



Centre for Health Studies Apothecaries' Hall

The Society of Apothecaries of London,
Black Friars Lane, London, *EC4V 6EJ*

FACULTY OF THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY

Programme for the History of Medicine Course September 2025 - June 2026

Course Director: Dr Anna Simmons
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Academic Training Manager: Matthew Scudder
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DHMSA Convenor: Dr Tina Matthews
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Autumn Term Foundations of Medical History

Day 1 – In-Person at Apothecaries' Hall - 27 September 2025 – Introductory Day

930-1000	Registration	
1000-1015	Welcome from the Master	
1015-1030	Introduction to the Course	Dr Anna Simmons (Course Director)
1030-1045	Hist-Hikers Guide to Brightspace and Q&A	Matthew Scudder (Academic Training Officer)
1045-1115	Coffee	
1115-1215	Starting out in History	Dr Caitjan Gainty (Kings College London)
	Lunch Break	
1315-1415	The Kinds of Medicine: An Introduction to the History of Medicine	Professor William Bynum (UCL)
1430-1515	Tour of the Hall	John Ford
1530-1630	Drinks Nearby	

Day 2 – Online on Zoom only - 11 October 2025 – Exploring Medical History I

1000-1100	An Introduction to Ancient Medicine Part I	Prof Laurence Totelin (Cardiff University)
1115-1215	An Introduction to Ancient Medicine Part II (including source discussion)	Prof Laurence Totelin (Cardiff University)
1215-1230	Online Meet the Course Director and Academic Training Officer	
1315-1415	What's the point of the History of Medicine?	Ross MacFarlane (QMUL)
1430-1530	Locating Medical History Resources and Introductory Info on DHMSA	Dr Tina Matthews

Day 3 – In-Person at Apothecaries Hall - 1 November 2025 – Exploring Medical History II

945-1045	Medicine in the Islamic World	Professor Vivian Nutton (UCL)
1100-1200	Medieval Medicine and the Church	Professor Carole Rawcliffe (UEA)
1200-1230	Exploring the Apothecaries' Archive – Practical Session Group 1	Dr Anna Simmons (UCL)
1315-1415	At the Cutting Edge? Becoming a Late Medieval Surgeon	Professor Carole Rawcliffe (UEA)
1430-1530	Hospitals in History	Dr Helen Bynum (Independent Medical Historian)
1530-1600	Exploring the Apothecaries' Archive - Practical Session Group 2	Dr Anna Simmons (UCL)

Day 4 – Online on Zoom only - 15 November 2025 – Exploring Medicine History III

1000-1100	Ancient Egyptian Medicine	Professor Rosalie David (Manchester University)
1115-1215	Paleopathology	Professor Rosalie David (Manchester University)
1315-1415	Early Modern Medicine	Dr Holly Fletcher (Manchester University)
1430-1530	Medicine in the Eighteenth Century	Dr Alun Withey (Exeter University)

Day 5 – Online on Zoom only - 6 December 2025 – Exploring Medical History IV

1000-1100	Material and Visual Culture of Medicine	Dr Anna Maerker (Kings College London)
1115-1215	Using Images in Medical History:	Dr David Wright (Edinburgh)
1315-1415	Women in Healthcare and Medicine, 1700 – 1950	Dr Sarah Chaney (Queen Mary)
1430-1500	Apothecaries and General Practice	Dr Martin Edwards (London)
1500-1530	Session to Introduce DHMSA	Dr Tina Matthews

Winter Term

Themes and Developments in Medical History

Day 6 – Online on Zoom Only – 10 January 2026 – Plagues and Infectious Diseases

0945-1100	Plagues and Sepsis	Dr Marina Morgan (Exeter University)
1115-1215	Infectious Diseases and the Birth of Microbiology	Dr Edward Wawrzynczak (London)
1315- 1415	Tuberculosis and other respiratory disorders	Dr Noel Snell (London)
1430-1530	Public Health Ancient and Modern	Dr Rosalind Stanwell-Smith (London)

Day 7 – Online on Zoom only -24 January 2026 – The Evolution of Clinical Practice

1000-1100	An Introduction to the History of Medical Ethics	Professor David Misselbrook (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland of Bahrain)
1115-1215	The Heart in Medicine	Dr Caroline Coats (Glasgow University)
1315-1415	The Power of the Professions	Dr Caitjan Gainty (Kings College London)
1430-1530	The History of Orthopaedics and Trauma (and Wounds)	Mr Bryan Rhodes (Lancaster)

Day 7.5 – Optional session: Afternoon visit to the London Archives – Friday 6 February 2026

1330-1530	Guided Tour of the London Archives	Rachel Barrett
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Day 8 – In-Person at Apothecaries' Hall - 7 February 2026 - Renaissance Medicine and Sharing Historical Research

