

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation
Massachusetts General Hospital
2016

Session 1, January 5: Humans and Machines (Clinicians and Computers)

Robert Wachter, *The Digital Doctor* (nonfiction book)

Lisa Rosenbaum, “Transitional Chaos or Enduring Harm: The EHR and the Disruption of Medicine” (essay)*

“Modern Times” dir. Charlie Chaplin, 1936 (film)

“Brazil” dir. Terry Gilliam, 1985 (film)

Session 2, February 2: Other Cultures, Other Times

Lily King, *Euphoria* (novel)

Session 3, March 1: Vaccine Phobia Through the Ages

Eula Bliss, *On Immunity: An Inoculation* (nonfiction book)

Session 4, March 29: In and Out of the Hospital

Edith Pearlman, “Castle 4” (short story in *Honeydew*)*

Donald Hall, “A Ship Pounding” (poem)*

Kevin Young, “Ode to the Hotel Near the Children’s Hospital” (poem)*

John Updike, “Hospital” (poem)*

Session 5, May 2: A Classic

Somerset Maugham, *Of Human Bondage* (novel)

Session 6, June 7: Funny Stuff

David Rakoff, “The Invisible Made Visible” (film clip from “This American Life”)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldqjM7x6NhE>

Tina Fey, “Remembrances of Being Very, Very Skinny” and “Remembrances of Being a Little Bit Fat” (from memoir, *Bossypants*) (excerpt)*

David Sedaris, “The Happy Place” (from *Let’s Explore Diabetes With Owls*) (essay)*

Maria Bamford, “Crazy Meds” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f6fKarmaphY> (short film)

Suzanne Koven, “Using Humor in the Doctor’s Office” (essay)*

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®
Northampton VA Medical Center
2016

Facilitator: Robert E. Meagher

Hospital Liaison: Cathy Tenerowicz

SESSION 1, JANUARY 12

Suzan-Lori Parks, *Father Comes Home from the Wars*

SESSION 2, FEBRUARY 9

Sebastian Junger, *War*

SESSION 3, MARCH 8

Robert Meagher, *Killing from the Inside Out: Moral Injury and Just War*

SESSION 4, APRIL 12

Margaret Edson, *Wit: A Play*

SESSION 5, MAY 10

Lawrence Anthony, *Babylon's Ark: The Incredible Wartime Rescue of the Baghdad Zoo*

SESSION 6, JUNE 14

Brian Turner, *My Life as a Foreign Country: A Memoir*

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Literature, Medicine and the Experience of War
Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital
2015 - 2016

Session 1, September 15: The Things They Carried

Tim O'Brien, "The Things They Carried" (essay)

Cynthia Ozick, "The Shawl" (story)

Session 2, October 13: War and Youth

Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*

Session 3, November 17: "Shell Shock" and early treatment of PTSD

Pat Barker, *Regeneration*

Selected works by Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon (poems)

W.H. R. Rivers, *The Repression of War Experience* (paper) optional

Session 4, December 15: When War Comes Home

Bruce Weigel, "Song of Napalm" (poem)

Brian Turner, "The Hurt Locker" and AB Negative (The Surgeon's Poem) (poems)

Margaret Rozga, selected works from *Though I haven't been to Baghdad* (poems)

Marilyn McMahan, "Wounds of War" (poem)

Carolyn Forché, "The Colonel" (poem)

Lily Burana, "The Quiet Side of Being a Soldier's Other Half" (essay)

Bui Dinh Kinh, "Late Moon" (short story)

Phil Klays, "Redeployment" (short story)

Kevin Bowen, "Playing Basketball with the Vietcong" (poem)

Session 5, January 12, 2016: Moral Injury and Just War Theory

Robert Emmet Meagher, *Killing from the Inside Out*, (excerpt)

Bao Ninh, *The Shadow of War: A Novel of North Vietnam* (excerpt)

David Finkel, "The Return" (article)

Session 5, February 9: The Transgenerational Impact of War

Art Spiegelman, *Maus II: A Survivor's Tale and Here My Trouble Began* (graphic memoir)

Marian MacCurdy, *Sacred Justice* – Introduction (excerpt)*

Marian MacCurdy, *Sacred Justice* – Chapter 5 (excerpt)* optional

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®

Baystate Medical Center

2015

September 29: Imagining the Patient

W. H. Auden, "Musee Des Beaux Arts" (poem)

Randall Jarrell, "The X-Ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Richard Selzer, "The Discus Thrower" (memoir)

October 20: Empathy

Chester F. Phillips, "Charging Lions" (memoir)

John T. Price, "Night Rhythms" (memoir)

Andrew Lam, "Show and Tell" (short story)

November 10: Imagining the Poor

Philip Levine, "Listen Carefully" (poem)

Dorothy Allison, "A Question of Class" (memoir)

William Carlos Williams, "The Girl with a Pimple Face" (short story)

December 1: Imagining the Obese

Wally Lamb, She's Come Undone (excerpt)

Victor LaValle, "Long Distance" (memoir)

Irvin Yalom, "Fat Lady" (memoir)

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation
Massachusetts General Hospital
2015

Session 1, January 6: Mental Illness Through the Years

Amy Bloom, "Silver Water" (short story)

Sylvia Plath, "Lady Lazarus" (poem)

George Scialabba, "The Endlessly Examined Life" (essay)

Session 2, February 3: Love and Art in the Time of AIDS

Patti Smith, *Just Kids* (memoir)

Session 3, March 3: Rethinking Gender

Jeffrey Eugenides, *Middlesex* (novel)

Session 4, April 14: Revelations Toward the End

Roger Angell, "This Old Man" (essay)

Robert Frost, "After Apple-Picking" (poem)

Ernest Hemingway, "The Snows of Kilimanjaro" (short story)

Session 5: May 5, An Unraveling

J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace* (novel)

Session 6: June 2, Caring for Our Parents

Roz Chast, *Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?* (graphic memoir)

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®
Northampton VA Medical Center
2015

Facilitator: Robert E. Meagher
Hospital Liaison: Cathy Tenerowicz

SESSION 1, JANUARY 13

Pat Barker, *Regeneration*

SESSION 2, FEBRUARY 10

Selected works by Wilfred Owens and Siegfried Sassoon (poems)*

SESSION 3, MARCH 10

Tom Keneally, *The Daughters of Mars*

SESSION 4, APRIL 14

William Shakespeare, *Henry V*

SESSION 5, MAY 12

Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*

SESSION 6, JUNE 9

Malala Yousafzai, *I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care

The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation

Massachusetts General Hospital

Fall 2014

Facilitator: Suzanne J. Koven

Hospital Liaison: Emma Jeffries

Session 1, September 4: *Rethinking Empathy*

Leslie Jamison, "The Empathy Exams" (essay)

Suzanne Koven, "Empathy Examined" (essay)

Anatole Broyard, "The Patient Examines the Doctor" (memoir excerpt)

Session 2, October 2: *An Invalid in the Family*

Edith Wharton, *Ethan Frome* (novel)

Session 3, November 6: *On Aging*

William Shakespeare, *King Lear*

Session 4, December 4: *Other Places, Other Voices*

Ann Patchett, *Truth and Beauty* (memoir)

Lucy Grealy, *Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Baystate Health Systems
2014

Facilitator: Jan Freeman
Hospital Liaison: Loretta Grikis

Session 1, February 18: Symptoms and Diagnosis

Suzy Becker, *I Had Brain Surgery, What's Your Excuse?* (excerpt from graphic memoir, (pp. 1-39)

Christopher Hitchens, "The Topic of Cancer" (essay)

Redman, Arnold, "On Breaking One's Neck" (essay)

Session 2, March 18: Treatment

Suzanne Strempeck Shae, *Songs from a Lead-Lined Room* (excerpt from memoir, (pp. 46-57)

Audre Lorde, *The Cancer Journals* (memoir)

Margaret Edson, *Wit* (one act play)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0PPvYlGqL8>

Session 3, April 15: Living with Illness

Nancy Mairs, "On Being Cripple" (essay)

Josephine Miles, "Doll" (poem)

Muriel Rukeyser, "Resurrection of the Right Side" (poem)

Donald Hall, "Afterword" (in *Otherwise*)

Jane Kenyon, "The Sick Wife" (poem)

Virginia Woolf, "On Being Ill" (essay in *On Being Ill with Notes from Sick Rooms*)

Session 4, May 20: Caregiving and Dying

Julia Stephen, "Notes from the Sick Room" (essay in *On Being Ill with Notes from Sick Rooms*)

Jane Kenyon, "Pharaoh" (poem)

Jane Kenyon, "Otherwise" (poem)

May Swenson, "Question" (Body my house...) (poem)

Nora Ephron, "What I Won't Miss" and "What I Will Miss" (essays in *I Remember Nothing: And Other Reflections*)

Audre Lorde, "Today is Not the Day" (poem)

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation
Massachusetts General Hospital
2014

Facilitator: Suzanne J. Koven
Hospital Liaison: Emma Jeffries

Session 1, January 14: When a Child is Ill

Miah Arnold, "You Owe Me" (essay)
Alice Munro, "Night" (in *Dear Life*) (essay)
Cynthia Zarin, "An Enlarged Heart" (in *An Enlarged Heart*) (essay)

Session 2, February 4: From Atrocity to Healing

Tracey Kidder, *Strength in What Remains* (nonfiction)

Session 3, March 4: The Family Drama

Arthur Miller, *Death of A Salesman* (play)
David Sedaris, "Now We Are Five" (essay)

Session 4, April 1: Disability and Identity

Nancy Mairs, "On Being A Cripple" (essay)
Andrew Solomon "Deaf" (book chapter in *Far From the Tree*)

Session 5, May 13: Healing the Healer

Graham Greene, *A Burnt Out Case* (novel)

Session 6, June 3: Madness and Genius

Sylvia Nasar, *A Beautiful Mind* (biography)
Sylvia Plath, "Lady Lazarus" (poem)

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®
Northampton VA Medical Center
2014

Facilitator: Robert E. Meagher
Hospital Liaison: Cathy Tenerowicz

SESSION 1, JANUARY 14
Kevin Powers, *The Yellow Birds*

SESSION 2, FEBRUARY 11
Linda Hogan, *People of the Whale*

SESSION 3, MARCH 11
Euripides, *Iphigenia at Aulis*

SESSION 4, APRIL 8
Dexter Filkins, *The Forever War*

SESSION 5, MAY 13
John Hersey, *Hiroshima*

SESSION 6, JUNE 10
Drew Gilpin Faust, *This Republic of Suffering*

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Baystate Health Systems
2013

Facilitator: Leslie Nyman
Hospital Liaison: Loretta Grikis

Session 1, January 8: Patient's Experience

Tony Hoagland, "Arrows" (poem)
Anne Sexton, "Doctors" (poem)
Mary Oliver, "When Death Comes" (poem)
Anthony Hecht, "The Transparent Man" (poem)
Lisel Mueller, "Monet Refuses the Operation" (poem)

Session 2, February 12: Nursing Through the Years

Peter Baida, "A Nurses Story" (short story)
Arthus Gordon, "Old Ironpuss" (short story)
Eileen Valinoti, "First Day on the Wards" (short story)

