

HH3019: History of the Body

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I. Course Description:

The body has become a focal point of a variety of cultural and political discourses and practices in modern society. Based on major literature in the history of the body, this course aims at leading students to deepen their perspective on the body and its various social and philosophical underpinnings. Why do we need to take care of our body? How and why were Asia and Europe so different in understanding and describing the body? In what place has the body been placed in the changing cultural landscape of the globalizing world? What has been the true nature of corporal punishment and torture on the body? Why do many people today check the number of dietary calories to maintain a slender body? What is the impact of developing technologies upon our body and its social implication? By asking and answering these questions, students will be able to broaden their historical understanding of the body, which shall also contribute to their scholarship in history and other disciplines.

II. Course Design:

There will be a three-hour seminar each week. For the first 40 minutes, the professor will introduce the day's main subjects with certain points for further thinking. And the next 20-30 minutes shall be used for a general discussion with students' pre-class questions submitted onto the course's website in NTULearn. The remaining time should be spent for a deeper and synthetic discussion engaging all attending students in groups, which students can make by themselves. Each student's performance will be evaluated in accordance with her or his midterm assignment, final essay, pre-class questions, discussion report, and participation in the seminars. This course, which offers 3 academic units, has no pre-requisites.

III. Course Schedule and Readings:

1. Introduction

Marian Fraser and Monica Greco, "Introduction," in Marian Fraser and Monica Greco (eds.), *The Body: A Reader* (London: Routledge, 2005), pp. 1-3, 6-9.

Nobert Elias, "Civilization and Psychosomatics," in Marian Fraser and Monica Greco (eds.), *The*

Body: A Reader (London: Routledge, 2005), pp. 96-99.
Harry Collins, *Tacit and Explicit Knowledge* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010), pp. 1-8.

2. Bodies in Traditional Medical Systems of the World

Carole Rawcliffe, *Medicine and Society in Later Medieval England* (Farnham: Sutton, 1995), pp. 29-57.

Roy Porter, *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind: A Medical History of Humanity* (New York: Norton, 1997), 135-162. (Chapters 6, 7)

Howard R. Turner, *Science in Medieval Islam* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2006), pp. 131-161.

3. Two Bodies in China and Greece

Shigehisa Kuriyama, *The Expressiveness of the Body* (New York: Zone Books, 2002), pp. 17-60, 111-194. (Chapters 1, 3, 4)

4. Body, Gender, and Anatomy in Early Modern Europe

Katherine Park, *Secrets of Women: Gender, Generation, and the Origins of Human Dissection* (New York: Zone Books, 2006), pp. 39-159. (Chapters 1, 2, 3)

5. Sexual Bodies and the Politics of Difference

Thomas Laqueur, *Making Sex: Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1990), pp. 63-113, 149-192. (Chapters 3, 5)

Emily Martin, "The Egg and the Sperm: How Science Has Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles," *Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 16 (1991), pp. 323-339.

6. Punishment and Discipline

Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*, tr. Alan Sheridan (New York: Vintage Books), pp. 3-31, 135-194. (Chapters 1-1, 3-1, 3-2)

7. Beautiful Body

Umberto Eco, *History of Beauty* (New York: Rizzoli, 2004), pp. 8-14, 48-50, 72-81, 418-428.

Arthur Marwick, *A History of Human Beauty* (London: Hambledon, 2004), pp. 1-32.

Roy Porter, "The Transience of Consumptive Beauty," in Roy Porter (ed.), *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Medicine* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), p. 107.

Naomi Wolf, *The Body Myth: How Images of Beauty Are Used against Women* (New York: Anchor, 1990), pp. 9-19.

8. From Footbinding to Sports in China

Fan Hong, *Footbinding, Feminism and Freedom: The Liberation of Women's Bodies in Modern China* (London: Frank, 1997), pp. 17-75 (Chapters 1, 2)

Andrew D. Morris, *Marrow of the Nation: A History of Sport and Physical Culture in Republican China* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004), pp. 1-16, 100-140. (Chapters 1, 5)

9. Plastic Surgery in Making Gender and Race

E. Showalter, "Thank You for My Faith Lift," *The Times Literary Supplement* (20 March 1998).

Sander Gilman, *Making the Body Beautiful: A Cultural History of Aesthetic Surgery* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999), pp. 85-118.

