Medical Humanities Elective Reading List - 2011-12 (rev. 12/29/11)

- Above the Clouds: The Miraculous Healing of a Little Girl, by Mike Moeller
- The Anatomy of Hope: How People Prevail in the Face of Illness, by Jerome Groopman MD
- Anatomy of an Illness as Perceived by the Patient, by Norman Cousins

- Angels in the ER: Inspiring True Stories from an Emergency Room Doctor, by Robert D. Lesslie, MD
- Angels on Call: Inspiring True Stories from the ER, by Robert D. Lesslie, MD
- Ask Me Why I Hurt: The Kids Nobody Wants and the Doctor Who Heals Them, by Randy Christensen, MD

- The Balance Within: The Science Connecting Health and Emotions, by Esther Sternberg MD
- Bedside Manners: One Doctor’s Reflections on the Oddly Intimate Encounters Between Patient and Healer, by David Watts, MD
- The Best of the Bellevue Literary Review, edited by Danielle Ofri, MD, PhD

- Better: A Surgeon's Notes on Performance, by Atul Gawande MD
- Better than Well: American Medicine Meets the American Dream, Carl Elliott, MD, PhD
- Between Expectations: Lessons from a Pediatric Residency, by Meghan MacLean Weir, MD

- Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking, by Malcolm Gladwell
- Blood Work: A Tale of Medicine and Murder in the Scientific Revolution, by Holly Tucker, PhD
- Blue Collar, Blue Scrubs: The Making of a Surgeon, by Michael Collins, MD

- Bouncebacks! Emergency Department Cases: ED Returns, by Michael Weinstock MD and Ryan Longstreth MD
- Burden of a Secret, by Rev. Jimmy Allen (student recommended-personal account about a family’s battle with AIDS)
- Cheating Death: The Doctors and Medical Miracles that Are Saving Lives Against All Odds, by Sanjay Gupta, MD

- The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right, by Atul Gawande, MD
- The Citadel, Archibald Joseph Cronin, MD
- Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine, by Albert Johnsen PhD, Mark Siegler MD, William Winslade PhD, JD

- Closing the Chart: A Dying Physician Examines Family, Faith and Medicine, by Steven D. Hsi, MD
- The Color of Atmosphere: One Doctor's Journey In and Out of Medicine, Maggie Kozel, MD
- Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science, by Atul Gawande MD

- Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese MD, new fiction, themes include what surgery can and can't accomplish
- Dancing at the River's Edge: A Patient and Her Doctor Negotiate Life with Chronic Illness, Alida Brill and Michael Lockshin MD
- Danger to Self: On the Front Line with an ER Psychiatrist, by Paul Linde, MD

- Deadly Choices: How the Anti-Vaccine Movement Threatens Us All, by Paul A. Offit, MD
- Deadly Companions: How Microbes Shaped Our History, by Dorothy H. Crawford, MD, PhD
- The Deadly Dinner Party & Other Medical Detective Stories, by Jonathan A. Edlow, MD

- Deadly Spin: An Insurance Company Insider Speaks Out on How Corporate PR is Killing Health Care and Deceiving Americans, by Wendell Potter
- Direct Red: A Surgeon’s View of Her Life-or-Death Profession, by Gabriel Weston, MD
- The Doctor Stories, by Richard Selzer, MD

- Doctors: The Biography of Medicine, by Sherwin Nuland, MD
- Doctors: The Illustrated History of Medical Pioneers, by Sherwin Nuland, MD
- The Doctors’ Plague: Germs, Childbed Fever, and the Strange Story of Ignac Semmelweis, by Sherwin Nuland, MD