Session 3, March 12: Imperfect Healers

Atalwal Gawande, "When Doctors Make Mistakes" (essay)
Danielle Ofri, "Vision" (essay)
Jeannette Brown, "How to Visit a Healer" (short story)
Panos Karnezis, "Medical Ethics" (short story)

Session 4, April 9: Mental Health/Illness

Anton Chekov, "Ward #6" (short story)
Conrad Aiken, "Silent Snow, Secret Snow" (short story)
Pamela Wagner, "Poem in which Paranoia Strikes at the Grocery Store" and "Too Much"
(poems)

Session 5, May 14: Communication

Raymond Carver, "What the Doctor Said" (poem)
Grace Paley, "A Conversation with My Father" (short story)
Edith Wharton, "Diagnosis" (short story)

Session 6, June 11: Good Endings

Alice Elliot Dark, "Watch the Animals" (short story)
Ghassan Kanfani, "Death in Bed 12" (short story)
Ray Bradbury, "The Leave-Taking" (short story)
Nazim Hikmet, "On Living" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Brigham and Women's Hospital
2013

Facilitator: Amy Ship
Hospital Liaison: Anne Fladger

Session 1, January 28: *Marriages under Pressure: The Impact of Illness and Disability*

Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)
Andre Dubus, "The Colonel's Wife" (story)
Alice Munro, "The Bear Came Over the Mountain" (story)
Donald Hall, "The Ship Pounding" (poem)

Session 2, February 25: *Boundaries and Connections*

Vincent Lam, "Winston" (story)
Chris Adrian, "The Sum of Our Parts" (story)

Session 3, March 25: *Confronting Limitations*

Anton Chekov, "A Doctor's Visit" (story)
Atul Gawande, "Letting Go" (essay)

Session 4, April 22: *Confronting Mortality*

Leo Tolstoy, "The Death of Ivan Ilych" (novella)
Joan Didion, "After Life" (from *The New York Times Magazine*; excerpt from *The Year of Magical Thinking* (nonfiction))
Mark Doty, "Brilliance" (poem)

Session 5, May 20: *The healer as patient and patient advocate*

Kay Redfield Jamison, "An Unquiet Mind" (essay)
Cortney Davis, "The Other Side of Illness" (essay)
Richard Weinberg, "The Laying On of Hands" (essay)
Jerome Groopman, "Our Firstborn Son" (essay)

Session 6, June 24: *Moments of Grace*

Richard Weinberg, "First Love"
Geoffrey Bowe, "Male Nurse Washing a Nun" (poem)
Richard Selzer, "Atrium: 2001" (story)
John Stone, "He Makes a House Call" (poem)
Jane Kenyon, "Chrysanthemums" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
2013

Facilitator: Gregory A. Abel, MD, MPH, MFA
Program Liaison: Kristofer Earles

Session 1, January 17 (snow date January 24)

Tony Judt, "Night" (essay)
Anne Sexton "You, Doctor Martin" (poem)
Adam Haslett, "Notes to my Biographer" (short story)
Marie Howe "What the Living Do" (poem)

Session 2, February 21 (snow date February 28)

Susan Sontag "Illness as Metaphor" (book/essay)
William Carlos Williams "The Use of Force" (short story)
Sharon Olds "The Death of Marilyn Monroe" (poem)
James Lasdun "The Incalculable Life Gesture" (short story)

Session 3, March 21 (snow date April 4)

Sylvia Plath *The Bell Jar* (book)
Raymond Carver "Cathedral" (short story)
Linda McCarriston "Hotel Nights with my Mother" (poem)
Dan Chaon, "Stay Awake" (short story)

Session 4, April 18 (rain date April 25)

C.S. Lewis *A Grief Observed* (book)
Jane Kenyon "Having It Out with Melancholy," "Otherwise," and "Eating the Cookies" (poems)
Donald Hall "Last Days," "Without," "The Gallery" (poems)
Juan José Millás, "Aceite de Ricino y Mística," "La Mejor Tarde de Mi Vida" and "El Tío Emilio" (short stories, English translations will be provided)

Session 5, May 16 (rain date May 23)

C. K. Williams *Repair* (book)
Atul Gawande "Letting Go" (essay)
Carolyn Forché "The Colonel" (poem)
Anton Chekov "Swan Song" (play)

Session 6, June 20 (rain date June 27)

Harvey Pekar, Joyce Brabner, Frank Stack *Our Cancer Year* (graphic novel)
Santiago Ramón y Cajal "Beginner's Traps" (essay)
Stephen Jay Gould "The Median Isn't the Message" (essay)
Kay Ryan "Patience" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
Lahey Clinic
2013

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse
Program Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine

Session 1, January 24: Family Dynamics
Norman Maclean, *A River Runs Through It*

Session 2, February 28: The Human Will to Survive
Joe Simpson, *Touching the Void*

Session 3, March 28: When Tragedy Strikes
Jane Hamilton, *When Madeline Was Young*

Session 4, May 2: Healing the Healer
Graham Greene, *A Burnt Out Case*

Session 5, May 23: The Limits of Medicine
Oliver Sacks, *Awakenings*

Session 5, June 27: Madness and Genius
Sylvia Nasar, *A Beautiful Mind*

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
2012-2013

Facilitator: Amy Ship
Hospital Liaison: Jane Matlaw

Session 1, September 24: The Patient's Experience

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)
Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, October 22: Caregiving across Lines of Class and Culture

Ernest Hemingway, "Indian Camp" (story)
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)
Theodore Deppe, "Admission, Children's Unit" (poem)
Venetta Mason, "Another case of Chronic Pelvic Pain" (poem)

Session 3, November 19: Patients' Families: Advocates, Comforters, Secondary Sufferers

Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)
Anne Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)
Donald Hall, "Her Long Illness" and "Air Shatters in the Car's Small Room" (poems)

Session 4, December 17: Clinicians under Stress

Dannie Abse, "Case History" (poem)
Mikhail Bulgakov, "The Steel Windpipe" (story)
Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)

Session 5, January 14: Wounded Healer/Healing the Healer

Atul Gawande, "When Doctors Make Mistakes" (essay)
William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (short story)

Session 6, February 18: Confronting Mortality

Louisa May Alcott, "A Night" from Hospital Sketches (excerpt)
Joan Didion, "After Life" (essay)
Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)
Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation
Massachusetts General Hospital
2012

Facilitator: Suzanne J. Koven
Hospital Liaisons: Kerry McBride

Session 1, September 6: A Sense of Responsibility

Philip Roth, *Nemesis* (novel)

Nathaniel Hawthorne, "Roger Malvin's Burial" (short story)

Session 2, October 4: The Nurse's Voice

Mary Jane Nealon, "Wanting to Save Everyone" from *Beautiful Unbroken: A Nurses Story* (excerpt)

Louisa May Alcott, *Hospital Sketches* (nonfiction)

Geoffrey Bowe, "Male Nurse Washing A Nun" (poem)

Session 3, November 1: The Body in Pain

Melanie Thernstrom, selected readings in Part I, The Vale of Pain, The Veil of Pain: Pain as Metaphor from *The Pain Chronicles* (excerpt, nonfiction)

Rachel Riederer, "Patient" (essay)

Suzanne Koven, "The Uncomfort of Prescribing Pain Medication" (newspaper column)

Emily Dickinson, "After Great Pain, A Formal Feeling Comes" (poem)

Eula Bliss, "The Pain Scale" (essay)

Session 4, December 6: Disability and the Family

Tennessee Williams, *The Glass Menagerie* (play)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation
Massachusetts General Hospital
2012

Facilitator: Suzanne J. Koven
Hospital Liaisons: Kerry McBride

Session 1, January 3: Individual and Society

John Hersey, *Hiroshima*
Ellen Byrant Voigt, *Kyrie: Poems*

Session 2, February 7: All in the Family

Harvey Pekar and Joyce Brabner, *Our Cancer Year* (graphic novel)
Aleksandar Hemon, “The Aquarium” (memoir)
Roxana Robinson, “Paralyzed: Learning to Live in Polio’s Shadow” (memoir)

Session 3, March 6: A Question of Ethics

Rebecca Skloot, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

Session 4, April 3: A Matter of Trust

Philip Roth, “Defender of the Faith” in *Goodbye Columbus* (short story)
Joseph Mitchell, “Joe Gould’s Secret” in *Up in the Old Hotel* (essay)
William C. Williams, “The Girl with a Pimple Face” in *The Doctor Stories* (story)

Session 5, May 1: In the Grip of Addiction

Eugene O’Neill, *Long Day’s Journey into Night* (play)

Session 6, June 5: The View from Age

Diana Athill, *Somewhere Towards the End* (memoir)
William Shakespeare, Sonnet #60 (poem)
Yeats, W.B., “When You Are Old” (poem)

SYLLABUS

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®

Northampton VA Medical Center

2012

Facilitator: Will Ryan

Hospital Liaison: Cathy Tenerowicz

Session 1, February 7: Inside Bravery: How Soldiers Live with Death

Drew Faust, “Preface”, “Dying: To Lay Down My Life”, “Believing and Doubting: What Means this Carnage” in *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War* (excerpts)

Wilfred Owen, “Anthem for Doomed Youth” (poetry)

Siegfried Sassoon, “How to Die” (poetry)

Session 2, March 13: Horror without Purpose

Philip Caputo, *A Rumor of War* (book)

Session 3, April 10: Experiencing Trauma

Gina Berriault, “The Stone Boy” (short story)

Curtis Sittenfeld, *American Wife: A Novel* (excerpt)

JoAnn Beard, “The Fourth State of Matter” (story)

Lenore Terr, “Denial and Numbing” in *Too Scared to Cry* (excerpt)

Session 4, May 15: Loss and Family

Louise Erdrich, “The Red Convertible” in *The Red Convertible* (story)

Joan Didion, *The Year of Magical Thinking* (book)

Session 5, June 14: War is Forever

James Bradley, *Flyboys: A True Story of Courage* (book)

Session 6, July 10: Soldiering Today

Helen Benedict, *Sand Queen* (book)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Baystate Health Systems
2011

Facilitator: Leslie Nyman
Hospital Liaison: Loretta Grikis

Session 1, January 19: Bonds Between Patients and Caregivers

J.M. Coetzee, "The Blow" (story)
Rebecca Brown, excerpts from *Gifts of the Body*: "The Gift of Sweat," "The Gift of Speech," (linked stories)
Susan Eisenberg, "Introduction to Asthma" (poem)

Session 2, February 15: Co-workers in Conflict

Anton Chekhov, "An Awkward Business" (story)
Herman Melville, "Bartleby" (story)

Session 3, March 16: Witnessing and Experiencing Aging

Flannery O'Connor, "Everything that Rises Must Converge" (story)
Sue Miller, "Appropriate Affect" (story)
Denise Levertov, "The 90th Year" (poem)
William Shakespeare, Sonnet #22 (poem)

Session 4, April 20: The Grip of Addiction

Chris Adrian, "A Better Angel" (story)
Robert Stone, "Helping" (story)

Session 5, May 18: Marriages under Pressure: The Impact of Illness/Disability

Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)
Alice Munro, "The Bear Came Over the Mountain" (story)
Andre Dubus, "The Colonel's Wife" (story)