Meredith Jones, *Skintight: An Anatomy of Cosmetic Surgery* (Oxford: Berg, 2008), pp. 7-58.

(Chapters 1, 2)

10. Hermaphrodites and Intersexuals

Michel Foucault, *Herculine Barbin* (Brighton: Harvester, 1980), pp. vii-xvii, 124-144.

Anne Fausto-Sterling, *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality* (New York: Basic Books, 2000), pp. 45-114. (Chapters 3, 4)

11. Calories and Fat Bodies

Ann F. La Berge, "How the Ideology of Low Fat Conquered America," *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 63 (2008), pp. 139-177.

Peter Stearns, *Fat History: Bodies and Beauty in the Modern West* (New York: New York University Press, 1997), pp. 3-24, 71-97. (Chapters 1, 4)

Sander Gilman, *Fat: A Cultural History of Obesity* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2008), pp. 137-163.

12. Cyborgs, Humanism, and Posthumanism

N. Katherine Hayles, *How We Became Posthuman: Virtual Bodies in Cybernetics, Literature, and Informatics* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999), pp. 1-13, 18-24. (Introduction)

Laura Bartlett and Thomas B. Byers, "Back to the Future: The Humanist Matrix," *Cultural Critique* 53 (2003), pp. 28-46.

Neil Badmington, "Theorizing Posthumanism," *Cultural Critique* 53 (2003), pp. 10-27.

13. Muscles and Gender

Alan K. Klein, "Of Muscles and Men," *The Sciences* 33 (1993), pp. 32-37.

Leena Martin and Nicola Gavey, "Women's Bodybuilding: Feminist Resistance and/or Femininity's Recuperation?" *Body and Society* 2 (1996), pp. 45-57.

VI. Evaluation:

1. Midterm Assignment: (25%)

Students should write a review essay on a theme. The professor will announce the theme by the end of August. With 1,000 words (excluding bibliography and footnotes), the review should critically address the topic. The review should be submitted to the course's NTULearn site in the form of the MS word file (a pdf file is not recommended).

2. Pre-Class Questions: (15%)

Every student should propose a question for discussion during the seminar. The question is to be uploaded in the courseweb in NTULearn before Sunday evening. These questions will be graded according to their relevance, novelty, and ingenuity.

3. Participation and Attendance in the Seminar: (10%)

Each student's attendance and activity is monitored in every seminar and the record will be used in the final evaluation. Please be sure to show up and be proactive in the class.

4. Discussion Report: (15%)

After the seminar, each group should submit a report of discussion to a blog created within NTULearn. This report reflects not only the content of the reading, but also the outcome of the class members' conversation and debate about the week's subject. Students are free to organize their own groups for the first two weeks, but these groups will be fixed after the end of the add/drop period. The professor's comment will be added as a comment to a blog entry.

5. Final Research Essay: (30%)

Students will write an original essay on a theme on the body. With 2,000 words (excluding bibliography and footnotes), the essay must discuss a theme from historical, cultural, and social standpoints. The essay should include an original argument based on students' reading and study of the class material alongside other relevant papers and books that could be found in the NTU/NIE libraries. It is important to cite and use at least three articles or monographs in the prescribed reading of the syllabus, but the essay should not be a mere review of the literature. If the student hopes, she or he may perform an interview on certain people related to the theme of the essay. It is possible to conduct a survey to draw a meaningful conclusion about a group of people in Singapore. If interview or survey is necessary, an ethics appraisal form must be completed together. Before writing your essay, students have to submit their one-paragraph "plan" of the final assignment. The professor will advise students based on this plan, which will constitute 5% of the final grade. The final essay should be submitted to the course's NTULearn site in the form of the MS word file (a pdf file is not recommended).

