1. Brief description

This course will be devoted to the major medical systems of the ancient Mediterranean world: Greek, Arabic, and medieval/Latin. It will follow their tradition from the origin to the Renaissance, including linkages and intersections through translations, and will compare them not only to reconstruct their genealogy, but also—if not above all—to possibly answer the question of what makes a medical system Greek, Arabic, or medieval.

Non-Mediterranean traditions and systems (mostly Ayurvedic and Chinese) will be included as appropriate. Ancient texts will be read in English translation. However, knowledge of one or more of the original source-languages will be an advantage.

2. Time and place

Wednesday 4pm-6:50pm, @ Bunche Hall Room 2156

3. Topics

The list below is indicative. Topics may change according to the interests of students and to the evolution of the course.

Week 1: Introduction
   1. Textual, archaeological and bioarchaeological sources, methods of analysis
   2. Chronology of the history of medicine around the Mediterranean: peoples and places

Week 2: The Mediterranean World
   1. Bio-geography of populations, genetics, epidemiology
   2. Environment(s) and natural history
Week 3: Greek tradition (1)
1. Who’s who
2. Physiology, elements, fluids; the essence of life; anatomy

Week 4: Greek tradition (2)
1. Holistic therapy
2. Compound medicines

Week 5: Arabic tradition (1)
1. Who’s who
2. Translation
3. Illustration

Week 6: Arabic tradition (2)
1. Nosography
2. Pharmacotherapy
3. Schools and hospitals

Week 7: Medieval Latin tradition (1)
1. Who’s who
2. Teaching and commenting
3. Multilingualism

Week 8: Medieval Latin tradition (2)
1. Materia medica
2. Botanical albums
3. Visit to UCLA Biomedical Library, Rare Book Room, to view original manuscripts

Week 9: Renaissance
1. Who’s who
2. Printing
3. The birth of “tradition”

Week 10: Conclusions
This class will be held at the Botany Center of The Huntington in San Marino
1. Visit to the garden of medicinal plants
2. Visit to the Historia Plantarum library
3. Conclusions
4. Q&A

4. Textbooks and readings


Complementary readings will be entries from the following encyclopaedia: Roger S. Bagnall, Kai Brodersen, Craig B. Champion, Andrew Erskine, Sabine R. Huebner (eds), *Encyclopedia of Ancient History*. London and New York, NY: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012, 13 vols.) (entries from this encyclopedia are marked with an asterisk in the table below). These readings will be provided in the form of PDF files sent on a weekly basis.
Of course, the more you read, the better. You should not limit your readings to the pages of the textbooks listed below! And not even to these two textbooks. Do not hesitate to search the catalogue of UCLA libraries, to ask me about possible complementary readings, and to go to The Huntington to consult the *Historia Plantarum* library collection, specialized in the topics of this course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Textbooks</th>
<th>Complementary material</th>
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</table>
| 1     | Conrad et al.: pp. 1-9 (General introduction) and 11-19 (Chapter 1: Introduction, Social background, Religion)  
Montgomery and Kumar: pp. 14-18, 31-45, 49-53, 54-60, 79-82 | *“Medicine, Mesopotamian”; *“Medicine, Pharaonic Egypt”; *“Asklepios”; *“Aesculapius”; *“Healing Deities”, *“Medicine, Greek and Roman” |
| 2     | Conrad et al.: pp. 19-38 (Chapter 1: Greek World) and pp. 39-58 (Chapter 2: Roman medicine, 1st part)  
Montgomery and Kumar: pp. 125-126, 147-151 | *“Hippocrates”; *“Hippocratic Oath”; *“Prognosis”; *“Surgery”; *“Herophilus”; *“Erasistratus”; *“Dogmatists”; *“Empiricists and *empeiria*”; *“Asclepiades of Bithynia”; *“Pneumatists”; *“Dioscorides”; *“Pliny” |
| 3     | Conrad et al.: pp. 58-70 (Chapter 2: Roman medicine, 2nd part) and pp. 71-87 (Chapter 3: Late Antiquity and Early Middle Ages)  
Montgomery and Kumar: pp. 211-222, 227-237, 241-245, 249-250 | *“Life expectancy”; *“Anatomy”; *“Cardio-vascular system”; *“Plague”; *“Contagion”; *“Epidemic diseases”; *“Wounds”; *“Paleopathology”; *“Autopsy”; *“Retrospective diagnosis” |
| 4     | Conrad et al.: pp. 89-138 (Chapter 4: Arab-Islamic tradition)  
| 5     | Conrad et al.: pp. 139-182 (Chapter 5: Medieval Western Europe, 1st part)  
Montgomery and Kumar: pp. 293-301, 303-305 | *“Oribasius”; *“Aetius”; *“Paul of Aegina”  
| 7     | Conrad et al.: pp. 207-213 and 250-285 (Chapter 6: Early Modern Europe) | TBD |
| 8     | Conrad et al.: pp. 298-310, 335-340, 340-361  
Montgomery and Kumar: pp. 330-338 | TBD |
5. **Weekly assignments**