945-1015	Coffee	
1015-1115	How to' Session – Archives to Outputs	Briony Hudson (Independent Pharmacy Historian)
1115-1215	'How to' Session - Writing Medical History	Dr Caitjan Gainty (Kings)
1315-1415	Sharing History Research – Round Table Discussion	
1430-1530	Renaissance Learned Medicine, 1492-1600	Professor Vivian Nutton (UCL)

Recorded Lecture Available: Becoming an Historian

Professor Tim Hitchcock (Sussex)

Day 9 – Online on Zoom only - 21 February 2026 – Psychiatry, Patient Voices and Military Medicine

1000-1100	Psychiatry from the Asylum to the Second World War	Dr Kate McAllister (Kent University)
1115-1215	Psychiatry: The NHS and beyond	Dr Kate McAllister (Kent University)
1315-1415	Patient Voices	Prof Jessica Meyer (Leeds University)
1430-1530	Healing under Fire: The Development of British Military Medicine	Dr Jack Davies (Imperial War Museum)

Day 10 – In Person Apothecaries’ Hall - 7 March 2026 – Anatomy, Drugs and Empire

1000-1100	History of Anatomy Part I	Professor Susan Standring (KCL)
1100-1115	Coffee Break	
1115-1145	History of Anatomy Part II – John and William Hunter	Professor Susan Standring (KCL)
1200-1230	Exploring the Apothecaries’ Archive – Group 1 (followed by lunch from 12.30 to 13.30)	Dr Anna Simmons (UCL)
1300-1330	Exploring the Apothecaries’ Archive – Group 2 (preceded by lunch 1200-1300)	Dr Anna Simmons (UCL)
1340-1440	Western Medicine and the British Empire	Professor Anna Greenwood (Nottingham University)
1455 -1555	Drugs and the History of Therapeutic Innovation	Dr Edward Wawrzynczak (London)

Spring Term Medical Traditions, Specialties and Collections

Day 11 – Online on Zoom Only – 21 March 2026 – Drugs, Anaesthesia and Medical Traditions

1000-1100	Chinese Medicine	Dr Nancy Holroyde-Downing (London)
1115-1215	Eat This Root: A Botanical History of Medicine	
1315-1415	The History of Anaesthesia	Dr Kim Walker (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Royal Holloway)
1430-1530	Introduction to Ayurveda	Dr Alistair McKenzie (Edinburgh) Professor Dagmar Wujastyk (University of Alberta)
1530-1600	‘How to’ Session – Skills for the DHMSA Essay	Dr Tina Matthews

Recorded Lecture Available: ‘How To’ Session - Skills for the Test Lecture

Dr Tina Matthews

Day 12 -In-Person at Apothecaries’ Hall – 25 April 2026 – History of Medicine Open Day

0930-1000	Coffee and Welcome	
1000-1045	The Development of Radiology Part I	Professor Adrian Thomas (Canterbury Christ Church University)
1050-1130	The Development of Radiology Part II	Professor Adrian Thomas (Canterbury Christ Church University)
1145-1245	The Evolution of Surgery	Dr Chris George (St George’s, Epsom and St Helier Hospitals, London)
1245-1345	Lunch	
1345-1445	The History of Neuroscience	Professor Martin Rossor (UCL)
1500-1600	Medicine in Literature and Film	Dr Claire Elliott (UCL)
1600	Drinks Nearby	

Day 13 - In Person at Guy’s Hospital and the Gordon Museum -16 May 2026 - Visits and Lectures

945	Meet at Guy’s in the colonnade	
1000-1030	History of Guy’s Hospital	Dr Claire Elliott (UCL)
1030-1100	Visit to the Gordon Museum	
1100-1200	Lecture on the History of Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Dr Claire Elliott (UCL)
1215 -1300	Visit to Old Operating Theatre and Herb Garret	
1300-1400	Lunch	
1400-1500	Medicine and Art	Dr Bill Edwards
1500-1545	Microscopes and Museums Tour	Dr Tina Matthews (London)

Day 14 – In-person at Apothecaries’ Hall – 6 June 2026 - Medical Collections

1000-1100	A great rage for mahogany, varnish and expensive floor cloth”: a history of the pharmacy shop.	Briony Hudson (Independent Pharmacy Historian)
1115-1200	Medicine collections in Museums	Dr Katie Dabin (Science Museum)
1200- 1230	Historical Perspectives on Medical Collections	Dr Subhadra Das (UCL)
1230-1315	Discussion Session with speakers on Ethics of Museum Collecting	
1315-1415	Lunch	
1415-1515	Walking Tour of Blackfriars	Ross MacFarlane (QMUL)
1530-1630	Closing Drinks Nearby	

DHMSA Examination Information

Website address: <https://www.apothecaries.org/diploma-in-the-history-of-medicine/>

DHMSA Exam Enquiries

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