Session 6, June 15: Moments of Illumination

Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (story)
Danielle Ofri, "Tools of the Trade" (essay)
Mark Doty, "Brilliance" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Brigham and Women's Hospital
2011

Facilitator: Amy Ship
Hospital Liaison: Anne Fladger

Session 1, January 10: Connections

Richard Weinberg, "Communion" (essay)
Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (story)
Cortney Davis, "The Body Flute" (poem)

Session 2, February 28: Conflicts and Perplexities in the Workplace

Anton Chekhov, "An Awkward Business" (story)
Herman Melville, "Bartleby" (story)

Session 3, March 21: To Be or Not To Be

Elizabeth Strout, "Incoming Tide" (story, from *Olive Kitteridge*)
Robert Stone, "Honeymoon" (story)
Stanley Kunitz, "The Portrait" (poem)

Session 4, April 25: Experiencing and Witnessing Aging

Randall Jarrell, "Next Day" (poem)
Danielle Ofri, "Vision" (essay)
Sue Miller, "Appropriate Affect" (story)
Andre Dubus, "At Night" (story)

Session 5, May 23: Family Members as Caregivers

Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)
Helena Maria Viramontes, "The Moths" (story)
Ann Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)
Philip Levine, "Listen Carefully" (poem)
Donald Hall, "The Ship Pounding" (poem)
Susan Eisenberg, "Introduction to Asthma" (poem)

Session 6, June 27: What We Carry With Us

Tim O'Brien, "The Things They Carried" (story)
Susan Onthank Mates, "Laundry" (story)
Brian Turner, "AB Negative (The Surgeon's Poem)"

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
Lahey Clinic
2011

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse
Program Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine

Session 1, January 27: Perplexities

Vincent Lam, "Winston" (story)
Anaton Chekov, "A Doctor's Visit" (story)

Session 2, February 24: Muddling Through: Love, Work, and Life-threatening Illness

Joyce Brabner and Harvey Pekar, *Our Cancer Year* (graphic novel)

Session 3, March 24: Escapes and Reckonings

Andre Dubus, "Out of the Snow" and "Blessings" (stories)

Session 4, April 28: Witnessing the End

Alice Elliott Dark, "Watch the Animals" (story)
Amy Hempel, "In the Cemetery where Al Jolson is Buried" (story)
Sharon Olds, "The Death of Marilyn Monroe" (poem)

Session 5, May 26: Age: Loss, Conflict, and Hard-won Wisdom

William Shakespeare, *King Lear*

Session 6, June 23: Rebuilding a Life

Abigail Thomas, *A Three Dog Life* (memoir)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation
Massachusetts General Hospital
2011

Facilitator: Suzanne J. Koven
Hospital Liaisons: Kerry McBride

Session 1, January 4: Different Ways of Seeing

Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*
Jose Luis Borges, "On Blindness" (essay)

Session 2, February 1: Confronting Limitations

Anton Chekov, "A Doctor's Visit" (story)
Atul Gawande, "Letting Go" (journalistic essay)

Session 3, March 1: Brave New Worlds

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*

Session 4, April 5: Endings

Simone de Beauvoir, *A Very Easy Death*
David Rieff, *Swimming in a Sea of Death*
Dylan Thomas, "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good night" (poem)

Session 5, May 7: Marriages under Pressure: The Impact of Illness and Disability

Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)
Andre Dubus, "The Colonel's Wife" (story)
Alice Munro, "The Bear Came over the Mountain" (story)
Donald Hall, "The Ship Pounding" (poem)

Session 6, June x: Boundaries and Connections

Vincent Lam, "Winston" (story)
Chris Adrian, "The Sum of Our Parts" (story)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Northampton VA Medical Center
2011

Facilitator: Robert Meagher
Hospital Liaison: Cathy Tenerowicz

Session 1, January 11

Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried* (fiction)

Session 2, February 8

Walt Whitman, "A Sight in Camp," "Dirge for Two Veterans," "Look Down Fair Moon,"
"Reconciliation," "Vigil Strange I Kept," "The Wounded Dresser" (poems)
Wilfred Owen, "Insensibility," "The Parable of the Old Man and the Young," "Anthem for Doomed
Youth," "Dulce et Decorum Est," "Mental Cases," "S.I.W.," "Soldier's Dream" (poems)
Siegfried Sassoon: "Suicide in Trenches," "They," "Glory of Women," "Does it Matter?" "Survivors,"
"Reconciliation" (poems)
Doug Anderson: "A Bar in Argos," "Homer Does Not Mention Him," "Homecoming" (poems)
Brian Turner: "The Hurt Locker," "AB Negative," "Eulogy" (poems)

Session 3, March 8

Roddy Doyle, *The Woman Who Walked into Doors* (novel)

Session 4, April 12

Andre Dubus, "Out of the Snow" (story, in *Echoes of War*)
Robert Stone, "Helping" (story)

Session 5, May 10

David Finkel, excerpt from *The Good Soldiers* (reportage)
Joseph Salemi, "Sicilian Beachhead" (poem)
Brian Turner, "Sadiq" (poem)
Peter Marin, "Living in Moral Pain" (article)

Session 6, June 14

Frank O'Connor, "My Oedipus Complex" (story, in *Echoes of War*)
Platon, "Service" (photo essay, in *Echoes of War*)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
St. Elizabeth's Hospital
2011

Facilitator: Laurie Rosenblatt, M.D.

Program Liaison(s): Susan Warren, M.D., Gini Levenson, Director and Sheila O'Connell, Director

Session 1, January 20: Front Row Seat: Working in a Health Care Facility

Ann Harleman, Thoreau's Laundry (short story)

W.H. Auden, Musée Des Beaux Arts (poem)

Session 2, February 10: On Being [a] Patient

Chris Adrian, A Child's Book of Sickness and Death (short story)

Raymond Carver, What the Doctor Said (poem)

Session 3, March 10: Compassion Fatigue & Burnout

Herman Melville, Bartelby (novella)

Robert Frost, The Oven Bird (poem)

Session 4, April 14: Violation and the Spiritual Self

André Dubus, Out of the Snow (short story)

A.R. Ammons, Gravelly Run (poem)

Session 5, May 12: Medicine, Community, and Values

Albert Camus, The Plague (novel)

Sharon Olds, The Promise (poem)

Session 6, June 9: Death and Loss

Marjorie Williams, The Halloween of my Dreams (short story)

Jane Kenyon, Let Evening Come (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
Tufts Medical School and Hirsh Health Sciences Library
2011

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse
Program Liaisons: Gail Y. Hendler

Session 1, January 6: Bonds between Patients and Caregivers

J.M. Coetzee, "The Blow" (story)
Rebecca Brown, excerpts from *Gifts of the Body*: "The Gift of Wholeness,"
"The Gift of Hunger," "The Gift of Mourning" (linked stories)
Chris Adrian, "The Sum of Our Parts" (story)

Session 2, February 3: The Voice of the Patient

Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 3, March 3: Families in Crisis

William Gibson, *The Miracle Worker* (play)
Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)
Susan Eisenberg, "Introduction to Asthma" (poem)*

Session 4, April 7: Crossing Lines of Class and Culture

Ernest Hemingway, "Indian Camp" (Story)
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)
Veneta Masson, Selections from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*: "The Gift,"
"Admission," "Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill," "Maggie Jones,"
"Ruinatation," "Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain" (poems)

Session 5, May 5: Witnessing Endings

Louisa May Alcott, "A Night" (story, from *Hospital Sketches*)
Sharon Olds, "The Death of Marilyn Monroe" (poem)
Alice Elliott Dark, "Watch the Animals" (story)

Session 6: June 2: Moments of Grace and Illumination

Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (story)
Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)
Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" and "Notes from the Other Side" (poems)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care™
UMass Memorial Medical Center and UMass Medical School
2011

Facilitator: Patrick Ireland
Hospital Liaisons: Jane Fama

Session 1, January 19: Through the Patient's Eyes

Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Chris Adrian, "A Child's Book of Sickness and Death" (story)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, February 16: Conflicts in the Workplace

Anton Chekhov, "An Awkward Business" (story)
Herman Melville, "Bartleby" (story)

Session 3, March 10: Different Ways of Seeing

Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (novel)
Adam Haslett, "Notes to My Biographer" (story)

Session 4, April 20: In the Grip of Addiction

Eugene O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night* (play)
Robert Stone, "Helping" (story)

Session 5, May 18: All-too-human Healers

William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (story)
Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)

Session 6, June 15: Family Members: Caregivers and Witnesses

Ann Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)
Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)
Donald Hall, "The Ship Pounding" (poem)
Judy Schaefer, "Who Owns the Libretto?" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Baystate Health Systems
2010

Facilitator: Leslie Nyman
Hospital Liaison: Loretta Grikis

Session 1, January 19: The Patient's Experience

Ryan Knighton, *Cockeyed* (pp. 1-58) (memoir)
Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, February 16: Clinicians under Stress

Irwin D. Yalom, "Fat Lady" (essay)
Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)
Mikhail Bulgakov, "The Steel Windpipe" (story)

Session 3, March 16: Social Issues in Health Care

Veneta Masson, "Maggie Jones," "Ticket to Christmas," "Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain," (poems)
Jay Baruch, "A Little Heart" (story)
William Carlos Williams, "Jean Beicke" (story)
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)

Session 4, April 20: Confronting Mortality

Louisa May Alcott, "A Night" (nonfiction)
Alice Elliott Dark, "In the Gloaming" (story)
Joan Didion, "After Life" (article)
Audre Lorde, "Today Is Not the Day" (poem)

Session 5, May 18: Patients' Families and Friends: Advocates, Witnesses, Caretakers

Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)
Anton Chekhov, "Misery" (story)
Philip Levine, "Listen Carefully" (poem)
Donald Hall, "Her Long Illness" (poem)

Session 6, June 15: Moments of Grace and Unexpected Solace

Rebecca Brown, from *The Gifts of the Body*: "The Gift of Wholeness," "The Gift of Hunger," "The Gift of Mourning" (fiction)
Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)
Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" and "Notes from the Other Side" (poems)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Brigham and Women's Hospital
2010

Facilitator: Amy Ship
Hospital Liaisons Anne Fladger

Session 1, January 4th : The Patient's Experience

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)
Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, February 1st: Caregiving across Lines of Class and Culture

Ernest Hemingway, "Indian Camp" (story)
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)
Veneta Masson, from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*: "The Promise," "The Screamer in Room 4," "Admission," "Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill," "Maggie Jones," "Litany of Dolores," "Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain" (poems)

Session 3, March 1st: Patients' Families: Advocates, Comforters, Secondary Sufferers

Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)
Anne Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)
Donald Hall, "Her Long Illness" and "Air Shatters in the Car's Small Room" (poems)

Session 4, April 5th: The Hospital in the Community

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

Session 5, May 3rd: Clinicians under Stress

Dannie Abse, "Case History" (poem)
Mikhail Bulgakov, "The Steel Windpipe" (story)
Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)

Session 6, June 7th: Confronting Mortality

Louisa May Alcott, "A Night" (chapter from her memoir *Hospital Sketches*, about her service as a nurse in a military hospital during the Civil War)
Joan Didion, "After Life" (essay)
Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)
Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
Cambridge Health Alliance
2010

Facilitator: Alyce Getler
Hospital Liaison: Elisabeth Traumann

Session 1, January 13: The Experience of Illness

Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)
Cortney Davis, "The Other Side of Illness" (essay)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room at the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, February 10: Mental Illness

