

NST2BBS

Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Paper 65: Early Medicine

Also Paper 11 in HST2 & HSP2 Historical Tripos Part II

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 useful are visual sources in understanding early medical knowledge and practice?
2. How and why were the non-naturals important in early medicine?
3. Account for the longevity of astrology as a guiding principle of healing.
4. Were hospitals or households the most important places for healing in early medicine?
5. How did optical instruments challenge the medical and scientific ideas of the Renaissance?
6. "Blood-letting was the most common and widespread form of medical intervention in early medicine." Discuss.
7. What, if anything, is wrong with the notion of the early modern medical marketplace?
8. How did the Black Death change attitudes to health and medicine?

9. Was infertility a disease in early modern Europe?
10. To what extent is it possible to write a history of patient experiences of illness and healing in medieval and early modern Europe? What methods and sources would you use to do so?
11. If you lived in London in 1600, whom would you consult if your daughter had a fever and why?
12. Discuss the relative importance of value, taste and order in natural history collections between 1550 to 1750.
13. What role did the Jesuits play in the history of Chinese medicine?
14. What part did medicinal drugs have in practices of healing around 1700?
15. According to European physicians, how did the tropics affect the human body?

END OF PAPER