- The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer, by Siddhartha Mukherjee, MD (*592 pp. - may use for two selections or read a portion for course credit)
- Every Patient Tells a Story: Medical Mysteries and the Art of Diagnosis, by Lisa Sanders, MD
- Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality, by Pauline W. Chen MD
- First, Do No Harm, by Lisa Belkin, four sets of patients/parents & the ethics of critical-care decisions involving them
- For Her Own Good: Two Centuries of the Experts’ Advice to Women, by Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English
- Fourteen Stories: Doctors, Patients, and Other Strangers, by Jay Baruch, MD
- Genetic Rounds: A Doctor’s Experiences in the Field that Revolutionized Medicine, by Robert Marion, MD
- Genius on the Edge: The Bizarre Double Life of Dr. William Stewart Halsted, by Gerald Imber, MD
- Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story, by Cecil Murphey and Ben Carson, MD
- Gray Matter: A Neurosurgeon Discovers the Power of Prayer…One Patient at a Time, by David Levy, MD
- Haiti After the Earthquake, by Paul Farmer, MD
- The Healer’s Calling: A Spirituality for Physicians and Other Health Care Professionals, by Daniel P. Sulmasy, MD
- Healing Words: The Power of Apology in Medicine, by Michael S. Woods, MD
- The Healing Mind: The Vital Links Between Brain and Behavior, Immunity and Disease, by Paul Martin PhD
- Heart Matters: A Memoir of a Female Heart Surgeon, by Kathy E. Magliato, MD
- The Heart Speaks: A Cardiologist Reveals the Secret Language of Healing, by Mimi Guarneri, MD
- Hippocrates' Shadow: Secrets from the House of Medicine, by David H. Newman MD, explores medical myths, both the promise and the limitations of medicine
- Hospital: Man, Woman, Birth, Death, Infinity, Plus Red Tape, Bad Behavior, Money, God and Diversity on Steroids, by Julie Salamon
- Hot Lights, Cold Steel: Life, Death and Sleepless Nights in a Surgeon's First Years, by Michael J. Collins MD
- How Doctors Think, by Jerome Groopman MD
- How We Die: Reflections on Life’s Final Chapter, by Sherwin Nuland, MD
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot
- Incidental Findings: Lessons from My Patients in the Art of Medicine, by Danielle Ofri, MD, PhD
- Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues, by Paul Farmer MD
- Intern: A Doctor’s Initiation, by Sandeep Jauhar, MD
- An Irish Country Doctor, by Patrick Taylor MD, fictionalized account of the author’s first weeks in medical practice
- An Irish Country Village, by Patrick Taylor MD, continuation of An Irish Country Doctor
- Kitchen Table Wisdom: Stories That Heal, Rachel Naomi Remen MD
- The Last Lecture, by Randy Pausch PhD
- Learning to Play God: The Coming of Age of a Young Doctor, by Robert Marion, MD
- The Lost Art of Healing: Practicing Compassion in Medicine, by Bernard Lown, MD
- Making Health Care Whole: Integrating Spirituality into Patient Care, by Christina Puchalski, MD & Betty Ferrell, PhD
- The Making of Modern Medicine: Turning Points in the Treatment of Disease, by Michael Bliss, PhD
- Mama Might Be Better Off Dead: The Failure of Health Care in Urban America, by Laurie Kaye Abraham
- Match Day: One Day and One Dramatic Year in the Lives of Three New Doctors, by Brian Eule
- The Measure of Our Days: A Spiritual Exploration of Illness, by Jerome Groopman MD
- The Medical Marriage: Sustaining Healthy Relationships for Physicians and Their Families, by Wayne and Mary Sotile
- Medical Errors and Medical Narcissism, by John Banja PhD
- Medical Firsts: From Hippocrates to the Human Genome, by Robert Adler
- Medicine as Ministry: Reflections on Suffering, Ethics and Hope, by Margaret E. Mohrmann, MD
- Medicine in Translation: Journeys with My Patients, by Danielle Ofri, MD, PhD
- Missionary Surgeon in Changing Times, Rebecca Naylor, MD, by Camille Lee Hornbeck

- Mountains Beyond Mountains, by Tracy Kidder, inspirational story of Paul Farmer, MD, Harvard infectious disease specialist who works to cure drug resistant TB and other infectious diseases on a global level
- My Sister's Keeper, by Jodi Picoult (novel addressing the ethics of conceiving a baby as a potential bone marrow donor)
- My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey, by Jill Bolte Taylor PhD
- On Apology, by Aaron Lazare, MD
- On Call: A Doctor's Days and Nights in Residency, by Emily R. Transue MD
- Out of Practice: Fighting for Primary Care Medicine in America, by Frederick M. Barken, MD

- Over My Head: A Doctor's Own Story of Head Injury from the Inside Looking Out, Claudia L. Osborn MD
- Overdiagnosed: Making People Sick in the Pursuit of Health, Gilbert Welch, MD, Lisa Schwartz, MD & Steven Woloshin, MD
- Overdosed America: The Broken Promise of American Medicine - How the Pharmaceutical Companies Distort Medical Knowledge, Mislead Doctors, and Compromise Your Health, by John Abramson MD
- Partner to the Poor: A Paul Farmer Reader, by Haun Saussy, Editor; works of Paul Farmer, MD
- Partners of the Heart: Vivien Thomas and His Work with (Dr.) Alfred Blalock: An Autobiography, by Vivien Thomas
- Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor, by Paul Farmer MD
- Patient by Patient: Lessons in Love, Loss, Hope and Healing from a Doctor's Practice, by Emily R. Transue MD
- Physician, Protect Thyself: 7 Simple Ways Not to Get Sued for Medical Malpractice, by Alan G. Williams JD
- Practicing Excellence: A Physician's Manual to Exceptional Health Care, by Stephen C. Beeson MD