Adam Haslett, "The Good Doctor" (story)
Virginia Woolf, excerpt from *Mrs. Dalloway* (novel)
Juliet Kono, "Homeless" (poem)

Session 3, March 10: All-too-human Clinicians

Irwin Yalom, "Fat Lady" (essay)
Rafael Campo, "Like a Prayer" (essay)
William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (Readers Theatre version of story)

Session 4, April 14: Abuse and Family Dysfunction

Pat Staten, "The Day my Father Tried to Kill Us" (essay)
Theodore Deppe, "Admission, Children's Unit" (poem)
Susan Glaspell, "A Jury of Her Peers" (story)

Session 5, May 12: Relationships under Pressure: The Impact of Illness/Disability

Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)
Alice Munro, "The Bear Came Over the Mountain" (story)
Sue Miller, "Appropriate Affect" (story)
Donald Hall, "Her Long Illness" and "Air Shatters in the Car's Small Room" (poems)

Session 6, June 2: Moments of Grace

Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)
Richard Weinberg, "Communion" (essay)
Geoffrey Bowe, "Male Nurse Washing a Nun" (poem)
Juliet Kono, "The Struggle" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care
Lahey Clinic
2010

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse
Program Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine

Session 1, January 28: Bonds between Patients and Caregivers

J.M. Coetzee, "The Blow" (story)
Rebecca Brown, excerpts from *Gifts of the Body*: "The Gift of Wholeness,"
"The Gift of Hunger," "The Gift of Mourning" (fiction)
Cortney Davis, "The Body Flute" (poem)

Session 2, February 25: Conflicts in the Workplace

Anton Chekhov, "An Awkward Business" (story)
Herman Melville, "Bartleby" (story)

Session 3, March 25: Experiencing and Witnessing Aging

Flannery O'Connor, "Everything that Rises Must Converge" (story)
Sue Miller, "Appropriate Affect" (story)
Denise Levertov, "The 90th Year" (poem)

Session 4, April 22: The Grip of Addiction

Chris Adrian, "A Better Angel" (story)
Raymond Carver, "Where I'm Calling From" (story)

Session 5, May 27: Marriages under Pressure: The Impact of Illness/Disability

Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)
Alice Munro, "The Bear Came Over the Mountain" (story)
Andre Dubus, "The Colonel's Wife" (story)

Session 6, June 24: What We Carry with Us

Tim O'Brien, "The Things They Carried" (story)
Brian Turner, "AB Negative: The Surgeon's Poem"

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
The John Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation
Massachusetts General Hospital
2010

Facilitator: Suzanne J. Koven
Hospital Liaison: Paula Ricci

Session 1, January 5: Transformations

Franz Kafka, "The Metamorphosis" (story, in volume of same name)
Lucia Perillo, "Poem without Breasts" and "Second Poem without Breasts"

Session 2, February 2: Co-workers in Conflict

Anton Chekhov, "An Awkward Business" (story)
Herman Melville, "Bartleby" (story)

Session 3, March 2: Overwhelmed Clinicians

Andrea Barrett, "Ship Fever" (novella)
Sheri Fink, "Strained by Katrina, a Hospital Faced Deadly Choices" (article)

Session 4, April 13: Nearing the End

Philip Roth, *Everyman* (novel)
Denise Levertov, "The 90th Year" (poem)
John Updike, poems from *Endpoint*

Session 5, May 4: What We Bring with Us

Tim O'Brien, "The Things They Carried" (story)
Brian Turner, "AB Positive" (The Surgeon's Poem)
Susan Onthank Mates, "Laundry" (story)

Session 6, June 1: Illumination

Richard B. Weinberg, "Communion" (essay)
Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (story)
Cortney Davis, "The Body Flute" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Northampton VA Medical Center
2010

Facilitator: Robert Meagher
Hospital Liaison: Cathy Tenerowicz

Session 1, January 12:

Arthur Kleinman, “Winthrop Cohen” (essay)
Brian Turner, “Sadiq” (poem)

Session 2, February 9:

Franz Kafka, “The Metamorphosis” (story, in volume of same name)
Purple Hearts (DVD)

Session 3, March 9

Euripides, *Herakles* (play) in *Herakles Gone Mad*
Pat Staten, “The Day My Father Tried to Kill Us” (essay)

Session 4, April 13

Pat Barker, *Regeneration* (novel)
W.H.R. Rivers, “The Repression of War Experience” (article)

Session 5, May 12

Albert Camus, *The Plague* (novel)

Session 6, June 8

Ruth Scott and Alistair Little, *Give a Boy a Gun* (memoir)
Five Minutes of Heaven (film)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care™
UMass Memorial Medical Center and UMass Medical School
2010

Facilitator: Patrick Ireland

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, Sherly Jean-Bart

Session 1, January 20: Through the Patient's Eyes

Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)

Chris Adrian, "A Child's Book of Sickness and Death" (story)

Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, February 10: In the Grip of Addiction

Eugene O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night* (play)

Raymond Carver, "Where I'm Calling From" (story)

Session 3, March 10, snow date March 17: Endings

David Rieff, *Swimming in a Sea of Death* (memoir)

Simone de Beauvoir, *A Very Easy Death* (memoir)

Dylan Thomas, "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night" (poem)

Session 4, April 14: Bonds between Patients and Caregivers

Thomas Moran, *The World I Made for Her* (novel)

Session 5, May 12: Family Members: Caregivers and Witnesses

Ann Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)

Anne Brashler, "He Read to Her" (story)

Donald Hall, "Air Shatters in the Car's Small Room" (poem)

Judy Schaefer, "Who Owns the Libretto?" (poem)

Session 6, June 16: Moments of Grace and Unexpected Solace

Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)

Leslie Nyman, "Wisteria" (essay)

Andre Dubus, "Dancing After Hours" (story)

Jane Kenyon, "Chrysanthemums" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Baystate Health Systems
2009

Facilitator: Leslie Nyman
Hospital Liaison: Loretta Grikis

Session 1, January 13: The Patient's Experience

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)
Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, February 10: Clinicians under Stress

Anton Chekhov, "Enemies" (story)
Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)
William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (story)

Session 3, March 10: Social Issues in Health Care

Veneta Masson, "Maggie Jones," "Ticket to Christmas," "Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain," (poems)
Jay Baruch, "A Little Heart" (story)
David Hifiker, "Taking Sides" (nonfiction)
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)

Session 4, April 14: Confronting Mortality

Tillie Olsen, "Tell Me a Riddle" (story, in volume of same name)
Louisa May Alcott, "A Night" (nonfiction)
Alice Elliott Dark, "In the Gloaming" (story)
Joan Didion, "After Life" (article)

Session 5 (May 12): Moments of Grace and Unexpected Solace

Rebecca Brown, from *The Gifts of the Body*: "The Gift of Wholeness," "The Gift of Hunger," "The Gift of Mourning" (fiction)
Helena Maria Viramontes, "The Moths" (story)
Raymond Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" (story)
Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Brigham and Women's Hospital
2009

Facilitator: Alyce Getler

Hospital Liaisons: Anne Fladger

Session 1, September 15: The Patient's Experience

Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)

Anatole Broyard, from *Intoxicated by My Illness*: "Prologue," "Intoxicated by My Illness," "The Patient Examines the Doctor," "Epilogue" (essays)

Jane Kenyon, "The Sick Wife" (poem)

Session 2, October 20: Social Issues in Medicine

Veneta Masson, from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*: "Boutique," "The Screamer in Room 4," "Admission," "Home Remedies for the Blues," "Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill," "Litany of Dolores," "Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain" (poems)

Jeanne Bryner, "This Red Oozing" (poem)

Jay Baruch, "A Little Heart" (story)

David Hifiker, "Taking Sides" (nonfiction)

Session 3, November 17: Patients' Families: Advocates, Comforters, Secondary Sufferers

Judy Schaefer, "Who Owns the Libretto?" (poem)

Jane Kenyon, "Chrysanthemums" (poem)

Donald Hall, "Her Long Illness" and "Air Shatters in the Car's Small Room" (poems)

Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)

Alice Elliott Dark, "In the Gloaming" (story)

Session 4, December 15: Difficult Encounters

Dannie Abse, "Case History" (poem)

Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)

William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (Readers' Theatre version)

Veneta Masson, "The Promise" (poem, in *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*, p. 18)

Session 5, January 12: Confronting Mortality

Leo Tolstoy, "The Death of Ivan Ilych"

Joan Didion, "After Life" (from *The New York Times Magazine*; excerpt from *The Year of Magical Thinking*) (nonfiction)

Mark Doty, "Brilliance" (poem)

Jessica L. Israel, "At the End, a Duty to Bear Witness" (essay)

Session 6, February 9: Moments of Grace

Richard Weinberg, "The Laying on of Hands" (essay)

Raymond Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" (story)

Leslie Nyman, "Wisteria" (sketch)

Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)

Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®
Cambridge Health Alliance
2009

Facilitator: Alyce Getler

Hospital Liaison: Suzanne Rocklin

Session 1, January 7: Coping with Disability

Ann Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)

Ryan Knighton, *Cockeyed* (memoir), pp. 1-44

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)

Session 2, February 4: The All-too-human Clinician

Dannie Abse, "Case History" (poem)

Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)

Mikhail Bulgakov, "The Steel Windpipe" (story)

Chris Adrian, "A Better Angel" (story)

Session 3, March 4: Boundaries

J.M. Coetzee, "The Blow" (story)

Rafael Campo, "The Desire to Heal" (essay)

Jon O. Neher, "Time and Tide" (essay)

Session 4, April 1: Mental, Emotional, and Cognitive Illness

Adam Haslett, "Notes to My Biographer" (story)

Virginia Woolf, excerpt from *Mrs. Dalloway* (novel)

Peter Selgin, "Restaurant" (essay)

Anita Darcel Taylor, "By My Own Hand" (essay)

Jane Kenyon, "Having it Out with Melancholy" (poem)

Session 5, May 6: Working with Disenfranchised Populations

Veneta Masson, from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*: "The Promise,"

"Boutique," "The Screamer in Room 4," "Admission," "Home Remedies for the Blues," "Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill," "Litany of Dolores,"

"Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain" (poems)

David Hilfiker, *Not All of Us Are Saints* (nonfiction)

Susan Eisenberg, "Flu Vaccine" (poem)

Session 6, June 3: Moments of Grace

Helena Maria Viramontes, "The Moths" (story)

Richard Selzer, "Fetishes" (story)

Kenneth Schwartz, "A Patient's Story" (article)

Richard Weinberg, "The Laying on of Hands" (essay)

Jane Kenyon, "Chrysanthemums" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Lahey Clinic
2009

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse

Program Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine

Session 1, January 22: Betrayed by the Body

Robert Murphy, *The Body Silent* (memoir)

Chris Adrian, “A Child’s Book of Sickness and Death” (story)

Lucia Perillo, “Poem without Breasts,” “Second Poem without Breasts”

Session 2, February 26: The Wounded Healer

Abraham Verghese, *The Tennis Partner* (memoir)

William Carlos Williams, “Old Doc Rivers” (story)

Veneta Masson, “Guilt” (poem)

