

SYLLABUS
Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care[®]
Brigham and Women's Hospital
2010

Facilitator: Amy Ship
Hospital Liaisons Anne Fladger

Session 1, January 4th : The Patient's Experience

Nancy Mairs, "On Being a Cripple" (essay)
Marjorie Williams, "Hit by Lightning" (essay)
Randall Jarrell, "The X-ray Waiting Room in the Hospital" (poem)

Session 2, February 1st: Caregiving across Lines of Class and Culture

Ernest Hemingway, "Indian Camp" (story)
Danielle Ofri, "Torment" (essay)
Veneta Masson, from *Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill*: "The Promise," "The Screamer in Room 4," "Admission," "Rehab at the Florida Avenue Grill," "Maggie Jones," "Litany of Dolores," "Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain" (poems)

Session 3, March 1st: Patients' Families: Advocates, Comforters, Secondary Sufferers

Lorrie Moore, "People Like That Are the Only People Here" (story)
Anne Harleman, "Thoreau's Laundry" (story)
Donald Hall, "Her Long Illness" and "Air Shatters in the Car's Small Room" (poems)

Session 4, April 5th: The Hospital in the Community

Abraham Verghese, *My Own Country* (memoir)

Session 5, May 3rd: Clinicians under Stress

Dannie Abse, "Case History" (poem)
Mikhail Bulgakov, "The Steel Windpipe" (story)
Constance Studer, "Mercy" (story)

Session 6, June 7th: Confronting Mortality

Louisa May Alcott, "A Night" (chapter from her memoir *Hospital Sketches*, about her service as a nurse in a military hospital during the Civil War)
Joan Didion, "After Life" (essay)
Marjorie Williams, "The Halloween of My Dreams" (essay)
Jane Kenyon, "Let Evening Come" (poem)