

NST2BBS

Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Paper 65 and 13_1: Early Medicine

You should answer three questions. All questions carry equal weighting.

You should spend no more than three hours on answering all the questions, and a word limit is set of no more than 1,500 words per answer, so no more than 4,500 words for the whole paper.

All your answers for this paper should be submitted in one DOC, DOCX or PDF document. Each answer should be clearly headed with the question number and the question.

Put your Blind Grade Number (BGN) at the start of the document. Do not put your name anywhere in the document.

1. Did sixteenth-century Europe witness an “anatomical renaissance”?
2. Was the practice of first-hand observation valued more highly by early modern physicians than it had been by their medieval predecessors?
3. Who was permitted to practise medicine in early modern European society?
4. Was the household the most important site of healing in early modern Europe?
5. What role did the stars play in the life of early modern peoples?
6. Did contagion transform the Galenist understanding of medicine?
7. How did the emergence of print shape the work of physicians?
8. How did early modern Europeans explain human diversity across the globe?
9. How did the emergence of the Atlantic World shape early modern medicine?
10. Why did the experience and treatment of illness necessarily differ from one individual to another in premodern China?

11. Were plants the most important material for early modern pharmacists?
12. What kinds of primary source have early modernists used to write patient-centred histories of medicine?

END OF PAPER

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Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Paper 66 and 13_2: Modern Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

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1. "Read little, see much, do much" (Fourcroy). How, and to what extent, did practices of visualisation gain importance in nineteenth-century medicine?
2. Why were nineteenth-century practitioners of medicine and public health so preoccupied with dirt and bad odours, and to what extent had this changed by 1900?
3. Assess the changing role of instruments in the diagnosis of disease between 1780 and 1920.
4. How and with what consequences did medicine become a profession in the nineteenth century?
5. "The central science of medicine is physiology." Who supported and who resisted this view in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and why?
6. Assess the impact of "scientific management" on hospital medicine between 1900 and 1950.
7. To what extent did the making of penicillin mark a "revolution" in the development of new drugs?

8. How, and to what extent, did scientific drugs change the experience and management of chronic illness in the twentieth century? Discuss with respect to diabetes AND/OR cancer.
9. Ann Oakley's book *The Captured Womb* claims that the medical profession has sought to control women's reproductive capacity. Consider her argument with reference to the histories of contraception and pregnancy.
10. What impact did global Cold War tensions have on medicine and public health?
11. To what extent is the history of the Rockefeller Foundation also a history of international health?
12. What does the history of eugenics tell us about the history of medicine around 1900?

END OF PAPER

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Paper 13_3: Philosophy of Science and Medicine

You should answer three questions. All questions carry equal weighting.

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All your answers for this paper should be submitted in one DOC, DOCX or PDF document. Each answer should be clearly headed with the question number and the question.

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1. Do evolutionary biologists need to embrace a reciprocal account of causation?
2. Does the selected-effect account of functions do justice to biological practice? Does it need to?
3. What is the relation between scientific explanation and rational choice models?
4. Must economics be a deductive science?
5. Which value judgments help economics and which harm it?
6. What is a normativist approach to disease? Is it compelling?
7. What kind of evidence should we have to assess the benefits and harms of medical interventions? Why?
8. How exactly should the benefits of a disease screening programme be measured?
9. "Without an explanation of consciousness, we cannot know whether an AI is conscious." Discuss.

10. Does cognitive science cast doubt on the view that our actions are caused by our beliefs and desires?
11. Should we treat severe addicts as though they are responsible for their addictive behaviours?
12. What makes a generalisation a law of nature?

END OF PAPER

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Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Paper 13_4: Ethics of Medicine

You should answer three questions. All questions carry equal weighting.

You should spend no more than three hours on answering all the questions, and a word limit is set of no more than 1,500 words per answer, so no more than 4,500 words for the whole paper.

All your answers for this paper should be submitted in one DOC, DOCX or PDF document. Each answer should be clearly headed with the question number and the question.

Put your Blind Grade Number (BGN) at the start of the document. Do not put your name anywhere in the document.

1. How did the theory of class struggle shape the history of science in the People's Republic of China?
2. "Algorithmic bias is inevitable so it is wrong for medical practitioners to trust algorithms." Discuss.
3. Do psychiatric diagnoses do more harm than good?
4. What is the most significant ethical challenge to mitochondrial donation technologies? How, if at all, can that challenge be answered?
5. "Making cancer screening compulsory would promote population health; therefore, we ought to make cancer screening compulsory." Is there anything wrong with this argument?
6. Is the "Value Free Ideal" viable?
7. "If a computer answered this question, that would be cheating." Discuss with reference to work in the sociology or ethics of technology.
8. Are all reproductive technologies "eugenic"?
9. Which health inequalities, if any, should we care about?

10. When should we trust medical experts?
11. Can technology ever be value-neutral?
12. Should we welcome the automation of mental health support?

END OF PAPER

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Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Paper 45: Philosophy and Ethics of Medicine

You should answer four questions in total; at least one from Section A and at least one from Section B. All questions carry equal weighting.

You should spend no more than three hours on answering all the questions, and a word limit is set of no more than 1,000 words per answer.

All your answers for this paper should be submitted in one DOC, DOCX or PDF document.

Each answer should be clearly headed with the question number and the question.

Put your Blind Grade Number (BGN) at the start of the document. Do not put your name anywhere in the document.

SECTION A: Ethics of Medicine

1. What is the most significant challenge to mitochondrial donation? What is the best response to that challenge?
2. "Making cancer screening compulsory would promote population health; therefore, we ought to make cancer screening compulsory." Is there anything wrong with this argument?
3. Is the "Value Free Ideal" viable?
4. Are all reproductive technologies "eugenic"?
5. Which health inequalities, if any, should we care about?
6. When should we trust medical experts?

SECTION B: Philosophy of Medicine

7. What is the best argument for the provision of intellectual property protection in medicine? Is it compelling?

8. What criteria should be used to determine if a person has died?
9. How should problems with the medical research agenda be resolved?
10. What evidence is needed to test the effectiveness of a medical intervention?
11. Should mental disorders be universal?
12. Does Rosenhan's experiment undermine the value of psychiatry?

END OF PAPER