Session 3, March 26: Endings

Simone de Beauvoir, *A Very Easy Death* (memoir)

David Rieff, *Swimming in a Sea of Death* (memoir)

Dylan Thomas, “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night” (poem)

Session 4, April 30: Battling Despair

William Styron, *Darkness Visible* (memoir)

Jane Kenyon, “Having It Out with Melancholy” (poem)

Gerard Manley Hopkins, *Sonnet 65*

Session 5, May 28: Agents of Death/Angels of Mercy: Social Stigma and the Individual Conscience

Atul Gawande, “The Doctors of the Death Chamber” (article)

Jim Shepard, “Sans Farine” (story)

Session 6, June 25: Compassion and Connections in the Hospital

Thomas Moran, *The World I Made for Her* (novel)

Chris Adrian, “The Sum of Our Parts” (story)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care®
Mass General Hospital
2009

Facilitator: Suzanne J. Koven

Hospital Liaisons: Susan Edgman-Levitan, Sandra St.Fleur

Session 1, January 27: The Patient's Experience

Joan Didion, "In Bed" (essay)

Judith Moore, first three chapters of *Fat Girl* (memoir)

Anatole Broyard, from *Intoxicated by My Illness*: "Intoxicated by My Illness,"
"The Patient Examines the Doctor," and Alexandra Broyard, "Epilogue"
(essays)

Audre Lorde, *The Cancer Journals*, pp. 24-54 (memoir)

"The Electric Slide Boogie," "Today Is Not the Day" (poems)

Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting room in the Hospital" (poem)

**Session 2, February 24: Patients' Families and Friends: Advocates, Witnesses,
Secondary Sufferers**

Jonathan Franzen, "My Father's Brain" (essay)

Alice Elliott Dark, "In the Gloaming" (story)

Amy Hempel, "In the Cemetery where Al Jolson is Buried" (story)

Ann Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)

Session 3, April 7: Wounded Healers

Anton Cheknov, "Ward Number Six" (story)

Kay Redfield Jamison, *An Unquiet Mind* (memoir), pp. 67-135

Veneta Masson, "Passages," "Guilt" (poems)

Sharon Olds, "The Death of Marilyn Monroe" (poem)

Session 4, April 28: Living with Difference and Disability

Lucy Grealey, *Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)

Ryan Knighton, *Cockeyed*, pp. 1-44 (memoir)

Marilyn Davis, "Song for My Son" (poem)

Session 5, May 19: Overwhelming Circumstances

Albert Camus, *The Plague* (novel)

Session 6, June 30: Confronting Mortality

Leo Tolstoy, "The Death of Ivan Ilych" (story)

Helena Maria Viramontes, "The Moths"

Raymond Carver, "What the Doctor Said" (poem)

Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" and "Notes from the Other Side" (poem)

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
UMass Memorial Medical Center and UMass Medical School
2009

Facilitator: Patrick Ireland

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, Sherly Jean-Bart

Session 1, January 21: Difficult Encounters

Dannie Abse, “Case History” (poem)
Richard Selzer, “Four Appointments with the Discus Thrower” (story)
Rafael Campo, “Like a Prayer” (essay)
Anton Chekhov, “Enemies” (story)

Session 2, February 11: Physical Disability/Difference

Lucy Grealey, *Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)
Nancy Mairs, “On Being a Cripple” (essay)
Ryan Knighton, excerpts from *Cockeyed* (memoir)

Session 3, March 11: Confronting Mortality

Tillie Olsen, “Tell Me a Riddle” (story, in volume of same name)
Katherine Anne Porter, “The Jilting of Granny Weatherall” (story)
Grace Paley, “A Conversation with My Father” (story)

Session 4, April 15: Mental and Developmental Differences

Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (novel)
Adam Haslett, “Notes to My Biographer” (story)

Session 5, May 13: All-too-human Healers

Abraham Verghese, *The Tennis Partner* (memoir)
Danielle Ofri, “Torment” (essay)
Constance Studer, “Mercy” (story)

Session 6, June 17: Brave New Worlds of Science

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go* (novel)



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Literature & Medicine – Lahey Clinic – 2008

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse

Program Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine, M.D., Jonathan M. Metcalf, MSW

Book Liaison: Carol Spencer

Session 1, January 24: Being a Patient

Jean Stafford, “The Interior Castle” (novella)

Marjorie Williams, “Hit by Lightning” (essay)

Randall Jarrell, “The X-ray Waiting room in the Hospital” (poem)

Session 2, February 28: The Experience of Physical Disability

Ryan Knighton, *Cockeyed* (memoir)

Nancy Mairs, “On Being a Cripple” (essay)

Session 3, March 27: Clinicians Under Stress

Rafael Campo: “Like a Prayer” (essay)

Irvin Yalom, “Fat Lady” (essay)

Richard Selzer, “Imelda” (story)

Session 4, May 8: Communication in the Clinical Setting

Richard Selzer, “Fetishes” (story)

Danielle Ofri, “Torment” (essay)

Lucia Perillo, “The Body Mutinies” (poem)

Jonathan Eig, “A Legend's Letters: Lou Gehrig's Writings Reveal his Last Days” (newspaper feature)

Session 5, May 22: Patients' Families: Advocates, Comforters, Secondary Sufferers

Tennessee Williams, *The Glass Menagerie* (play)

Ann Harleman, “Thoreau's Laundry” (story)

Alice Elliott Dark, “In the Gloaming” (story)

Judy Schaefer, “Who Owns the Libretto?” (poem)

Susan Eisenberg, “Introduction to Asthma” (poem)

Jane Kenyon, “Chrysanthemums” (poem)

Donald Hall, “Her Long Illness” and “Air Shatters in the Car's Small Room” (poems)

Session 6, June 26: Moments of Grace and Unexpected Solace

Adam Haslett, "War's End" (story)

Leslie Nyman, "Wisteria" (sketch)

Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)

Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" and "Notes from the Other Side" (poems)

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I gained a lot of satisfaction and fulfillment from the program – soothing at the end of a hard day – helped me re-engage in my work in a more positive and meaningful way.

—*Lit & Med participant*



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Literature & Medicine – Mass General Hospital – 2008

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Alyce Getler

Hospital Liaisons: Susan Edgman-Levitan, Alicia Wong

Session 1, January 22: The Patient's Experience

Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)

Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)

Anatole Broyard, from *Intoxicated by My Illness*: "Prologue," "Intoxicated by My Illness,"

"The Patient Examines the Doctor," "Epilogue" (essays)

Jane Kenyon, "The Sick Wife" (poem)

Session 2, February 26: Difficult Encounters

Richard Selzer, "Four Appointments with the Discus Thrower" (story)

Anton Chekhov, "Enemies" (story)

Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)

Irwin Yalom, "The Fat Lady" (essay)

Veneta Masson, "The Promise" (poem, in *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*, p. 18)

Session 3, March 25: Social Issues in Medicine

Selections from Veneta Masson, *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill* (poems)

Susan Eisenberg, "Flu Vaccine" (poem)

Jeanne Bryner, "This Red Oozing" (poem)

Jay Baruch, "A Little Heart" (story)

David Hifiker, "Taking Sides" (nonfiction)

Session 4, April 22: The Wounded Healer

Abraham Verghese, *The Tennis Partner*, excerpts (to be announced)

William Carlos Williams, "Old Doc Rivers" (story)

Session 5, May 27: Mental Health

Adam Haslett, "Notes to My Biographer" and "The Good Doctor" in *You Are Not a Stranger Here* (stories)

Anita Darcel Taylor, "By My Own Hand" (essay)

Jane Kenyon, interview with Bill Moyers in his collection *The Language of Life* (from his PBS series of the same name), pp. 225-231

Session 6, June 24: Moments of Grace

Rebecca Brown, from *The Gifts of the Body*: “The Gift of Wholeness,” “The Gift of Hunger,” “The Gift of Mourning” (fiction)

Geoffrey Bowe, “Male Nurse Washing a Nun” (poem)

Richard Selzer, “Atrium: 2001” (story)

John Stone, “He Makes a House Call” (poem)

Jane Kenyon, “Chrysanthemums” (poem)

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Literature & Medicine – UMass Memorial Medical Center/UMass Medical School – 2008

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Patrick Ireland

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, Fernanda Gama

Session 1, January 16: Difficult Encounters

Dannie Abse, “Case History” (poem)

Richard Selzer, “Four Appointments with the Discus Thrower” (story)

Rafael Campo, “Like a Prayer” (essay)

Anton Chekhov, “Enemies” (story)

Session 2, February 13: Physical Disability/Difference

Lucy Grealey, *Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)

Nancy Mairs, “On Being a Cripple”(essay)

Ryan Knighton, excerpts from *Cockeyed* (memoir)

Session 3, March 19: Confronting Mortality

Tillie Olsen, “Tell Me a Riddle” (story, in volume of same name)

Katherine Anne Porter, “The Jilting of Granny Weatherall” (story)

Grace Paley, “A Conversation with My Father” (story)

Session 4, April 16: Mental and Developmental Differences

Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (novel)

Adam Haslett, “Notes to My Biographer”(story)

Session 5, May 14: All-too-human Healers

Abraham Verghese, *The Tennis Partner* (memoir)

Danielle Ofri, “Torment” (essay)

Constance Studer, “Mercy” (story)

Session 6, June 11: Brave New Worlds of Science

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go* (novel)



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Literature & Medicine – Cambridge Health Alliance – 2007

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Joseph Cady

Hospital Liaisons: Alyce Getler

Session 1, January 17: Cross-cultural issues in Healthcare

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction). Read whole book if possible; if not, you may omit Chapters 10 (pp 119-139), 12 (157-170), and 14 (181-209)

Session 2, February 28: Coping with Illness

Anatole Broyard, from *Intoxicated by My Illness*: “Prologue,” “Intoxicated by My Illness,” “The Patient Examines the Doctor,” “Epilogue” (essays)

Lorrie Moore, “People Like That Are the Only People Here,” in *Birds of America* (story)

Marjorie Williams, “Hit by Lightning” and “The Halloween of My Dreams” (essays)

Session 3, March 21: Bad News, Mistakes, Apologizing

Richard Selzer, “Sarcophagus” (story), “Imelda” (story)

Atul Gawande, “When Doctors Make Mistakes”(essay)

Raymond Carver, “A Small, Good Thing” (story)

Session 4, April 18: Flights of the Mind

William Styron, *Darkness Visible* (memoir)

Adam Haslett, “Notes to My Biographer” in *You Are Not a Stranger Here* (story)

Stephen Seager, selections from *Psychward* (nonfiction)

Anita Darcel Taylor, “By My Own Hand” (essay)

Session 5, May 16: Medicine on the Front Lines

Veneta Masson, from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*: “The Promise,” “Boutique,” “The Screamer in Room 4,” “Admission,” “Home Remedies for the Blues,” “Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill,” “Litany of Dolores,” “Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain” (poems)

David Hilfiker, from *Not All of Us Are Saints*: “Avoidance” (nonfiction)

Tracy Kidder, excerpt from *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer*, pp. 18-32 (nonfiction)

Session 6, June 20: Moments of Grace

John Stone, "He Makes a House Call" (poem)

Rebecca Brown, from *The Gifts of the Body*: "The Gift of Wholeness," "The Gift of Hunger," "The Gift of Mourning" (fiction)

Richard Weinberg, "The Laying On of Hands" (vignette)

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I have always sought out continuing education opportunities, but found this ongoing 6 month long program to have a more profound impact than I had anticipated. The developing relationships among the group members and opportunity to hear their thoughts and opinions in such a comfortable setting allowed them to be more candid.

