

COURSE SYLLABUS
Updated 28 February 2002
**Mental Illness, Public Health, and American Culture in Interdisciplinary
Perspective**

BSHE 591F Crosslisted with History 488S, NBB 470

**Please check the course website ([http://courses.emory.edu NBB470](http://courses.emory.edu/NBB470))
frequently for any updates to the syllabus.**

Time: Weds 2-4 pm

Place: School of Nursing Room P 30

Instructor: Dr. Howard I. Kushner

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Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Goal:

This interdisciplinary seminar will explore, in historical perspective, the construction and origin of a number of contested syndromes sometimes classified as mental illness. All the syndromes examined will also be viewed in the context of an increasing public health concern with mental health and mental illness. Attention will be paid to the putative neurobiological and psychiatric mechanisms associated with these disorders. Conditions to be examined include hysteria, schizophrenia, depression, post traumatic stress disorder, multiple personality disorder, eating disorders, attention deficit, Tourette syndrome, and addiction. Attention will focus on issues of race, class, and gender as well as biological and psychological explanations that have been and continue to be used to explain the etiology of these syndromes.

Student Involvement:

As a seminar, this course is designed to be interactive. In order to facilitate a high level of discussion, students are required to:

- I. Come to all class meetings on time. If you are unable to come to a meeting, or will be late, please inform me at least 2 days in advance. Unexcused absences and lateness will be reflected in your final grade.

- II. Read the assignments prior to the seminar meeting. Each week students will be required to prepare a 1-2 sentence exposition of the thesis or main claim of *each* reading and to provide 2-3 discussion questions based on these readings. The questions should reflect underlying themes or issues arising from the specific readings for the week or that emerge across the semester and are reflected in a given week's readings. These paraphrased theses and questions must be posted on the course homepage by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the class meeting.

Assignments:

In addition to class reading and discussion, students will conduct group projects. Students should work in groups of 3-4 on a project that will culminate in a class poster, presentation, and paper. History student team members will prepare research papers that meet the history department's writing requirement for junior/senior seminars. Projects and papers may take several forms. For example, students may decide to examine a disorder or syndrome not covered in class (e.g., obsessive-compulsive disorder, chronic fatigue syndrome, etc.), or students may choose to conduct an interdisciplinary exploration of a specific disorder and how it has been portrayed on film and/or literature, or how mental illness in general has been portrayed over time in film and/or literature. Student teams must post their abstract and (at least) five sources on the course homepage project by **18 March**. After discussion with and approval by the instructors, students will revise their abstracts, develop outlines, and expand their bibliographies for posting on the homepage by **25 March**. Based on these revisions and further suggestions by the instructors, students will prepare and present a poster of their project to the class during the last two class sessions.

Writing Assignments and Grades:

A detailed description of the oral and written assignments will be distributed. Briefly, teams will have two assignments: (1) Abstract and bibliography of team project (2) oral presentation, poster, or paper.

Grading:

1. seminar participation, 30%
2. postings, 20%
3. abstract, 10%;
4. poster, powerpoint, or research paper, 40%

REQUIRED and SUGGESTED TEXTS

The following are **required** texts for the course (available at the Emory bookstore):

Sigmund Freud, *Dora: An Analysis of a Case of Hysteria*, (1905) New York: Macmillan, 1974

William Styron, *Darkness Visible : A Memoir Of Madness*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.

Topics:

16 January: Introduction

Discussion of mental illness, culture, & public health

23 January: Hysteria:

Sigmund Freud, *Dora: An Analysis of a Case of Hysteria*, (1905) New York: Macmillan, 1974 (pp. 8-102)

Israëls, Han and Morton Schatzman. "The Seduction Theory." *History of Psychiatry* 4 (1993): 23-59.

Edward Shorter, "Paralysis: The Rise and Fall of a 'Hysterical' Symptom," *Journal of Social History*, 19 (Summer, 1986), 549-582.

