

Prescription to Prediction: The Ancient Sciences in Cross-Cultural Perspective

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore – Charles Commons, Salon A (3301 N Charles St.)

Thurs. Oct. 6th – Medicine and Pharmacy

8:30-9:10 Check-in (at Charles Commons)

Welcome and Opening Speech: Richard Jasnow
Johns Hopkins University

Session 1: Keynote

Chair: Richard Jasnow

*45 min paper, 15 min discussion

9:30-10:30	Ann Ellis Hanson <i>Yale University</i>	<i>Prescription to Prediction: A Plethora of Greek Doctors</i>
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10:30-11:00 Coffee

Session 2: Pharaonic & Babylonian Medicine

Chair: Joachim Quack

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

11:00-11:30	Sofie Schiødt <i>University of Copenhagen</i>	<i>Solar and Lunar Dependent Recipes in Ancient Egypt</i>
11:30-12:00	Ulrike Steinert <i>Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz</i>	<i>Cross-Cultural Transmission of Medical Knowledge in the Ancient Near East and the Mediterranean: Glimpses from Mesopotamian Women's Health Care Texts</i>
12:00-12:30	Troels Pank Arbøll <i>University of Oxford</i>	<i>Assyro-Babylonian String Theory: Can We Use Treatments for Curing Diseases Affecting the Stringy Structures of the Body (šer'ānu) to Evaluate Ancient Medical Conceptions?</i>

12:30-1:30 Lunch

Session 3: Demotic Medical Texts in Cross-Cultural Perspective

Chair: Kim Ryholt

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

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| 1:30-2:00 | Friedhelm Hoffmann
<i>Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München</i> | <i>P. Vienna D 6257 and Some Insights into the History of Scholarly Textual Transmission in Antiquity</i> |
| 2:00-2:30 | Amber Jacob
<i>Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU</i> | <i>Cross-cultural Encounters in the Transmission of Medical Knowledge: Case Studies from Graeco-Roman Egypt</i> |

Session 4: Innovation and Reception in Greco-Roman Medicine of the Imperial Period

Chair: Joshua Smith

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

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| 2:30-3:00 | Claire Bubb
<i>Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU</i> | <i>Galen and Greco-Roman Theories of Digestion</i> |
| 3:00-3:30 | Kassandra Miller
<i>Bard College</i> | <i>Immediately, Immediately, Quickly, Quickly! The Need for Speed in the Medical Marketplaces of the Roman Period</i> |

3:30-4:00 Coffee

Session 5: Coptic and Arabic Medicine and Alchemy

Chair: Lawrence Principe

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

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| 4:00-4:30 | Tonio Sebastian Richter
<i>Freie Universität Berlin</i> | <i>A Coptic Archive of Medical and Alchemical Papyri, Supposedly from Nagʿ al-Mašāyḥ (Lepidotonpolis)</i> |
| 4:30-5:00 | Anne Grons
<i>Philipps-Universität Marburg</i> | <i>Coptic Pharmacological Prescriptions: Ways of Organizing and Structuring Knowledge in Collections of Prescriptions</i> |
| 5:00-5:30 | Elaine van Dalen
<i>Columbia University</i> | <i>The Arabic Hippocrates: Classical Islamic Reconstructions of the Aphorisms</i> |

End of conference day one

Reception

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Fri. Oct. 7th – Astronomy, Astrology, Divination

Session 1: Keynote

Chair: Alexander Jones

*45 min paper, 15 min discussion

9:00-10:00 Francesca Rochberg
 UC Berkeley

Hellenistic Astrology and Astronomy in the History of Ideas

10:00-10:30 Coffee

Session 2: Dream Divination Across Cultures

Chair: Paul Delnero

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

10:30-11:00 Calloway Scott
 University of Cincinnati

Back to the Future: Hereditary Seer-craft in Ancient Greece

11:00-11:30 Matthew Rutz
 Brown University

*“It is the Bound Tablet-Basket of the Gods”:
Legibility in Mesopotamian Dream Divination*

11:30-12:00 Luigi Prada
 Uppsala University

*The Evolution of Ancient Egyptian Oneiromancy from
Ramses II to Trajan: Differences and Reasons of
Change between Pharaonic and Graeco-Roman
Dream Books*

Session 3: Babylonian Astral Sciences

Chair: Matthew Rutz

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

12:00-12:30 John Steele
 Brown University

A New Cuneiform Eclipse Text

12:30-1:00 Willis Monroe
 *University of British
Columbia*

Tabular Data and Knowledge Formation

1:00-2:00 Lunch

Session 4: Demotic Astrological Texts

Chair: Marina Escolano-Poveda

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

2:00-2:30	Joachim Quack <i>Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg</i>	<i>Some Unpublished Demotic Astrological Fragments</i>
2:30-3:00	Ida Christensen <i>Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU</i>	<i>“It is the Exaltation of Jupiter”: Scientific Classifications and Theoretical Content in Demotic Astrological Manuals from the Tebtunis Temple Library</i>
3:00-3:30	Kim Ryholt <i>University of Copenhagen</i>	<i>Demotic Astrological Literature: A Survey</i>
3:30-4:00	Lingxin Zhang <i>Yale University</i>	<i>“Gender Trouble” in Ancient Egyptian Divinatory Texts</i>

4:00-4.30 Coffee

Session 5: Greek Astral Sciences

Chair: John Steele

*20 min paper, 10 min discussion

4:30-5:00	Alexander Jones <i>Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU</i>	<i>Greco-Egyptian Almanacs and the Astronomy Underlying Them</i>
5:00-5:30	Francesca Schironi <i>University of Michigan</i>	<i>Using Babylonian Astronomy to Improve Greek Astronomy: Hipparchus’ Exegesis of the Phaenomena of Aratus and Eudoxus</i>

Closing Remarks: Alexander Jones
Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU

End of conference day two

Conference dinner