—*Lit & Med participant*



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Literature & Medicine – Lahey Clinic – 2007

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse

Hospital Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine, M.D. and Jonathan M. Metcalf, MSW

Session 1, January 25

Eugene O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night* (play)

Kathleen Finneran, *The Tender Land: A Family Love Story* (memoir)

Session 2, February 22

Katherine Anne Porter, "Pale Horse, Pale Rider" (novella)

William Maxwell, *They Came Like Swallows* (novel)

Session 3, March 22

Pat Barker, *Regeneration* (novel)

Siegfried Sassoon, poems: "The Effect"; "Does It Matter"; "Aftermath"; "Alone"; "A Local Train of Thought"; "Thoughts in 1938"

Wilfred Owen, poems: "Anthem for Doomed Youth," "Dulce et Decorum Est," "Mental Cases"

Session 4, April 26

Leo Tolstoy, "The Death of Ivan Ilych" (title story in collection)

Tillie Olsen, "Tell Me a Riddle" (title story in collection)

Session 5, May 24

Anton Chekhov, "Ward Six," "Misery," "Enemies" (stories)

Ernest Hemingway, "Indian Camp" (story)

Session 6, June 28

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go* (novel)

About Literature & Medicine



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Literature & Medicine – Mass General Hospital – 2007

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Alyce Getler

Hospital Liaisons: Susan Edgman-Levitan, Beth Rider

Session 1, January 30: Communication Challenges: Cross-cultural Interactions and Bias

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction) Read whole book if possible; if not, you may omit Chapters 10 (pp 119-139), 12 (157-170), and 14 (181-209).

Dannie Abse, “Case History” (poem)

Session 2, February 27: On the Other Side of the Johnny: The Clinician as Patient

Ralph Crawshaw, “Pushing the Geriatric Envelope” (essay)

Richard Weinberg, “The Laying On of Hands” (essay)

Frederick Southwick, “Who Was Caring for Mary?” (essay)

Danielle Ofri, “Emigration” (nonfiction)

Courtney Davis, “The Other Side of Illness” (essay)

Session 3, March 27: Professional Boundaries: How Close Is Too Close?

John O. Neher, “Time and Tide” (vignette)

J.M. Coetzee, “The Blow” (story)

Rafael Campo, “The Desire to Heal” (essay)

Bruce Brown, “The Good Physician” (poem)

Session 4, April 24: Hearing Our Patients' Stories

Naomi Ramen, *Introduction to Kitchen Table Wisdom*

Lorrie Moore, “People Like That are the Only People Here” (short story)

Nancy Mairs, “On Being a Cripple” (essay)

James Hunter Wood, “Interventional Narratology: Form and Function of the Narrative Medical Write-up” (journal article)

Experiential exercise in listening and narrative writing

Session 5, May 22: All-too-human Clinicians

Susan Onthank Mates, “The Good Doctor” (short story)

Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (vignette)

William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (Readers Theater)

Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)

Rafael Campo, "Like a Prayer" (essay)

Session 6, June 26: The Power to Heal: Apologies and Small Kindnesses

Aaron Lazare, "Apology in Medical Practice" (article)

Raymond Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" (story)

Kenneth Schwartz, "A Patient's Story" (article, in pocket of binder)

Atul Gawande, "When Doctors Make Mistakes" (essay)

Veneta Masson, "The Nurse's Job" (poem)

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Literature & Medicine – UMass Memorial Medical Center/UMass Medical School – 2007

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Ruth Smith

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, Fernanda Gama, Christine Locke

Session 1, January 18

Albert Camus, *The Plague* (novel)

Excerpts from Samuel Pepys's *Diary*

Elizabeth Bishop, “In the Waiting Room” (poem)

Session 2, February 8

Dorothy Allison, *Bastard Out of Carolina* (novel)

Session 3, March 15

Adam Haslett, “The Good Doctor” in *You Are Not a Stranger Here* (story)

Jumpa Lahiri, “The Treatment of Bibi Haldar” (story)

Nancy Mairs, “On Living Behind Bars” (essay)

Session 4, April 12

Toni Morrison, *The Bluest Eye* (novel)

William Carlos Williams, “The Use of Force” (story)

Helena Maria Viramontes, “The Moths” (story)

Session 5, May 17

Joan Didion, *The Year of Magical Thinking* (memoir)

Jane Kenyon, “Let Evening Come,” “Notes from the Other Side”

Session 6, June 14

Excerpts from Aaron Lazare, *On Apology*: Chapters 2, 9 and 12

David Feldshuh, *Miss Evers' Boys* (play)

Sadiq Bey, “Tuskegee Experiment” (poem)

President Clinton's apology for the Tuskegee Study

Website: http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/library/historical/medical_history/bad_blood/

Atul Gawande, "When Doctors Make Mistakes" (essay)

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Literature & Medicine – Cambridge Health Alliance – 2006

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Joseph Cady

Hospital Liaisons: Alyce Getler

Session 1, January 18: Clinician, Society, Epidemic

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

Read the whole book if possible. If not, chapters 1, 4, 6-7, 9, 13-15, 17-19, 21, 24-31.

Session 2, February 8: Confronting Mortality

Leo Tolstoy, “The Death of Ivan Ilych” (title story in collection)

Tillie Olsen, “Tell Me a Riddle” (title story in collection)

John Stone, “Angor Animi” (poem)

Paul Monette, “No Goodbyes” (poem)*

Session 3, March 8: Flights of the Mind I

Stephen Seager, selections from *Psychward* (nonfiction)

Session 4, April 5: Flights of the Mind II

John Clare, “Written in a Thunderstorm, 15 July 1841,” “Song,” “I Am,” “Come Hither” (poems)

Nancy Mairs, “On Living Behind Bars” (essay)

William Styron, *Darkness Visible* (memoir)

Session 5, May 10: Medicine and the Other America

William Carlos Williams, “Jean Beicke” (short story)

Zora Neale Hurston, “My Most Humiliating Jim Crow Experience” (nonfiction)

Gayl Jones, “Asylum” (short story)

Sterling Brown, “Parish Doctor” (poem)

Veneta Masson, from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*: “The Promise,” “Boutique,” “The Screamer in Room 4,”

“Admission,” “Home Remedies for the Blues,” “Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill,” “Litany of Dolores,” “Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain” (poems)

David Hilfiker, from *Not All of Us Are Saints*: “Avoidance” (nonfiction)

Session 6, May 10: Medicine and the Other America

John Stone, "He Makes a House Call" (poem)

Raymond Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" (story)

"What the Doctor Said," "Proposal," "No Need," "Afterglow" (poems)

Paul Monette, "Brother of the Mount of Olives" (poem)

Rebecca Brown, from *The Gifts of the Body*: "The Gift of Wholeness," "The Gift of Hunger," "The Gift of Mourning" (fiction)

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Literature & Medicine – Faulkner Hospital – 2006

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Alyce Getler

Hospital Liaison: Cori Loescher, Karen Rosen

Session 1, January 10: Illness, Loss, and Healing

May Sarton, *Recovering: A Journal*

J.M. Coetzee, “The Blow” (short story)

Jane Kenyon, “Chrysanthemums” (poem)

Joan Didion, “After Life” from *The Year of Magical Thinking* (memoir)

Session 2, February 14: All-too-human Clinicians: I

William Carlos Williams, “A Face of Stone,” in *The Doctor Stories*

Irvin Yalom, “The Fat Lady” (vignette)

Danielle Ofri, “Torment” (vignette)

Pearl Buck, *The Enemy* (play, adapted from the Buck short story by Ann Bean)

Session 3, March 14: All-too-human Clinicians: II

Abraham Verghese, *The Tennis Player*

William Carlos Williams, “Old Doc Rivers” in *The Doctor Stories*

Susan Onthank Mates, “The Good Doctor” (short story)

Session 4, April 11: The Ravages of Substance Abuse

James Frey, *A Million Little Pieces* (memoir)

Eugene O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night* (play)

Session 5, May 9: Abuse, Violence, and Family Dysfunction

Dorothy Allison, *Bastard Out of Carolina* (novel)

Jeanne Bryner, “This Red Oozing” (poem)

Theodore Deppe, “Admission, Children's Unit” (poem)

Session 6, June 13: Rewards and Challenges of Clinical Practice

Mary Borden, from *The Forbidden Zone*, reprinted in *Nurses at the Front*, “In the Operating Room” and “Blind” (sketches)

Raymond Carver, “What the Doctor Said” (poem)

Cortney Davis, “The Body Flute” (poem)

Rafael Campo, "Like a Prayer" (essay)

Anton Chekhov, "Enemies" (short story)

Bruce Brown, "The Good Physician" (poem)

Clifford Cleveland, "CPR" (vignette)

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—Lit & Med participant



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Literature & Medicine – Lahey Clinic – 2006

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse

Hospital Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine, M.D. and Jonathan M. Metcalf, MSW

Session 1, January 26

Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (novel)

Nancy Mairs, “On Living Behind Bars” (essay)

Adam Haslett, “Notes for My Biographer” (story, in *You Are Not a Stranger Here*)

Session 2, February 23

Franz Kafka, “Metamorphosis” (story)

Sophocles, *Philoctetes* (play)

Session 3, March 23

Albert Camus, *The Plague* (novel)

Andrea Barrett, *Ship Fever* (novella)

Session 4, April 27

Jonathan Franzen, “My Father's Brain” (essay)

Jane Kenyon, “Chrysanthemums” (poem)

Joan Didion, “After Life” from *The Year of Magical Thinking* (memoir)

Donald Hall, selections from *Without* (poems)

Session 5, May 25

Kay Redfield Jamison, *An Unquiet Mind* (memoir)

Cortney Davis, “The Other Side of Illness” (essay)

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SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Joseph Cady

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, M.D., Fernanda Gama

Session 1, January 19: Clinician, Society, Epidemic

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

Session 2, February 9: Confronting Mortality

Leo Tolstoy, “The Death of Ivan Ilych” (story)

Thom Jones “I Want to Live!” (story)

John Stone, “Angor Animi” (poem)

Veneta Masson, “Litany of Dolores” (poem)

Paul Monette, “No Goodbyes” (poem)

Session 3, March 9: The Wounded Healer

Hacib Aoun, “When a House Officer Gets AIDS,” “From the Eye of the Storm, with the Eyes of a Physician” (commentary)

Ellen N. LaMotte, “The Interval,” and Mary Borden, “Moonlight,” from *Nurses at the Front*, pp. 29-37 and 89-98 (sketches)

Kay Redfield Jamison, “A Not So Fine Madness,” *An Unquiet Mind* (memoir), pp. 67-135

Session 4, April 6: Medicine and the Other America

David Hilfiker, *Not All of Us Are Saints* (nonfiction)

Session 5, May 11: Moments of Grace

John Stone, “He Makes a House Call” (poem)

Sterling Brown, “Parish Doctor” (poem)

Veneta Masson, “Admission,” “Home Remedies for the Blues” (poems)

Raymond Carver, “What the Doctor Said,” “Proposal,” “No Need,” “Afterglow” (poems)

Paul Monette, “Brother of the Mount of Olives” (poem)

Rebecca Brown, from *The Gifts of the Body*: “The Gift of Wholeness,” “The Gift of Hunger,” “The Gift of Mourning” (fiction)



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Literature & Medicine – Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center – 2005

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Patrick Ireland

Hospital Liaisons: Ellen Kolton

Session 1, January 19

Lorrie Moore, “People Like That are the Only People Here” (short story) in *Birds of America*

Raymond Carver, “Cathedral” (short story)

Adam Haslett, “The Good Doctor” (short story) in *You Are Not a Stranger Here*

Poems from *Between the Heartbeats: Poetry and Prose by Nurses*

Theodore Deppe, “Admission, Children's Unit”

Judy Schaefer, “Who Owns the Libretto?”