Additional suggested readings:

Charles Bernheimer & Claire Kahane, eds. *In Dora's Case: Freud, Hysteria and Feminism* (2nd Edition) New York: Columbia University Press, 1990.

Mark Micale, "Charcot and the History of Hysteria," in *Approaching Hysteria: Disease and Its Interpretations*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995, pp. 88-97.

Ann Harrington, "The 'Experimental Evidence': Metalloscopy and Hemi-Hypnosis," from *Medicine, Mind, and the Double Brain : A Study In Nineteenth Century Thought*. Princeton University Press, 1987, pp. 166-205.

Jane Gallop, *The Daughter's Seduction: Feminism And Psychoanalysis*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1982

Elaine Showalter, "Victorian Women and Insanity," in Andrew Scull, editor *Madhouses, Mad-Doctors, and Madmen: The Social History of Psychiatry in the Victorian Era*, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1981.

30 January: Schizophrenia

Richard Restak, "Madness" PBS video companion for Restak, *The Brain*, New York Bantam Book, 1984, pp. 271-305. (To be viewed in class).

R.D. Laing. *The Politics of Experience*. Chapter 5, The Schizophrenic Experience. NY: Ballantine Books, 1967

David A. Lewis and Jeffrey A. Lieberman, "Catching Up on Schizophrenia: Natural History and Neurobiology," *Neuron* November 2000; 28 (2), 325-334.

Louis A. Sass, "Schizophrenia and Modern Culture," *Madness and Modernism: Insanity in the Light of Modern Art, Literature, and Thought*, New York, Basic Books, 1992, pp. 355-373.

Additional suggested readings:

Daniel Paul Schreber, *Memoirs of my Nervous Illness*, translated and edited by Ida Macalpine and Richard A. Hunter, with a new introduction by Samuel M. Weber (Cambridge, MA.: Harvard University Press, 1988), pp. ??

Janet Frame, *An angel at my table* (also on film), *I never promised you a rose garden*. (also on film)

6 February: Depression and Suicide

William Styron, *Darkness Visible: A Memoir Of Madness*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.

Howard I. Kushner, "Meriwether Lewis and Abraham Lincoln," in *On Suicide* edited by John Miller with an introduction by Robert Coles, San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1992, 117-152.

Howard I. Kushner, "Women & Suicidal Behavior: Epidemiology, Gender, & Lethality in Historical Perspective," in *Women and Suicidal Behavior*, edited by Silvia Sara Canetto and David Lester, New York: Springer Publishing Co., 1995, 11-34.

Maurizio Fava and Kenneth S. Kendler, "Major Depressive Disorder," *Neuron* November 2000; 28 (2), 335-341.

Additional suggested readings:

Kushner, Howard I. "Specialization and its Casualties, 1917-1998," and "Toward a Psychocultural Biology," in Kushner, *American Suicide: A Psychocultural Exploration*. New Brunswick and London: Rutgers University Press, 1991, pp. 62-90, 166-177.

Bailey, Victor. *This Rash Act: Suicide Across the Life Cycle in the Victorian City*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1998.

Canetto, Silvia Sara and David Lester. *Women and Suicidal Behavior*. New York: Springer Publishing Co., 1995.

Gates, Barbara T. *Victorian Suicide: Mad Crimes and Sad Histories*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1989.

Hendin, Herbert. *Suicide in America*, 2nd edition, New York: Norton, 1995.

Kushner, Howard I. "Suicide, Gender and the Fear of Modernity in Nineteenth-Century Medical and Social Thought," *Journal of Social History*, 26 (Spring 1993): 461-490.

Maris, Ronald. *Pathways to Suicide: A Survey of Self-Destructive Behaviors*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1981.

MacDonald, Michael and Terrence R. Murphy. *Sleepless Souls: Suicide in Early Modern England*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1991.

MacDonald, Michael. "The Medicalization of Suicide in England: Laymen, Physicians, and Cultural Change, 1500-1870," in *Framing Disease: Studies in Cultural History*. edited by Rosenberg and Golden. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, pp. 85-103.

