

Paper III: History of a Treatment: Development, Testing, Marketing, and Usage

Overview

This assignment, modeled after the work done in Wailoo and Pemberton, involves students choosing/identifying a disease or condition, researching the science behind a treatment and exploring the cultural identity associated with this disease or condition.

Poster

The poster is to be neat and professional, standard poster size (available at CVS or similar) with well-organized sections and a balanced use of images/diagrams and text. Images/diagrams may be hand-drawn or hand-colored as long as they are tidy and indicative of effort. Since it is difficult to format citations in the confines of a poster, please provide your bibliography—annotated—with the paper submission (see below).

A creative, informative title is above the following sections:

- Disease or condition (frequency, inheritance, cause, mechanism, symptoms, diagnosis, treatments, prevention) (this section can include images to help explain the science)
- Time-line or similar for the development of the current best treatment
- Summary of how this treatment was tested (when, by whom, on whom, ethical by current standards or any issues)
- Representative images of how this treatment is marketed
- Graphs/tables that show how this treatment is used (where, by whom, at what cost)

Paper

In a well-developed and supported essay, students will explore the cultural identity associated with this disease or condition. The paper may assume that the reader is familiar with the material presented in the poster. Topics to address include but are not limited to: how tightly linked the disease is to a cultural group, if that group is based on ancestry, geography or gender, the historical time-frame for this identification, differences between how the affected group sees itself vs how the rest of the population views this group, implications for access to treatment because of the group identity, how research for this disease or condition is funded based on the group identity. Students are warmly invited to discuss the paper content with their professors in advance.

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Papers are to be 3 pages (double spaced) and will be followed by an annotated bibliography page for the paper and poster. You will need to include every source used with the citation in a standard format (APA, MLA, or Chicago—but do *not* simply paste in URL's) and then a description of how you used that source. **EXAMPLE:**

Wailoo, Keith, and Stephen Pemberton. *The Troubled Dream of Genetic Medicine: Ethnicity and Innovation in Tay-Sachs, Cystic Fibrosis, and Sickle Cell Disease*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008.

This book was foundational to my paper. It provided examples (in the form of Tay-Sachs, Cystic Fibrosis, and Sickle-Cell Disease) of how to think about a disease from multiple perspectives, including pathology, symptoms, treatment, prevention, bio-ethical questions, and ethnic identity. In my paper I attempted to follow their example in how to examine a disease of my own choosing.

Grading

Papers and posters together will be graded based on the following rubric. The poster content will be roughly 60% of the grade, the paper will be roughly 30% of the grade, and mechanics, formatting and references will be roughly 10% of the grade.