

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

COURSE CODE. 000

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.**

**Phone:** Ext. 1101

**E-mail:** deryaagis@gmail.com

**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**

Readings: General Guides: Griggs, Barbara. 1987. *Green pharmacy: a history of herbal medicine*. London: Robert Hale.

Hughes, J. Donald. 2016. *What is environmental history?* Malden, MA: Polity.

Schreibman, Susan, Ray Siemens, and John Unsworth. 2007. *A Companion to Digital Humanities*. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. [http://www.123library.org/book\\_details/?id=25479](http://www.123library.org/book_details/?id=25479).

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

Reading: Morritt, Robert D. 2011. *Beringia: archaic migrations into North America*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Pub. <http://public.eblib.com/choice/publicfullrecord.aspx?p=1080475>.

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

Readings: Dargie, Richard, and Adam Hook. 2007. *Ancient Greece health and disease*. Minneapolis, MN: Compass Point Books.

Pliny, H. Rackham, W. H. S. Jones, and D. E. Eichholz. 1960. *Pliny: Natural history*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press.

**4. Topic 3. Islamic Herbal Medicine: effects of the discoverers of America – Week 4: online database and translation research: Computational Linguistics**

Reading: Jundī, Aḥmad Rajāʿī, and ‘Abd al-Raḥmān ‘Awaḍī. 1997. *Herbal formulations used in Islamic medicine: pharmacological, toxicological, biochemical and therapeutic evaluation*. Sulaibikhat, Kuwait : The Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences.

**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**

Readings: Albala, Ken. 2002. *Eating right in the Renaissance*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Crosby, Alfred, and Professor J. R. McNeill. 2003. *The Columbian Exchange*. Westport: ABC-CLIO.  
<http://public.ebib.com/choice/publicfullrecord.aspx?p=4543926>.

Vespucci, Amerigo, Christopher Columbus, Luciano Formisano, and Bartolomé de las Casas. 1992. *Letters from a new world: Amerigo Vespucci's Discovery of America*. New York: Marsilio.

**7. Topic 6. Herbal Medicine for Native Americans – Week -7: maps on new land discoveries and drawing new maps**

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: Beebe, Rose Marie, and Robert M. Senkewicz. 2001. *Lands of promise and despair: chronicles of early California, 1535-1846*. Santa Clara, CA: Santa Clara University.

Crosby, Alfred W. 2015. *Ecological imperialism: the biological expansion of Europe, 900-1900*. Cambridge; New York (N.Y.): Cambridge University Press.

Voeks, Robert A., and John Rashford. 2013. *African ethnobotany in the Americas*. New York: Springer.

**9. Topic 8. Herbs in Different Times: policies of various U.S. presidents after 1776 - Week 9: map creation and articles for the database**

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.  
<http://ebooks.abc-clio.com/?isbn=9781851097852>.

United States National Herbarium. 1980. *Contributions from the United States National Herbarium*. Washington D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press.

**10. Topic 9. Herb Trade during the World Wars and the Cold War – Week 10: database entries**

Sample reading alongside archival research by students: United States. 1940. *Farmers in a changing world*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Another readings to discuss: Brown, Alice Cooke. 2012. *Early American Herb Recipes*. Dover Publications. <http://public.eblib.com/choice/publicfullrecord.aspx?p=1894398>.

Crosby, Alfred W. 2015. *Germs, seeds & animals: studies in ecological history*. London; New York: Routledge. <http://site.ebrary.com/id/11030877>.

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

Readings: American Herb Association. 1984. *American Herb Association's guide to herb gardens in the United States*. Rescue, Calif. (P.O. Box 353, Rescue): The Association.

United States. 2004. *Environmental laws: encroachment on military training? : hearing before the Committee on Environment and Public Works, United States Senate, One Hundred Eighth Congress, first session, April 2, 2003, on the impact of environmental laws upon military training procedures and upon the nation's defense security*. Washington: U.S. G.P.O.

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

#### **Bibliography:**

Kirby, K. J., and C. Watkins. 1998. *The ecological history of European forests*. Oxon, UK: CAB International.

Leung, Ping-Chung, Harry Hong Sang Fong, and Charlie Changli Xue. 2006. *Current review of Chinese medicine: quality control of herbs and herbal materials*. Hackensack, NJ: World Scientific. [http://www.123library.org/book\\_details/?id=52436](http://www.123library.org/book_details/?id=52436).

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

Pliny, and P. G. Walsh. 2009. *Complete letters*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Riddle, John M. 1999. *Eve's herbs: a history of contraception and abortion in the West*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press.

Serafini, Anthony. 2001. *The Epic History of Biology*. New York: Perseus Books Group. <http://LJ3LE7ZK2E.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&L=LJ3LE7ZK2E&S=JCs&C=TC0000431696&T=marc>.

Sumner, Judith. 2004. *American household botany: a history of useful plants, 1620-1900*. Portland, Ore: Timber Press.

Tucker, Arthur O., Thomas DeBaggio, Francesco DeBaggio, and Arthur O. Tucker. 2009. *The encyclopedia of herbs: a comprehensive reference to herbs of flavor and fragrance*. Portland: Timber Press.

Van der Zee, Barbara. 1982. *Green pharmacy: a history of herbal medicine*. London: Jill Norman and Hobhouse.

Whitelaw, Billie, Jonathan Kerrigan, Tom Goodman Hill, Melanie Clark Pullen, Alan Grint, Christopher Green, and Catherine Cookson. 2002. *A dinner of herbs*. Richmond Hill, Ont: BFS Video.

**ASSESSMENT:**

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