SAMPLE SYLLABUS

COURSE CODE: OOO

HERBAL CURES IN AMERICA: DIGITAL HUMANITIES

DERYA F. AGIS, PH.D.

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2019 – 2020 FALL

HERBAL CURES IN AMERICA: DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Instructor: Dr. Fazila Derya Agis

Office hours: Mondays 16.00 – 16.50 p.m. and / or Fridays 10.00 – 10.50 a.m.

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Course description

The course is a survey of the Herbal Medicine in the United States, the Americas, and Canada. Moreover, this course intends to teach the uses of data science and archival methods in humanities. Therefore, students are required to contribute to a database on the history of herbal medicine in America.

1. Introduction (What is herbal medicine?) – Week 1: Digital Humanities and Historical Research


2. Topic 1. Herbal Medicine: Where is Beringia? First people of the Americas and climate change - Week 2: starting a web database project


3. Topic 2. Herbs in Greek and Roman Civilization – Week 3: database dictionary preparation on Pliny who influenced Amerigo Vespucci and Christopher Columbus


5. Topic 4.: The Byzantine, Islamic, and Early-Medieval Western Worlds’ Herbs as Cures– Week 5: image creation lab

6. Topic 5. Herbs in the Renaissance: Why did Europeans try to discover America?– Week 6: entries to the database: dictionary, maps, and scanning old pictures and old documents


Reading: Cohen, Ken. 2006. Honoring the medicine: the essential guide to Native American healing. https://www.overdrive.com/search?q=710DC415-8DF7-4634-8C7E-3EE0F1E1FB7D.

8. Topic 7. Herbs in the Industry before 1776– Week 8: herbal picture research and creation


Readings: Crosby, Alfred W. 1965. America, Russia, hemp, and Napoleon: American trade with Russia and the Baltic, 1783-1812. [Columbus, Ohio]: Ohio State University Press.

Davis, Donald E. 2006. Southern United States: an environmental history. Santa Barbara, Calif: ABC-CLIO.


### 11. Topic 10. American Herbal Cures Today – Week 11: picture and map drawing, article uploads, ethics, and last database entries


### 12. Topic 11: Students’ Project Presentations – Week 12: students present how they contributed to the database

**Bibliography:**


National Archives: https://www.archives.gov/research/maps


**ASSESSMENT:**

1. Participation 10%
2. Presentations 20%
3. Mid-term – a take-home exam 30%
4. Final paper 40%