Cortney Davis, “What the Nurse Likes”

Session 2, February 16

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

Elizabeth Bishop, “In the Waiting Room” (poem)

Session 3, March 16

Pat Barker, *Regeneration* (novel)

Siegfried Sassoon, poems: “The Effect”, “Does It Matter”, “Aftermath”, “Alone”, “A Local Train of Thought”, “Thoughts in 1938”

Session 4, April 20

Audre Lorde, *The Cancer Journals* (memoir)

“Today is not the Day” (poem)

Anatole Broyard, “The Patient Examines the Doctor” (essay) in *Intoxicated by My Illness*

Session 5, May 18

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction)

Session 6, June 15

Lucy Grealy, *Autobiography of a Face* (nonfiction)

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)

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I have always sought out continuing education opportunities, but found this ongoing 6 month long program to have a more profound impact than I had anticipated. The developing relationships among the group members and opportunity to hear their thoughts and opinions in such a comfortable setting allowed them to be more candid.

—*Lit & Med participant*



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Literature & Medicine – Faulkner Hospital – 2005

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Alyce Getler

Hospital Liaison: Benny Gavi, M.D.

Session 1, January 12: The clinician in the community

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

Veneta Masson, poems from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill* – "Admission", "Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain"

Session 2, February 9: Pressures and vulnerabilities in the hospital

Mikhail Bulgakov, "The Steel Windpipe" (story)

Danny Abse, "Case History" (poem)

Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)

Carolyn Barbier, "Nighthawks" (story)

Veneta Masson, "Passages" (poem)

Session 3, March 9: Confronting mortality

Audre Lorde, *The Cancer Journals* (memoir)

"Admission"

"Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain"

Session 4, April 13: Losses and triumphs: individuals and families coping with disability

Nancy Mairs, "On Being Cripple" (essay)

Tennessee Williams, *The Glass Menagerie* (play)

The Color of Paradise (film)

Session 5, May 11: Changing Places: The healer as patient and patient advocate

Kay Redfield Jamison, "An Unquiet Mind" (essay)

Cortney Davis, "The Other Side of Illness" (essay)

Richard Weinberg, "The Laying On of Hands" (essay)

Jerome Groopman, "Our Firstborn Son" (essay)

Session 6, June 8: Moments of grace: finding solace, human and spiritual

Raymond Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" (story)

Adam Haslett, "War's End" (story), from *You Are Not a Stranger Here*

Sandra McCollum, "Between Yes and No" (vignette)

Jane Kenyon poems: "Let Evening Come", "Notes from the Other Side"

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SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Martin Newhouse

Hospital Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine, M.D. and Jonathan M. Metcalf, MSW

Session 1, January 27

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

“Brilliance” by Mark Doty (poem)

“The J Car” by Thom Gunn (poem)

Session 2, February 24: Compassion, Forbearance, and Detachment

Louisa May Alcott, "A Night" (from *Hospital Sketches*)

Veneta Masson, *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill* (poems)

Session 3, March 24

Lucy Greal, *Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)

Carolyn Barbier, "Nighthawks" (story)

Session 4, April 28

Michael Bulgankov, "The Steel Windpipe" (story)

Atul Gwande, "When Doctors Make Mistakes" (essay)

Margaret Edson, *W:t* (play)

Session 5, May 26

William Gibson, *The Miracle Worker* (play)

Judy Schaefer, "Who Owns the Libretto?" (poem)

Jerome Groopman, "Our Firstborn Son" (essay)

Session 6, June 23

Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (story)

Adam Hazlett, "The Good Doctor," from *You Are Not a Stranger Here*

Henri Barbusse, "The Eleventh" (story)



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Literature & Medicine – UMass Memorial Medical Center – 2005

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Ruth Smith

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, M.D.

Session 1, January 20

Geraldine Brooks, *Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague*

Dedication and excerpt from John Dryden, *Annus Mirabilis, The Year of Wonders*"

Excerpts from Samuel Pepys's *Diary*

Excerpts from Susan Hunter, *Black Death: AIDS in Africa* (nonfiction)

Session 2, February 17

Pat Barker, *Regeneration* (novel)

Selections from *Nurses at the Front: Writing the Wounds of the Great War* (sketches)

Ellen N. LaMotte, "The Interval" and "Pour la Patrie"

Mary Borden, "Moonlight" and "Conspiracy"

Siegfried Sassoon, poems: "The Effect", "Does It Matter", "Aftermath", "Alone", "A Local Train of Thought", "Thoughts in 1938", Elizabeth Bishop, "In the Waiting Room" (poem)

Session 3, March 24

Adam Haslett, "The Good Doctor" (short story) in *You Are Not a Stranger Here*

Jonathan Franzen, "My Father's Brain" (essay)

Nancy Mairs, "On Living Behind Bars" (essay)

Session 4, April 28

from *Intensive Care: More Poetry and Prose by Nurses*

Cortney Davis, "Water Story" (poem)

"How I'm Able to Love" (poem)

"The Other Side of Illness" (essay)

Terry Evans, "Sarah's Pumpkin Bread" (nonfiction)

Veneta Masson, "Admission" (poem)

"The Nurse's Job" (poem)

Christine Rahn, "Car Spotting" (story)

Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)

Essays by Atul Gawande, from *Complications*: "The Case of the Red Leg", "Whose Body Is It, Anyway?"

Session 5, May 19

Lorrie Moore, "People Like That are the Only People Here" (short story)*

Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (short story)

Alice Elliott Dark, "Watch the Animals" (short story)

William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (short story)

Helena Maria Viramontes, "The Moths" (short story)

Session 6, June 9

David Feldshuh, *Miss Evers' Boys* (play)

from Susan M. Reverby, ed., *Tuskegee's Truths: Rethinking the Tuskegee Syphilis Study*

Allan Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment" (essay)

Evelynn M. Hammonds, "Your Silence Will Not Protect You" (essay)

Susan M. Reverby, "Rethinking the Tuskegee Syphilis Study" (essay)

Sadiq, "Tuskegee Experiment" (poem)

James A. Jones, "AIDS: Is It Genocide?" (chapter from *Bad Blood: The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment*)

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Literature & Medicine – Berkshire Medical Center – 2004

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Judith Frank

Hospital Liaison: Andy Plager, M.D.

Session 1, January 21

Rafael Campo, essays from *The Desire to Heal*: “The Desire to Heal” and “Like a Prayer”

Robert Coles, *Introduction to The Doctor Stories* by William Carlos Williams

William Carlos Williams, “The Use of Force” (short story)

Cortney Davis, “Night Nurse” (poem)

Session 2, February 25

Pat Barker, *Regeneration* (novel)

Session 3, March 24

Margaret R. Higonnet, ed., *Nurses at the Front: Writing the Wounds of the Great War*

(a reprint of two collections of sketches by American women who served as nurses on the Western Front: *The Backwash of War* by Ellen N. La Motte and *The Forbidden Zone* by Mary Borden, with a critical introduction)

Session 4, April 28

Papers from Susan M. Reverby, *Tuskegee's Truths: Rethinking the Tuskegee Syphilis Study*

Allen M. Brandt: “Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment”

Susan E. Bell, “Events in the Tuskegee Syphilis Project: A Timeline”

Helen Dibble and Daniel Williams, “Interview with Nurse Rivers”

Susan M. Reverby, “Rethinking the Tuskegee Syphilis Study”

James A. Jones, “AIDS: Is It Genocide?” (chapter 14 of *Bad Blood: The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment*)

Session 5, May 19

Greg Critser, *Fat Land: How Americans Became the Fattest People in the World*

Veneta Masson, “The Promise” (poem)

Jane Kenyon, “Fat” (poem)

Session 6, June 16

Lauren Slater, *Lying* (memoir)

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Literature & Medicine – Children's Hospital – 2004

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Maren Batalden, M.D.

Hospital Liaisons: Theresa Freis

Session 1, January 22: Patient-Provider Relationships

William Carlos Williams, “The Use of Force” (short story) from *The Doctor Stories*

Kim Dayton, *Procedures* (short story)

Susan Mates, “Laundry” (short story) from *The Good Doctor*

Theodore Deppe, “Admission, Children's Unit” (poem) from *Between the Heartbeats*

Courtney Davis, “The Body Flute” (poem) from *Between the Heartbeats*

Session 2, February 26: Illness and Identity

Lucy Grealy, *The Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)

Selection from Arthur Frank, “At the Will of the Body” (essay)

Session 3, March 25: Making Meaning

Martha Beck, *Expecting Adam* (memoir)

Mitchell Zuckoff, *Choosing Naia* (memoir)

Lorrie Moore, “People Like That Are the Only People Here” (short story) from *Birds of America*

Session 4, April 22: Grief and Healing

Tillie Olson, “I Stand Here Ironing” (short story) from *Tell Me a Riddle*

Raymond Carver, “A Small, Good Thing” (short story) from *A Life in Medicine*

Anton Chekov, “Misery” (short story)

Rafael Campo, “El Curandero” (poem) from *Blood & Bone*

Linda Pastan, “The Five Stages of Grief” (poem)

Judy Schaefer, “Who Owns the Libretto” (poem) from *Between the Heartbeats*

Jeanne LeVasseur, “Danny Boy” (poem) from *Between the Heartbeats*

Session 5, May 27: Health and Community

Toni Morrison, *The Bluest Eye* (novel)

Selections from Veneta Masson, *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill* (poetry)

David Hilfiker, from “Not All of Us Are Saints” (essay) from *A Life in Medicine*

Jack Coulehan, “Shall Inherit” (poem)

Session 6, June 24: Crossing Cultures

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (novel)

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Literature & Medicine – Faulkner Hospital – 2004

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Lucy Honig

Hospital Liaison: Benny Gavi, M.D. (office phone 983-7373; page 983-7100)

Session 1, January 21: Science, medicine, and healing: human costs, human triumphs

Andrea Barrett, “Servants of the Map” and “The Cure,” both in Andrea Barrett, *Servants of the Map*

Jack Coulehan, “The Man With Stars Inside Him” (poem)

Session 2, February 18: In the name of healing: the Tuskegee syphilis study

David Feldshuh, *Miss Evers' Boys* (play)

Evelynn M. Hammonds, “Your Silence Will Not Protect You” (essay)

Susan L. Smith, “Neither Victim nor Villain” (essay)

Sadiq, “Tuskegee Experiment” (poem)