Each week you will be requested to write one paragraph (10 lines) about the readings of the previous week. This should be an original, personal reflection inspired by the reading. It can not be just a summary of the content of the reading.

Weekly paragraphs are due Monday, at noon. They have to be sent via email to the following address: atouwaide@hotmail.com. Your text must be embedded in your message, and not sent as an attachment. You'll receive a reaction from me Monday by midnight.

6. **Mid- and end-of-term papers**

You'll be requested to write a mid- and an end-of-term paper. These should be original papers on topics of your choice to be discussed with me. Each paper should be written in Time New Roman, 12 points, with 1.5 line spacing. No space between paragraphs. A bibliography must be included. Mid-term paper will be 3-pages long and end-of-term 5 pages-long.

Papers will be sent via email at the address above, as an attachment to an email, in the form of Word documents (no PDF).

7. **Evaluation**

Evaluation will be based on multiple parameters to increase as much as possible the chances to obtain the best possible grade. The parameters will be the following (between parentheses their respective weight in the final result):

- presence (10%)
- active participation in class (10%)
- weekly paragraphs (20%)
- mid-term essay (20%)
- one multiple-choice quiz (10%)
- end-of-term essay (30%)

8. **Key dates (summary)**

See table below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>January 7-11</td>
<td><strong>Wednesday January 9</strong>&lt;br&gt;class: topic 1&lt;br&gt;readings 1</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>January 14-18</td>
<td><strong>Monday January 14</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 1</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday January 16</strong>&lt;br&gt;class: topic 2&lt;br&gt;readings 2</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>January 21-25</td>
<td><strong>Monday January 21</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 2</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday January 23</strong>&lt;br&gt;class: topic 3&lt;br&gt;defining topic for mid-term paper&lt;br&gt;readings 3</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>January 28-February 1</td>
<td><strong>Monday January 28</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 3</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday January 30</strong>&lt;br&gt;class: topic 4&lt;br&gt;readings 4</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>February 4-8</td>
<td><strong>Monday February 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 4</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday February 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;multiple-choice test&lt;br&gt;class: topic 5&lt;br&gt;readings 5</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>February 11-15</td>
<td><strong>Monday February 11</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 5</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday February 13</strong>&lt;br&gt;mid-term paper&lt;br&gt;defining topic for end-of-term paper&lt;br&gt;class: topic 6&lt;br&gt;readings 6</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>February 18-22</td>
<td><strong>Monday February 18</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 6</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday February 20</strong>&lt;br&gt;class: topic 7&lt;br&gt;readings 7</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>February 25-March 1</td>
<td><strong>Monday February 25</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 7</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday February 27</strong>&lt;br&gt;class: topic 8&lt;br&gt;readings 8</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>March 4-8</td>
<td><strong>Monday March 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;class: topic 9</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday March 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;weekly paragraphs on readings of week 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>March 11-15</td>
<td><strong>Wednesday March 13</strong>&lt;br&gt;Class: topic 10&lt;br&gt;end-of-term paper</td>
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9. Office hours

   Wednesday, 03:00-04:00pm, and 07:00-08:00pm, or by appointment.

   Place TBD.

10. Communication

   Do feel free to contact me through my email address <atouwaide@hotmail.com> about any matter related to the course.