



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018

12:00-1:00PM

IN BURNETT SEMINAR ROOM
(FIRST FLOOR OF ARTS & LETTERS)

RECONSTRUCTING HEALTH CARE IN THE DISTANT PAST --- CASE STUDIES FROM NEW KINGDOM EGYPT (1550-1070 BCE)

Dr. Anne Austin (University of Missouri, St. Louis)

We often think of health care as part of the modern state, but could organized health care have existed in the past as well? If so, how would we know? This masterclass will test the limits of our knowledge of past health care by evaluating evidence for care in ancient Egypt's New Kingdom period (1550-1070 BCE). We will explore translated Egyptian texts ranging from bureaucratic records (including recorded sick days and ration distributions) to medical papyri (like medical treatises and amuletic texts) to find evidence for health care in the ancient world. We will debate what constitutes care, how it was used, and who did (or did not) have access to it. We will also discuss when it does or does not appear in the archaeological and textual records.

HISTORY MASTERCLASS

Who had access to health care in ancient Egypt and what kind of medicine did they receive?

How was Egyptian medicine effective without modern medical knowledge?

Mummies. Amulets.

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