

Bodies for Knowledge: Perspectives on Anatomy, 1600-1900'

2nd Open University History of Medicine Workshop

Monday 20 June 2011, 2-5 pm

London OU Regional Centre

1-11 Hawley Crescent, Camden Town, room 1

The history of anatomy is a blossoming area of research, stimulating the interactions between scholars with different approaches, from medical to social historians and from anthropologists to art historians. Recent studies have called into question received accounts of a disciplinary continuity, stressing fundamental changes in anatomical practice and knowledge. This makes all the more important to recapture the historical specificity of such key activities as the procurement of bodies, the production of visual knowledge and the management of intellectual controversies. Bringing together scholars with a wide range of expertise, this workshop takes stock of recent developments in the field and charts future avenues of investigation.

Programme

Welcome and introduction

Karin Ekholm (Cambridge)

The anatomy of generation and its images: from Padua to England, 1600–1651

Andrew Cunningham (Cambridge)

The end of old anatomy: the Bell-Magendie law revisited

Elizabeth Hurren (Oxford Brookes)

Anatomy and the dissection of the dead in Victorian London

Final discussion