V. Late Submission:

There will be a penalty to a paper submitted after the deadline. The extent of penalty will be decided depending on the general distribution of students' marks in the entire class. But late submission can be excused according to the professor's understanding of the student's circumstances.

VI. Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious academic misconduct and may endanger a student's career in a highly severe way. It is done intentionally or unintentionally by using another person's ideas and writings without any proper citation and/or quotation marks. Paraphrasing is an act of rewriting other people's ideas or arguments using your own words. While this is an acceptable practice in most cases, it can be an issue if you do not indicate that the ideas have come from another person's work. If you are not sure about how you should do regarding these issues, please do cite the referred sources in footnotes/endnotes and use the quotation marks around the terms you did not invent. Even if a student cited a source, direct quotation without quotation marks may be a problem, too. If any plagiarized sentence or paragraph is detected, the grade will be reduced to zero and the student's name will be reported to the school.

VII. How to Find Readings and Movies:

All the articles and book chapters in the required reading list can be downloaded at the course webpage in the NTULearn system. Many in the optional reading list are also available in the same courseweb. Most books in this optional list can be found in the HSS or LWN libraries, and the others are to be checked out from the professor's personal collection. Students can borrow or buy the books for their essay assignment.

VIII. Optional Readings:

Asterisk (*) indicates that a pdf file of the paper or a part of the book has been uploaded into NTULearn.

General Introduction:

Marian Fraser and Monica Greco (eds.), *The Body: A Reader* (London: Routledge, 2005).

*Philip Hancock, et al (eds.), *The Body, Culture and Society* (Buckingham, Open University Press, 2000).

*Kathleen Canning, "The Body as Method? Reflections of the Place of the Body in Gender History," *Gender and History* 11 (1999), pp. 499-513.

Bodies in Traditional Medicine:

- *Sachiko Kusakawa, "Medicine in Western Europe in 1500," in Peter Elmer (ed.), *The Healing Arts: Health, Disease and Society in Europe, 1500-1800* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 1-26.
- Lawrence I. Conrad, Michael Neve, Vivian Nutton, Roy Porter, and Andrew Wear, *Western Medical Tradition 800 BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 23-25.
- *Beate Gundert, "Parts and Their Roles in Hippocratic Medicine," *Isis* 83 (1992), pp. 453-465.
- Paul U. Unschuld, *Medicine in China: A History of Ideas* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2010).
- *Jim Al-Khalili, *The House of Wisdom: How Arabic Science Saved Ancient Knowledge and Gave Us the Renaissance* (New York: Penguin, 2011), pp. 138-151.

Bodies and Monsters in Early Modern Europe:

- *Andrea Carlino: *Books of the Body: Anatomical Ritual and Renaissance Learning* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999), pp. 39-53.
- *Silvia De Renzi, "Old and New Models of the Body," Peter Elmer (ed.), *The Healing Arts: Health, Disease and Society in Europe* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), 166-195.
- Lorraine Daston and Katherine Park, *Wonders and the Order of Nature 1150-1170* (New York: Zone Books, 2001).

Discourse, Power, and Sexuality:

- *Judith Butler, *Bodies that Matter: On the Discursive Limits of "Sex"* (London: Routledge, 1993).
- *Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality, Volume 1: An Introduction* (London: Vintage Books, 1990).
- *Luce Irigaray, *Je Tu Nous: Toward a Culture of Difference*, tr. Alison Martin (New York: Routledge, 1987), pp. 31-44. (Chapter 4, 5).

Scientific Making of Sexual Bodies:

- *Nelly Oudshoorn, "Endocrinologists and the Conceptualization of Sex," *Journal of the History of Biology* 23 (1990), pp. 163-186.
- Charles Rosenberg, *No Other Gods: On Science and American Social Thought* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1977), pp. 54-70.
- *Sarah Richardson, "Sexing the X: How the X Became the 'Female Chromosome,'" *Signs* 37 (2012), pp. 909-933.
- *Mary Barbercheck, "Science, Sex, and Stereotypical Images in Scientific Advertising," in Mary Wyler, et al (eds.), *Women, Science, and Technology* (New York: Taylor and Francis, 2008), pp. 118-132.

