

## Studying Medical Humanities at St Anne's

St Anne's has a strong reputation for medical education and our tutors include former and practising medical clinicians. The College is located adjacent to the Radcliffe Infirmary site, where penicillin was first administered to a patient in 1941. Henry Moseley (an English physicist who pioneered the use of X-ray spectroscopy and determined the atomic numbers of many chemical elements) lived in a house which now forms part of the College campus.

Medical and Scientific Humanities is an interdisciplinary subject which seeks to apply the insights and methods of humanities subjects (including history and philosophy) to medical and scientific practice.

### Study durations

You can apply to study Medical Humanities as a joint subject, with another subject in the humanities, social sciences or some sciences, for any study duration. You cannot study medical humanities as a sole subject.

	Ext AY	AY	Fall Term	Hilary and Trinity terms	Studied with other subjects
<b>Medical Humanities</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Classical Archaeology and Ancient History; Asian and Middle Eastern Studies; English; History; History of Art; Medical Humanities; Modern Languages; Music; Philosophy; Economics; Law; Politics Computer Science; Experimental Psychology; Maths

## Courses

### History of Science:

This course presents a historical survey of the development of both the physical sciences and the life sciences. We study the chief architects of a series of revolutions in science including Galileo, Copernicus, Harvey, Descartes, Newton, Lavoisier, Lyell and Darwin.

8 lectures in Michaelmas, 4 tutorials usually in Michaelmas but it may be possible to offer tutorials in another term.

### Philosophy of Science:

This course discusses scientific method and the validity of scientific knowledge, through the work of philosophers including Carnap, Popper and Kuhn. We study the nature of the problem of induction, hypothesis testing, and the role of chance and determinism in science.

8 lectures in Hilary, 4 tutorials usually in Hilary, but it may be possible to offer tutorials in another term.

### Medical Ethics:

We consider the ethical decisions made by clinicians and patients. Topics include (by agreement) beginning of life; end of life; the doctor-patient relationship; social inequalities in health care; Private versus Public healthcare, women's health, personalised medicine, stem cells and their applications; metabolic syndrome – disease of the 21st Century.

There are no University lectures for Medical Ethics although there are relevant subject talks and events offered across the university. 5 tutorials for Medical Ethics are usually offered in Trinity term.

## **Pre-requisites**

Ideally you have some experience of studying a similar subject at your home institution, which could be an introductory level history philosophy or science course, or a medical or medical related course, but no specific prerequisites are required. Students are not expected to have studied science or medicine previously.