- The Real Grey's Anatomy: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Real Lives of Surgical Residents, Andrew Holtz, MPH
- The Real Life of an Internist: Candid Stories Along the Path from Student to Veteran Doctor, by Mark Tyler-Lloyd, MD
- The Real Life of a Pediatrician: Candid Stories Along the Path from Student to Veteran Doctor, by Perri Klass, MD

- The Real Life of a Surgeon: Candid Stories Along the Path from Student to Veteran Doctor, by Arthur Perry, MD
- Safe Patients, Smart Hospitals: How One Doctor's Checklist Can Help Us Change Health Care from the Inside Out, by Peter Pronovost, MD, PhD
- A Second Opinion: Rescuing America's Health Care, by Arnold Relman, MD

- Second Opinions: Eight Clinical Dramas of Decision Making on the Front Lines of Medicine, by Jerome Groopman, MD
- Silence Kills: Speaking Out and Saving Lives, Edited by Lee Gutkind, Introduction by Abraham Verghese, MD
- Singular Intimacies: Becoming a Doctor at Bellevue, by Danielle Ofri, MD, PhD

- Something for the Pain: Compassion and Burnout in the ER, by Paul Austin MD
- The Soul of a Doctor: Harvard Medical Students Face Life and Death, (Pories, Harper, Jain and Groopman- Editors)
- The Soul of Medicine: Tales from the Bedside, by Sherwin Nuland, MD

- The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, by Anne Fadiman, a story of how culture can impact healthcare
- Spirituality in Patient Care: Why, How, When and What, by Harold G. Koenig, MD
- Take the Risk: Learning to Identify, Coose, and Live with Acceptable Risk, by Ben Carson, MD
- The Tennis Partner, by Abraham Verghese, MD
- This Won’t Hurt a Bit (and other white lies): My Education in Medicine & Motherhood, by Michelle Au, MD
- To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System, published by the Institute of Medicine
- Tracking Medicine: A Researcher’s Quest to Understand Health Care, by John E. Wennberg, MD, MPH
- The Uncertain Art: Thoughts on a Life in Medicine, by Sherwin Nuland, MD
- Wall of Silence: The Untold Story of the Medical Mistakes That Kill and Injure Millions of Americans, by Rosemary Gibson
- Walk on Water: The Miracle of Saving Children’s Lives, by Michael Ruhlman, MD
- What Really Matters: Living a Moral Life amidst Uncertainty and Danger, by Arthur Kleinman MD
- When the Air Hits Your Brain: Tales from Neurosurgery, by Frank Vertosick, Jr. MD
- White Coat - Black Hat: Adventures on the Dark Side of Medicine, by Carl Elliott, MD, PhD
- Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers, by Robert M. Sapolsky PhD, an entertaining look at the science of stress
- The Woman with a Worm in Her Head & Other True Stories of Infectious Disease, by Pamela Nagami, MD
- Worried Sick: A Prescription for Health in an Overtreated America, by Nortin M. Hadler, MD

Course requirements: 2 books per week read during the course and/or 6 medically related movies or documentaries per week (or combination of 1 book and 3 films/week) with a paragraph on each reflecting upon how the content relates to your experiences thus far in medicine or how it may impact your practice in the future.

Books or films previously read or viewed do not meet the course goals and are not eligible for elective credit.

Discussion of materials read or viewed with course director either online or in person, as individually arranged.

*Check with course director before reading or viewing anything not on the provided lists for course credit.

Additional Medical Humanities Resources:

NYU School of Medicine Literature, Arts and Medicine Database: http://litmed.med.nyu.edu/Main?action=new
Includes annotated works of literature, art and film

University of California, Irvine School of Medicine: Medical Humanities Database, with links to other programs: http://www.meded.uci.edu/Medhum/links.html

Yale Journal for Humanities in Medicine: http://info.med.yale.edu/intmed/hummed/yjhm/index.html

Brody School of Medicine Readers Theatre list: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/medhum/stories.cfm