13 February: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

H. Allan Young. "The DSM III Revolution," in *The Harmony of Illusions: Inventing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*, Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1995, pp. 89-117.

H. Allan Young. "The Architecture of Traumatic Time," in *The Harmony of Illusions: Inventing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*, Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1995, pp. 118-142.

Edward M. Brown., "Between Cowardice and Insanity: Shell-Shock and the Legitimation of Neuroses in Britain in World War I." in Mendelsohn, E., Smith M. R., Weingart, P. (eds), *Science, Technology, and the Military*. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 323-345.

R. Yehuda, H. Resnick, B. Kahana & E.L. Giller. Long-lasting hormonal alterations to extreme stress in humans: Normative or maladaptive? *Psychosomatic medicine*, 55 (1992), 287-297

Additional suggested readings:

Judith L. Herman. "A Forgotten History." In Herman *Trauma and Recovery: The Aftermath of Abuse from Domestic Abuse to Political Terror*. New York: Basic Books, 1992 Chapter 1

Jonathan Shay. Achilles in Vietnam.

20 February: Multiple Personality (Dissociative) Disorders

Richard Restak, "States of Mind" PBS video companion for Restak, *The Brain*, New York Bantam Book, 1984, pp.307-361. (To be viewed in class)

Michael Kenny, "Introduction & Mary Reynolds" *The Passion of Ansel Bourne: Multiple Personality in American Culture*, Washington, D. C., Smithsonian Institution Press, 1986, pp. 1-61 (2 READINGS)

Ian Hacking, "Multiple Personality Disorder and its Hosts," *History of Human Sciences*, 5:2 (1992), 3-31.

Joan Acocella. The politics of hysteria. *The New Yorker*, New York, Apr 6, 1998

Additional suggested readings:

Richard Restak, "States of Mind" *The Brain*, New York: Bantam Books, 1984, Chapter 8. [Also view short companion video on multiple personality disorder].

David Andrew Schmidt. *Ianfu, The Comfort Women Of The Japanese Imperial Army Of The Pacific War : Broken Silence*. Lewiston, N.Y. : Edwin Mellen Press, c2000.

- Engelhardt, H. Tristram. "Splitting the Brain, Dividing the Soul, Being of Two Minds: an Editorial Concerning the Mind-Body Quandries in Medicine." *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 2 (1977): 89-100.
- Hacking, Ian. *Rewriting the Soul: Multiple Personality and the Sciences of Memory*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995

27 February: Eating Disorders

Edward Shorter. "The First Great Increase in Anorexia Nervosa." *Journal of Social History* 21 (1987): 69-96.

Joan Jacobs Brumberg. "From Psychiatric Syndrome to "Communicable" Disease: The Case of Anorexia Nervosa." *Framing Disease: Studies in Cultural History*, 135-154. Charles E. Rosenberg, and Janet Golden. New Brunswick N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1991

Heather Drugge, "The Physiology Of Eating: What Controls Weight And Eating Behavior?" In Drugge, *Neurons Or Neurosis? The Physiological Pathogenesis Of Anorexia Nervosa*, MA, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver British Columbia, 1999, pp. 61-100.

Additional suggested readings:

- Caroline G. Banks, "There is No Fat in Heaven: Religious Asceticism and the meaning of Anorexia Nervosa," 1996, *Ethos* 24(1):107-135.
- Caroline G. Banks, "Culture in Culture-Bound Syndromes," the Case of Anorexia Nervosa," *Soc Sci Med*. 1992, 34: 867-884
- Caroline G. Banks, "Illness Narratives and Human Development: Changing Metaphors About the Body in a Case of Anorexia Nervosa." pp.205-236 in *Cultural Studies, A Research Volume*, Vol. 3, edit. Norman Denzin, Greenwich,CT:JAI Press, Inc.
- Elizabeth G. Liles & Stephen C. Woods, "Anorexia Nervosa as viable behaviour: extreme self-deprivation in historical context," *History of Psychiatry* (1999), 10: 205-225.
- RJ Park, SM Lawrie, & CP Freeman. "post-Viral Onset of Anorexia Nervosa," *British Journal of Psychiatry*. 1995, 166:386-389
- Naomi Wolf, *The Beauty Myth : How Images Of Beauty Are Used Against Women*. New York: Oxford UP 1991
- C W. Bynum, "Food as Control of Self" *Holy Feast and Holy Fast: The religious Significance of Food to Medieval Women*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987, 189-215.

