

## SYLLABUS

*Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care*®

Northampton VA Medical Center

2012

*Facilitator:* Will Ryan

*Hospital Liaison:* Cathy Tenerowicz

### **Session 1, February 7: Inside Bravery: How Soldiers Live with Death**

Drew Faust, “Preface”, “Dying: To Lay Down My Life”, “Believing and Doubting: What Means this Carnage” in *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War* (excerpts)

Wilfred Owen, “Anthem for Doomed Youth” (poetry)

Siegfried Sassoon, “How to Die” (poetry)

### **Session 2, March 13: Horror without Purpose**

Philip Caputo, *A Rumor of War* (book)

### **Session 3, April 10: Experiencing Trauma**

Gina Berriault, “The Stone Boy” (short story)

Curtis Sittenfeld, *American Wife: A Novel* (excerpt)

JoAnn Beard, “The Fourth State of Matter” (story)

Lenore Terr, “Denial and Numbing” in *Too Scared to Cry* (excerpt)

### **Session 4, May 15: Loss and Family**

Louise Erdrich, “The Red Convertible” in *The Red Convertible* (story)

Joan Didion, *The Year of Magical Thinking* (book)

### **Session 5, June 14: War is Forever**

James Bradley, *Flyboys: A True Story of Courage* (book)

### **Session 6, July 10: Soldiering Today**

Helen Benedict, *Sand Queen* (book)