History of Occupational Health and Medicine

Credits: 10

Assessment: 1 x 3000 word essay

This module looks at the historical development of occupational health in an international context over the past three centuries. It also comprises a special focus on the Midlands and considers issues, such as local pioneers in occupational health, the health of Birmingham's workers during industrialisation and the emergence of accident medicine in the region. A broad perspective throughout, however, will allow for some comparison across time and region, and a thorough exploration of the politics of occupational health, including aspects of gender and race, as well as permitting you to explore a wide range of issues in what is a multi-faceted field of enquiry.

On completion of the module you should be able to demonstrate:

- an understanding of the history of occupational health and the ability to set medical ideas within an appropriate social and cultural context
- be aware of the issues concerned, including early occupational health and medicine, the industrial revolution and the birth of industrial medicine, factory reform in the nineteenth century and comparative experiences and the global economy as applies to occupational health
- developing skills in historical analysis as applied to the history of occupational health

Entry requirements

International students:

Depending on your chosen course of study, you may also be interested in the Birmingham Foundation Academy, a specially structured programme for international students whose qualifications are not accepted for direct entry to UK universities. Further details can be found on the **foundation academy web pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/foundation-academy/Pathways/index.aspx)** .

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