

The UVic History of Medicine research collective is interdisciplinary and interdepartmental, with the goal of joining ideas and work that pertain to history of medicine and to the definition of the discipline. The collective welcomes students, professors, researchers and members of the community. It defines itself first as a study group which coordinates existing work at and around UVic in History of Medicine, including presentations and debates.

It organizes a regular work-in-progress seminar for graduate students and faculty, and it also organizes workshops/conferences ("Anatomies of Melancholy", April 2006; "Patients' Tales", April 2007, and "Mirrors of Melancholy", October 2007) with the participation of researchers from other universities.

Aside from "free" topics for lectures and presentations offered by the members of the collective, this year will be dedicated to "the making of sex" (to quote Thomas Laqueur) and its implications both in medical representations of the self and the world, and in the status of medical discourse for the constitution of gender identity. Under the title "Inventing and Reinventing Sex in Medical Discourse," a workshop in April 2009 will gather research papers on the sex of angels, the various types of amazons, ever-changing hermaphrodites, women returning from the dead and... any relevant topic proposed by participants! Rhythm and contents of the regular seminar will be determined at the onset of the academic year. Contact hcazes@uvic.ca to be added to the mailing list.