

HI 290.3 Burnham 1/30/19

Discussion Questions for Burnham, *Health Care in America: A History*

Chapters 1-2 → Health & Disease in a Land New to Europeans / Traditional Treatment and Traditional Healers

What three elements comprise any pattern of health care (p. 2)?

When & where does Burnham begin his story of European contact in North America? Is this accurate?

What was "the seasoning" (p. 8-9)?

How can we explain the high numbers of Native American depopulation in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries?

What were common diseases among colonial Europeans, and how did THEY name and categorize them?

What signs marked the beginning of a concept of community health?

What sources does Burnham use to support his narrative in Chapter 1? Whose stories / sources might be missing?

How does Burnham define "traditional" when he discusses treatments and healers in Chapter 2?

What practices or treatments did these traditional healers employ? How effective were they (and how could we know)?

Describe or diagram the system of humoral medicine (p. 38-39).

Identify the new developments in standard medicine during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

What other kinds of practitioners worked alongside each other in the "medical marketplace" of early America?

What were hospitals like in colonial America?