

American Medical Student Association

AMSA Academy

Medical Humanities

2017-2018

Monday at 8 pm EDT/EST

Course Director: Evangelia Lazaris
Vice Director: Rahael Gupta
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Grading: Pass/Fail (see below for Completion Requirements)

I. Course Description

In the ever changing world of medicine, it is important to acknowledge the vast amount of knowledge a physician needs in order to best treat their patients. This type of knowledge comes not only from classroom sciences, but also the physician's own experiences, which can come not only from patient interactions, but also from reading literature, listening to music, watching visual arts, and periodically reflecting on one's own self image.

The Medical Humanities Scholars Program is a series of interactive lectures and discussions that aim to identify the core human values needed to become an effective and successful physician. Scholars will also gain a better understanding of current events that relate to medicine, and will be introduced to the impact of culture and arts on medicine. Webinars will include speakers that will lead discussions which will help scholars increase their knowledge of the daily topic. Each scholar will be asked to utilize their new knowledge to further understand the topics. Scholars may then present their findings in the form of a paper, skit or Powerpoint presentation. We hope you will join us on this exciting journey as we learn more about the many aspects of medicine and broaden our understanding of how to become an effective and well-rounded physician.

II. Course Objectives

By the end of this Scholars Program, scholars will:

- Identify a plethora of medical modalities practiced in diverse communities.
- Understand the Basic Medical Ethics necessary to become a compassionate and effective physician.
- Develop perspectives on a number of current medical issues and pertinent global events.
- Commit to a life of self-care and personal well-being.
- Introduce others to topics learned within Medical Humanities.

- Empower themselves to think outside-the-box and dedicate themselves to a lifetime of learning.

III. Format and Procedures

The course will largely be conducted via webinar using an online-based web conference platform. You will need access to either a phone or a computer equipped with audio. The course will be held at its designated time. Scholars are asked to log in before class starts. If there is a speaker for that day scholars should refrain from asking questions and contributing to the discussion until the end. However, if there is an open discussion occurring scholars can openly contribute. Scholars will be asked to participate (verbal or written) at least once per class session. Scholars can debate a topic but we ask them to respect each other's opinions as they would like their opinion to be respected. The final presentations will be available online and scholars will be required to respond to at least three of their peer's projects.

Course Credit

- Scholars may be able to receive elective credit from their home institution for this course. While AMSA unfortunately cannot grant elective credit at this time, we are happy to support you with documentation that will aid you as you seek elective credit.
- Each scholar that completes the requirements outlined in Section V below will be provided an official Certificate of Completion.

IV. Expectations of Scholars

- Behavioral Expectations - Scholars are expected to:
 - Contribute to the discussions enthusiastically and actively.
 - Be respectful to speakers, Course Directors and co-scholars.
 - Remain professional in all classes; even if they are presented from new opinions which differ from their own.
 - Fulfill all attendance and participation requirements outlined in Section V.
 - Contact the Course Directors if for some reason the above requirements cannot be met.
- Pragmatic Expectations - Scholars will:
 - Complete the assigned readings and the corresponding exercise; assignments will be due one week prior to class.
 - Appropriate sufficient time (1-1.5 hours per class) in their schedule so they may attend, and fully participate in, each class.
 - Present a Final Project on the final day of class; February 6th, 2017.
 - Be present and on time for classes; making sure to mute their microphone at the beginning of class so that peaceful quorum may be established.
 - Scholars will inform Course Directors of planned absences at least two weeks prior to missed class so alternative arrangements can be made; emergency circumstances will be considered but up to the discretion of the Course Directors

V. Completion Requirements for Certification

- Class attendance
 - *Domestic Students & International Students in the Caribbean and Americas:*

- Must attend 80% of webinars
- Can watch **up to two** recorded webinars and complete a reflection of the webinar to obtain make-up credit for attendance
- Submit a SHORT reflection of the webinar to the Course Directors within 72 hours of the original session
- *International Students in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia*
 - Must watch 80% of recorded webinars within 48 hours of the original session
 - Submit a SHORT reflection of the webinar to the Course Directors within 72 hours of the original session
 - Complete quizzes prior to and following each webinar
- Participation policy
 - Must post to 80% of online discussion questions
- Final Project
 - Requirements
 - Scholars will need to combine three topics from the course into their final project which can be presented in a skit, PowerPoint, audio/visual project or paper format.
 - Guidelines
 - Scholars can utilize any sources that are available to them for information as long as they are credible.
 - Ideas
 - Analysis of the medical response in film and real life emergency medical situations
 - A skit on an effective physician visit versus ineffective medical visit
 - Analysis of racial stereotypes that affect medical care
 - Project impacting the scholars' community based on an important current events issue
 - Response to community service project
 - Timeline
 - October: Begin brainstorming possible ideas for the Final Project
 - November 6th: Submit Topic for Final Project; Must be approved by Course Directors prior to November 15th
 - December 18th: Submit First Draft of Final Project; Instructors will provide feedback within 10 days
 - January 15th: Submit Second Draft of Final Project
 - January 29th: Submit Final Draft of Project
 - February 5th: Submit/Present Final Project

VI. Inclusivity Statement

We understand that our members represent a rich variety of backgrounds and perspectives. The American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Academy is committed to providing an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity. While working together to build this community we ask all members to:

- Share their unique experiences, values and beliefs.
- Be open to the views of others.
- Honor the uniqueness of their colleagues.
- Appreciate the opportunity that we have to learn from each other in this community.
- Value each other's opinions and communicate in a respectful manner.
- Keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature.
- Use this opportunity together to discuss ways in which we can create an inclusive environment in this course and within the AMSA community.

VII. Course Schedule: (May change to accommodate guest presenters needs)

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
October 2nd, 2017	Introduction to Medical Humanities/Perspectives on Mental Health in the Medical Community (Overview)	October 5, 2017
October 16, 2017	Self-Care and Student Well-Being	October 19, 2017
November 6, 2017	Introduction to Integrative Medicine and Approach to the Current Opioid Epidemic	November 9, 2017
November 27, 2017	Introduction to Medical Ethics/Values of a Physician	November 30, 2017
December 4, 2017	Illness Narrative/Facing Mortality	December 7, 2017
December 18, 2017	Physicians in Current Events	December 21, 2017
January 8, 2018	Cross-Cultural Medicine	January 11, 2018
January 22, 2018	Medicine in the Film/Media	January 25, 2018
February 5, 2018	Presentation of Final Projects	February 5, 2018