

MEGAN COLE ***SAMPLE WORKSHOP OUTLINES***

II. LITERATURE AND MEDICINE

Medicine and Literature share a fundamental concern with the human condition.

They both ask:

What does it mean to be human?

What can threaten that humanity?

And what can we do to restore balance and health?

Discussing the literature of illness and health gives us a safe place to practice interpretive skills crucial to medical practice. By reading narratives and stories on medical themes, we become better able to read our patients, and thus to make more informed diagnoses.

The course will explore various genres of literature and examine the ways they each reveal the complexities and health, illness, and practice.

Suggested reading lists will be provided.



Session 1: **How Literature and Medicine Are Connected**

Session 2: **The Poem in Medicine**

Session 3: **The Short Story in Medicine**

Session 4: **The Play in Medicine**

Session 5: **The First-Person Narrative in Medicine**

Session 6: **Connecting Themes and Developing Conclusions**

Note: Literature and Medicine courses can be organized by genres of literature or by types of illness (for example, renal failure, cancer, stroke, and AIDS), and can be of any number of sessions

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