

# **Lecture Outline: Health the 21st Century**

- 1. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Patient**
- 2. Health Technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**
- 3. The New Genetics**
- 4. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Body**
- 5. Risk Society & the Lure of the Natural**

# 1. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Patient

- **'Remission Society'**
- **Screening & Prevention**
- **Old & New Diseases**

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# 1. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Patient

- **Post-modern medical 'experts'**
- **Personal & lay knowledge**
- **Old Medicine vs New Medicine**
- **Health as a Commodity**

**“Technology is Circe – handmaiden to the medical profession. The media, some health care professionals & informal kinship & friendship networks bombard individuals with messages about the value of recent biotechnical breakthroughs.”**

# **2. Health Technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

- **Health activism & self-responsibility**
- **Health technology - control & ethics**
- **The potential of technology**
- **Reproductive technologies – IVF & surrogate motherhood**

# 3. The New Genetics

- **The New Genetics & concepts of 'at risk' vs 'abnormal'**
- **Genetics & ethical questions**
- **Genetics & personal responsibility**

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- **Individualism & responsibility**
- **Genetics & family 'pedigrees'**
- **Genetics & 'surveillance creep'**
- **Genetics as the new eugenics?**



# 4. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Body

- **Technology & the Body**
- **Improving the body through supplementation**
- **The 'Trans-human Bodyshop' & 'Cyber-medicine'**
- **Plastic Bodies**

**No longer can we merely dress up the body we happen to have, or improve it by losing weight or having a beauty makeover or straightening out the curve in our nose. We must actually purchase a 'new body.'**

**Glasner, 1995**

# **5. Risk Society & the Lure of the Natural**

- **Discourses of risk in the post-modern world**
- **Responsibility & choice – regulating individual lives & bodies**
- **Risk & surveillance society**

# **5. Risk Society & the Lure of the Natural**

- **Environmental risk**
- **Global risk**
- **'The natural' & managing risk**