 31

Fridays, 1:00-3:00 PM

Class location: Scaife small group room TBD

Course Director:

Eugene Ginchereau, M.D., FACP (Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine and Nursing)

Participating Faculty/Staff:

Brett Curtis (MS3)

Eugene Ginchereau, M.D., FACP

Jonathan Erlen, PhD

Course Objectives:

See "Objectives"

Texts/Required Reading:

No required reading. The following texts will provide the foundation of information presented in this course:

Learning to Heal by Kenneth Ludmerer, M.D.

Time to Heal by Kenneth Ludmerer, M.D.

Let Me Heal by Kenneth Ludmerer, M.D.

The Social Transformation of American Medicine: The Rise of a Sovereign Profession & the Making of a Vast Industry by Paul Starr

From Humors to Medical Science: A History of American Medicine by John Duffy

Session One – The Rise of the Modern Medical Education System

In this first session, students will actively participate in an exercise, placing them in the early 1900s to determine the future of medical education. This will take place between brief presentations to provide context to the exercise and a framework to understand how the modern medical education system came to exist.

Session Two – The "Professionalization" of Medicine

To understand how medicine became the profession we recognize, students will formulate their own definition of a profession. From this understanding, a short didactic session will walk through the evolution of the medical profession from the pre-colonial period to the modern day.

Session Three – The Rise of the American Hospital

With a virtual walk-through of hospitals of the past, present and future, students will gain an understanding of how American medical facilities have changed in response to social and political forces over the past several centuries.

Session Four – The Creation of the American Health Insurance System

A short presentation on the evolution of American funding sources for health care will help students understand how we arrived at the present and how things may proceed. A short discussion and wrap-up of the course will follow.