Plastic Surgery:

- *Eugenia Kaw, "Medicalization of Racial Features: Asian American Women and Cosmetic Surgery," *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 7 (1993), pp. 74-89.
- Elizabeth Haiken, *Venus Envy: A History of Cosmetic Surgery* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997).
- *Seok-Chan Eun, "Brilliant Hallyu and Cosmetic Surgery," *Journal of Korean Medical Science* 28 (2013), pp. 1561-1562.
- *Taeyon Kim, "Neo-Confucian Body Techniques: Women's Bodies in Korea's Consumer Society," *Body and Society* 9 (2003), pp. 97-113.
- *Ruth Holliday and Joanna Elfving-Hwang, "Gender, Globalization, and Aesthetic Surgery in South Korea," *Body and Society* 18 (2012), pp. 58-81.

Masculinities and Muscular Bodies:

- Alan K. Klein, *Little Big Men: Bodybuilding Subculture and Gender Construction* (Albany: New York State University Press, 1993).
- *Tristan Bridges, "Gender Capital and Male Bodybuilders," *Body and Society* 15 (2009), pp. 83-107.
- R. W. Connell, *Masculinities*, 2nd edition (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995).
- *Mike Donaldson, "What Is Hegemonic Masculinity?" *Theory and Society* 22 (1993), pp. 643-657.
- *R. W. Connell and James W. Messerschmidt, "Hegemonic Masculinities: Rethinking the Concept," *Gender and Society* 19 (2005), pp. 829-859.
- *Tony Jefferson, "Muscle, 'Hard Men' and 'Iron' Mike Tyson," *Body and Society* 4 (1998), pp. 77-98.
- Kam Louise and Morris Low (eds.), *Asian Masculinities: The Meaning and Practice of Manhood in China and Japan* (New York: Routledge, 2003).

Dieting and Calories

- Margaret Lowe, *Looking Good: College Women and Body Image, 1875-1930* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003).
- *----- "From Robust Appetites to Calorie Counting: The Emergence of Dieting among Smith College Students in the 1920s," *Journal of Women's History* 7 (1995), pp. 37-61.
- Hillel Schwartz, *Never Satisfied: A Cultural History of Diets, Fantasies, and Fat* (New York: Free Press, 1986).

Body as the Machine:

- *René Descartes, *Treatise on Man*, tr. Thomas Steele Hall (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1972), pp. 1-32.
- *Simon Schaffer, "Enlightened Automata" in William Clark, Jan Golinski, and Simon Schaffer (eds.), *The Sciences in Enlightened Europe* (Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1999), pp. 126-165.
- *Steven Shapin, *The Scientific Revolution* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996), pp. 30-57.
- *Raymond Saussure, "Haller and La Mettrie," *Journal of the History of Medicine* 6 (1949), pp. 431-449.
- Richard S. Westfall, "Biology and the Mechanical Philosophy," in *The Construction of Modern Science: Mechanisms and Mechanics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1978), pp. 82-104.

Painful Body:

- Roselyne Rey, *The History of Pain* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1995).
- *Esther Cohen, "The Animated Pain of the Body," *American Historical Review* 105 (2000), pp. 36-68.
- Roy Porter, "Pain and Suffering," in W.F. Bynum and Roy Porter (eds.), *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine, vol. 2* (London: Routledge, 1993), pp. 1574-1591.
- Sarah Nettleton, *Power, Pain, and Dentistry* (London: Open University Press, 1992).
- *Elaine Scarry, "The Body in Pain: The Making and Unmaking of the World," in Marian Fraser and Monica Greco (eds.), *The Body: A Reader* (London: Routledge, 2005), pp. 324-326.

Disabled and Modified Bodies:

- *Roger Cooter, "The Disabled Body," in Roger Cooter and J. Pickstone (eds.), *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* (Amsterdam: Harwood, 2000), pp. 367-383.
- Victoria Pitts, *In the Flesh: The Cultural Politics of Body Modification* (New York, Palgrave, 2002).

