

Module Title: Global Medical Humanities: the Human in Medicine

Module Code: COM6063

Credit Value: 15

Level: 6

Pre-requisite modules:

Content Description

This module will introduce students to the field of the medical humanities. Drawing widely from a range of genres – literary fiction, journalistic accounts, film, documentary – and disciplines – anthropology, literary criticism, film studies, science and technology studies, philosophy – we will explore topics such as the ethical quandaries of medical care, the geopolitical and social divides that shape illness and healthcare, the ways in which medicine constructs its objects of study and treatment, the role of the humanities in cultures of caregiving, and the part the humanities play in our everyday understanding of health, life and death.

Module Aims

The primary learning outcome in this module is that you will think about learning as a mindset and a process - it has no end point.

Upon completion of this module, you will have:

- Gained familiarity with key issues in the field of medical humanities
- Understood the ethical and culturally specific questions that arise in medical practice
- Grasped how the study of cultural texts can impact and enrich medical practice
- Developed the ability to reflect on and critically synthesise the relationship between medicine and different theoretical perspectives from the humanities
- Developed the capacity to understand differing and often deeply opposed ideas concerning human beings and the societies in which they live
- Gained openness to varying interpretations of events and social issues, and the ways in which they are informed by different philosophical and cultural perspectives