(Plus segments from the film *Miss Evers' Boys* and Don Byron CD, “Tuskegee Experiment”)

Session 3, March 17: Unexpected healing: The blind leading the blind

Anthony Doerr, “The Shell Collector” (short story)

Raymond Carver, “Cathedral” (short story)

Jhumpa Lahiri, “The Third and Final Continent” (short story)

Session 4, April 21: Illness, transformation and the family

Jamaica Kincaid, *My Brother* (memoir; pp. 1-96 will suffice, but complete book highly recommended)

Franz Kafka, “The Metamorphosis” (story)

Rafael Campo, “Her Final Show” (poem)*

Session 5, May 19: Caregiver: humanity and empathy

Susan Onthank Mates, “Laundry” (short story)

Richard Selzer, “Fetishes” (story)

Louisa May Alcott, “A Night,” from *Hospital Sketches*

Veneta Masson, “Occupational Therapy” (poem)

Walt Whitman, poems from *Leaves of Grass*: “The Wound Dresser,” “A March in the Ranks Hard-Prent, and the Road Unknown,” “When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer,” “The Dalliance of the Eagles,” “There Was a Child Went Forth”

Session 6, June 16: Moving from pain and grief to recovery and affirmation

Dennis McFarland, *Singing Boy* (novel)



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Literature & Medicine – Lahey Clinic – 2004

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Jonathan Fortescue

Hospital Liaisons: Jerry M. Blaine, M.D. and Jonathan M. Metcalf, MSW

Session 1, January 21: Heroic? Medicine

John Berger, *A Fortunate Man* (nonfiction)

William Carlos Williams, “The Use of Force” (short story)

Veneta Masson, “Passages” (poem)

Session 2, February 18: Compassion, Forbearance, and Detachment

Margaret R. Higonnet, ed., *Nurses at the Front: Writing the Wounds of the Great War*

(a reprint of two collections of sketches by American women who served as nurses on the Western Front: *The Backwash of War* by Ellen N. La Motte and *The Forbidden Zone* by Mary Borden, with a critical introduction)

Walt Whitman, “The Wound Dresser” (poem)

Session 3, March 17: The Voice of Suffering

Audre Lorde, *The Cancer Journals* (memoir)

Anatole Broyard, “Intoxicated by my Illness” (title essay from collection)

Lorrie Moore, “People Like That Are the Only People Here” (short story)

Session 4, April 21: Institutional Strain

Albert Camus, *The Plague* (novel)

Session 5, May 19: Compliance, Error, and Luck

Sarah Collings, “Hospital Course” (sketch)

Frank Huyler, “A Difference of Opinion” (sketch)

Richard Selzer, “Imelda” (short story)

David Hilfiker, “Mistakes” (essay)

Session 6, June 16: The Culture of Allopathy

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction)



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Literature & Medicine – UMass Memorial Medical Center – 2004

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Ruth Smith

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, M.D.

Session 1, January 22

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

Elizabeth Bishop, “In the Waiting Room” (poem)

Session 2, February 12

Pat Barker, *Regeneration* (novel)

Siegfried Sassoon, poems: “The Effect”; “Does It Matter”; “Aftermath”; “Alone”; “A Local Train of Thought”; “Thoughts in 1938”

Selections from *Nurses at the Front: Writing the Wounds of the Great War* (sketches)

Ellen N. LaMotte, “The Interval” and “Pour la Patrie”

Mary Borden, “Moonlight” and “Conspiracy”

Session 3, March 18

Audre Lorde, *The Cancer Journals* (memoir)

“Today Is Not the Day” (poem)

“The Electric Slide Boogie” (poem)

Anatole Broyard, “The Patient Examines the Doctor” (essay) from *Intoxicated by My Illness*

Session 4, April 15

Sophocles, *Philoctetes* (play)

Selections from Seamus Heaney's translation of *Philoctetes*, entitled *The Cure at Troy*

Session 5, May 20

Lorrie Moore, “People Like That are the Only People Here” (short story)*

Raymond Carver, “Cathedral” (short story)

Alice Elliott Dark, “Watch the Animals” (short story)

William Carlos Williams, “The Use of Force” (short story)

Helena Maria Viramontes, “The Moths” (short story)

Session 6, June 17

David Feldshuh, *Miss Evers' Boys* (play)

from Susan M. Reverby, ed., *Tuskegee's Truths: Rethinking the Tuskegee Syphilis Study*

Allan Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment" (essay)

Evelynn M. Hammonds, "Your Silence Will Not Protect You" (essay)

Susan M. Reverby, "Rethinking the Tuskegee Syphilis Study" (essay)

Sadiq, "Tuskegee Experiment" (poem)

James A. Jones, "AIDS: Is It Genocide?" (chapter from *Bad Blood: The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment*)

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Literature & Medicine – Berkshire Medical Center – 2003

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Judith Frank

Hospital Liaison: Jordan Fieldman, M.D.

Session 1: February 5

Amy Bloom, "Rowing to Eden" (short story)

Lorrie Moore, "People Like Us are the Only People Here" (short story)

Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (short story)

Session 2: February 26

Mark Doty, *Heaven's Coast* (memoir)

Session 3: March 26

Susan Reverby, *Introduction to Ordered to Care: The Dilemma of American Nursing, 1850-1945* (nonfiction)

Louisa May Alcott, "A Night," from *Hospital Sketches* (short story)

Selections from *Between the Heartbeats: Poetry and Prose by Nurses*

Session 4: April 30

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction)

Session 5: May 21

Sophocles, *Philoctetes* (play)

Session 6: June 18

Atul Gawande, "When Doctors Make Mistakes" (essay)

Richard Selzer, "Imelda" (short story)

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Literature & Medicine – Children's Hospital – 2003

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: David Fedo

Hospital Liaisons: Christine Mitchell and Theresa Freis, Office of Ethics

Session 1: January 9

Rafael Campo, "Like a Prayer," excerpt reprinted in *A Life in Medicine* (essay)

William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (short story)

Adam Haslett, "The Good Doctor" (short story)

Theodore Deppe, "Admission, Children's Unit" from *Between the Heartbeats* (poem)

Session 2: February 13

Doris Betts, *Souls Raised from the Dead* (novel)

Jack Larkin, "No Force Can Death Resist: Reflections on Child and Infant Mortality in American History" (essay)

Session 3: March 13

Margaret Edson, *Wit* (play)

Carolyn Barber, "Nighthawks" in *Between the Heartbeats* (short story)

Courtney Davis, "The Body Flute" in *Between the Heartbeats* (poem)

Eric J. Cassel, "The Nature of Suffering and the Goals of Medicine", in *A Life in Medicine* (essay)

Session 4: April 10

Lucy Grealy, *The Autobiography of a Face* (memoir)

Session 5: May 8

Lorrie Moore, "People Like Us Are the Only People Here" (short story)

Judy Schaefer, "Who Owns the Libretto?" (poem)

in *Between the Heartbeats*

Raymond Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" in *A Life in Medicine* (short story)

Jeanne LeVasseur, "Danny Boy" in *Between the Heartbeats* (poem)

Session 6: June 12

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*



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Literature & Medicine – Faulkner Hospital – 2003

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Lucy Honig

Hospital Liaison: Benny Gavi, M.D.

Session 1, January 8: Families dealing with sickness, death, and grief

Leo Tolstoy, *The Death of Ivan Ilych* (novella)

Tillie Olsen, “Tell Me a Riddle” (long short story)

Donald Hall, selections from *Without* (poems, to be supplied by facilitator)

Session 2, February 12: cross-cultural clashes; sympathetic portraits of many health care workers doing what they think is the best they can in a hospital on strained resources; changing community and changing roles; hospital morale issues

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction)

Session 3, March 12: In the body of the patient

Jean Stafford, *The Interior Castle* (novella)

Robert Murphy, *The Body Silent*, pp. 9-82 (autobiography)

Anatole Broyard, “The Patient Examines the Doctor” (essay, in *Intoxicated by My Illness*)

Session 4, April 9: Who's in charge? Power, helplessness, and the hospital (focusing on parents with sick kids)

Kim Dayton, “Procedures” (short story)

W.E.B. DuBois, “The Passing of the First Born” (excerpt from *The Souls of Black Folk*)

Lorrie Moore, “People Like Us are the Only People Here” (short story)

Judy Schaeffer, “Who Owns the Libretto?” (poem)

Session 5, May 14: Wounded healer/healer wounding/healing the healer

Atul Gawande, “When Doctors Make Mistakes” (essay)

William Carlos Williams, “The Use of Force” (short story)

Selections from Veneta Masson, *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill* (poems)

Session 6, June 11: Impact of a public health catastrophe on individuals and a community

Albert Camus, *The Plague* (novel)

Mary Oliver, “University Hospital, Boston” (poem)



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Literature & Medicine – Newton-Wellesley Hospital – 2003

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Patrick Ireland

Hospital Liaison: Leslie Selbovitz, M.D.

Session 1: February 6

Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (short story)

Raymond Carver, "What We Talk About When We Talk About Love" (short story)

Cortney Davis, "The Body Flute" and "What the Nurse Likes" (poems)

Session 2: February 27

Linda Grant, *Remind Me Who I Am, Again* (memoir)

Session 3: March 20

Lorrie Moore, "People Like Us are the Only People Here" (short story)

Raymond Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" (short story)

Jeanne Bryner, "Blue Lace Socks" (poem)

Theodore Deppe, "Admission, Children's Unit" (poem).

Session 4: April 10

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction)

Session 5: May 15

Atul Gawande, "When Doctors Make Mistakes" (essay)

William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (short story)

Session 6: June 19

Mark Doty, *Heaven's Coast* (memoir)

Jeanne Bryner, "Butterfly" (poem)



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Literature & Medicine – UMass Memorial Medical Center – 2003

SYLLABUS

Facilitator: Ruth Smith

Hospital Liaisons: Emily Ferrara, David Hatem, M.D.

Session 1: January 16

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)
Elizabeth Bishop, "In the Waiting Room" (poem)

Session 2: February 13

Audre Lorde, *The Cancer Journals* (memoir)
Audre Lorde, "Today Is Not the Day" (poem)
Audre Lorde, "The Electric Slide Boogie" (poem)
Anatole Broyard, "The Patient Examines the Doctor" (essay) from *Intoxicated by My Illness*

Session 3: March 20

Pat Barker, *Regeneration* (novel)
Siegfried Sassoon, poems: "The Effect"; "Does It Matter"; "Aftermath"; "Alone"; "A Local Train of Thought"; "Thoughts in 1938"

Session 4: April 24

Graham Greene, *A Burnt-Out Case* (novel)
Selections from *Between the Heartbeats: Poetry and Prose by Nurses*: "This Happened" (p. 52); "Gooseberries" (p. 69); "Vietnam Canon" (p. 173); "Curandera" (p.174); "Between the Heartbeats" (p. 178); "Burnt-out Offerings" (p. 185)

Session 5: May 15

Lorrie Moore, "People Like Us are the Only People Here" (short story)
Raymond Carver, "Cathedral" (short story)
Alice Elliott Dark, "Watch the Animals" (short story)
William Carlos Williams, "The Use of Force" (short story)

Session 6: June 19

Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* (nonfiction)