Aging Bodies:

- *Stephen Katz, "The Aged Body and the Discourse of Senescence," in *Disciplining Old Age: The Formation of Gerontological Knowledge* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1996), pp. 27-48.
- *Stephen Katz and Barbara Marshall, "New Sex for Old: Lifestyle, Consumerism, and Ethics of Aging Well," *Journal of Aging Studies* 17 (2003), pp. 3-16.
- *Chris Gilleard and Paul Higgs, "Ageing and Its Embodiment," in Marian Fraser and Monica Greco (eds.), *The Body: A Reader* (London: Routledge, 2005), pp. 117-121.
- Jesse Ballenger, *Self, Senility, and Alzheimer's Disease in Modern America: A History* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006); "Senility and Self in Modern America: A Cultural History of Alzheimer's Disease" (Ph.D. Dissertation, Case Western University, 2000)

Inherited Body:

- Diane Paul, *Politics of Heredity: Essays on Eugenics, Biomedicine, and the Nature-Nurture Debate* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1998).
- Daniel Kevles, *In the Name of Eugenics: Genetics and the Uses of Human Heredity* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1998).
- Jon Turney and Brian Balmer, "The Genetic Body," in Roger Cooter and John Pickstone (eds), *Companion to the Medicine in the Twentieth Century* (New York: Routledge, 2003), pp. 399-415.

Bodies in Biomedicine:

- Susan Lederer, *Subjected to Science: Human Experimentation in America before the Second World War* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995).
- , *Flesh and Blood: Organ Transplantation and Blood Transfusion in Twentieth Century America* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).
- Alan Brandt, *No Magic Bullet: A Social History of Venereal Disease in the United States since 1880* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987).
- José van Dijck, *The Transparent Body: A Cultural Analysis of Medical Imaging* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2005).

Bodies and Technologies:

- Marcel Mauss, "Body Techniques," in Marcel Mauss, *Sociology and Psychology: Essays*, translated [from the French] by Ben Brewster (London: Routledge, 1979), pp. 97-123.
- *Margareta A. Sanner, "Exchanging Spare Parts or Becoming a New Person? People's Attitudes toward Receiving and Donating Organs," *Social Science and Medicine*, 52:10 (2001), pp. 1491-1499.
- *D. E. Cooper, "Frankensteinian Nature of Biotechnology" in Andreas-Holger Maehle, J. Geyer-Kordesch (eds.), *Historical and Philosophical Perspectives on Biomedical Ethics* (Ashgate: Aldershot, 2002), pp. 139-149.

Transgendered Body:

- *Sheila Cavanagh and Heather Sykes, "Transgendered Bodies at the Olympics," *Body and Society* 12 (2006), pp. 75-102.
- *Susan Stryker, *Transgender History* (Berkeley: Seal Press, 2008).
- *John Sloop, "Disciplining the Transgendered: Brandon Teena, Public Representation, and Normativity," *Western Journal of Communication* 64 (2000), pp. 165-189.

Post-Humanism and Cyborgs:

- *Alan Petersen, "Replicating Our Bodies, Losing Our Selves: News Media Portrayals of Human Cloning in the Wake of Dolly," *Body & Society* 8:4 (2002), pp. 71-90.
- *Barbara Becker, "Cyborgs, Agents, and Transhumanists: Crossing Traditional Borders of Body and Identity in the Context of New Technology," *Leonardo* 33:5 (2000), pp. 361-365.
- *Carl Silvio, "Refiguring the Radical Cyborg in Mamoru Oshii's Ghost in the Shell," *Science Fiction Studies* 26 (1999), pp. 54-72.
- *Donna Haraway, "The Biopolitics of Postmodern Bodies: Constitution of Self in Immune System Discourse," in *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature* (New York: Routledge, 1991), pp. 203-230.
- *-----, "A Cyborg Manifesto," in *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature* (New York: Routledge, 1991), pp. 149-181.
- Elaine L. Graham, *Representations of the Post/Human: Monsters, Aliens and Others in Popular Culture* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2002).