6 March: Meetings with Teams to Discuss Abstracts & Projects

13 March: Spring Break

18 March: Team Abstracts Posted on Blackboard by 5 pm

20 March: Tourette Syndrome:

Video, "Tourette Syndrome: Guide to Diagnosis," Tourette Syndrome Association, 1989.

James F. Leckman and Mark A. Riddle. "Tourette's Syndrome: When Habit-Forming Systems Form Habits of Their Own" *Neuron* November 2000; 28 (2),349-354.

Howard I. Kushner. "Freud and the Diagnosis of Gilles de la Tourette's Illness," *History of Psychiatry*, 9 (March, 1998), 1-25.

Howard I. Kushner. "The Triumph of the Organic Narrative," in Kushner, "A Cursing Brain? The Histories of Tourette Syndrome. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1998, pp. 165-193 & 273-282.

Swedo, S. E. (1994). Sydenham's Chorea: A Model for Childhood Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders. *JAMA*, 272: 1788-1791.

Additional suggested readings:

Bruun, Ruth Dowling, and Bertel Bruun. *A Mind of Its Own: Tourette's Syndrome: A Story and A Guide*. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1994.

Kushner, Howard I. "Medical Fictions: The Case of the Cursing Marquise and the (Re)Construction of Gilles de la Tourette's Syndrome," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 69, Summer (1995): 461-490.

Kushner, Howard I. "From Gilles de la Tourette's Disease to Tourette Syndrome," *CNS Spectrums*, 4 (February, 1999), 24-35.

Kushner, Howard I. & Kiessling, Louise S. AThe Controversy over the Classification of Gilles de la Tourette's Syndrome, 1800-1995,@ *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* 39 (Spring 1996): 409-435.

Leckman, J. F., Peterson, B. S., Anderson, G. M., Arnsten, A. M.F. T., Pauls, D. L. and Cohen, D. J. (1997). APathogenesis of Tourette's Syndrome,@ *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 38: 119-142.

Shapiro, A. K., Shapiro, E. S., Bruun, R. D., and Sweet, R. D. (1978). *Gilles de la Tourette Syndrome*. New York: Raven Press.

25 March: Revised Abstracts and Bibliography Posted by 5 pm

27 March: ADHD

Richard J. Degrandpre and Stephen P. Hinshaw, "ADHD: Serious Psychiatric Problem or All-American Cop-out" *Cerebrum*, 2 (Summer 2000), 12-38.

Jerome Groopman, "The Doubting Disease," *New Yorker*, 10 April 2000, pp. 52-57.

3 April: Addiction

Caroline Acker, "Creating the American Junkie," in Acker, *Mirrors of Morphine: Addiction Research in the Classic Era of Narcotic Control*. The Johns Hopkins University Press, forthcoming

Alan Leshner, "The Science of Nicotine Addiction and Why We Should Care," 11th World Conference on Tobacco or Health, slide show
http://www.conference-cast.com/wctoh/aug8_nicotine.htm

Aviel Goodman, *Sexual Addiction: An Integrated Approach* (International Universities Press, 1998), pp. ?

Schaffer, HF "The Most Important Unresolved Problem in the Addictions: Conceptual Chaos" *Substance Use and Abuse*, 32 (11) 1997, 1573-80.

Additional suggested readings:

Stanton Peele, "Who Says What the Truths about Alcoholism Are?" from Peele, *Diseasing of America*, San Francisco, Josey Bass Publishers, 1995, pp. 55-83.

10 & 17 April: Team Presentations

24 April: Summary Discussion and Final Revised Projects Due