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Conference organized by  
Sabine Arnaud  
Max Planck Research Group  
The Construction of Norms  
in 17th- to 19th- Century  
Europe and the United States  
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February 6-7, 2014  
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Max Planck Institute  
for the History of Science

Conference room

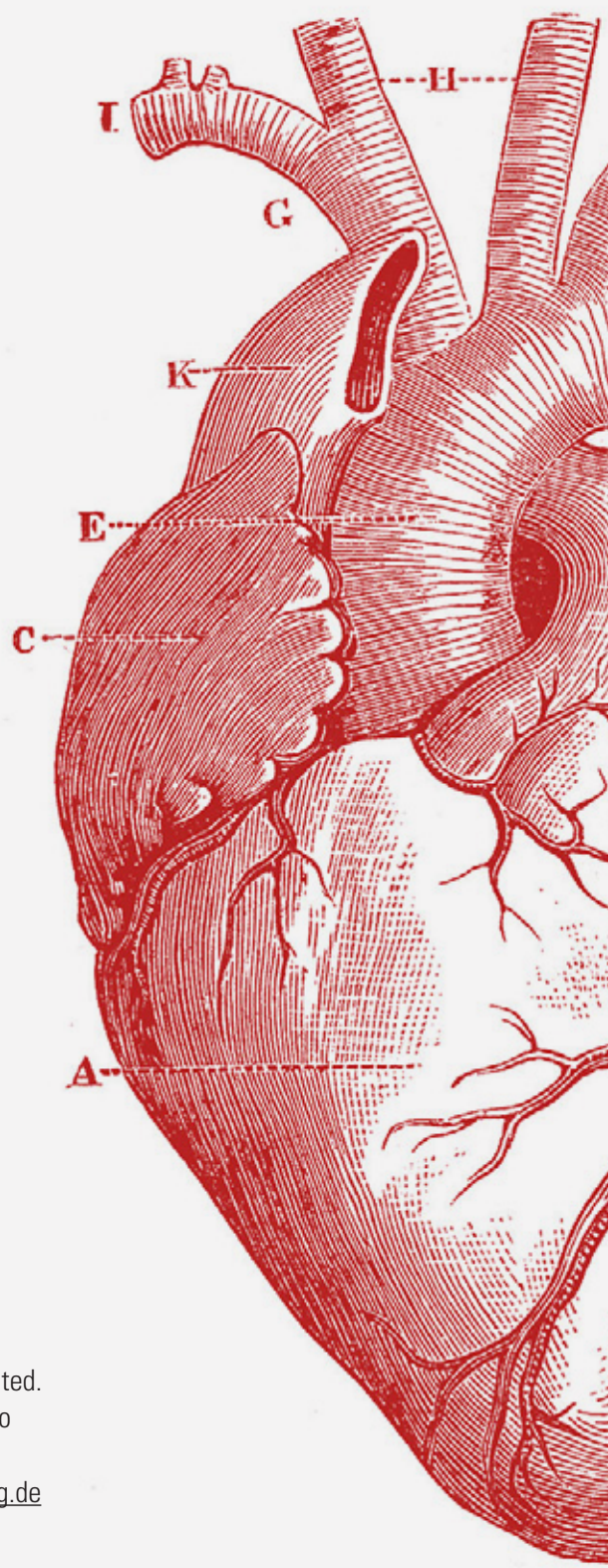
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MAX-PLANCK-GESellschaft



Max Planck  
Institut für  
Wissenschafts-  
geschichte



# RHETORICAL PRACTICES IN MEDICAL WRITINGS AND MEDICAL IMAGININGS IN 17th- TO 19th- CENTURY LITERATURE

## February 6-7, 2014

## MPIWG - Berlin

The event is free, but space is limited.  
Please register sending an email to  
Birgitta von Mallinckrodt  
[bvmallinckrodt@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de](mailto:bvmallinckrodt@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de)

## Rhetorical Practices In Medical Writings and Medical Imaginings in 17th- to 19th- Century Literature

Conference organized by  
**Sabine Arnaud**

This conference investigates the role of writing practices in the enunciation of medical knowledge and the use of medical knowledge and terms outside medical contexts. What is the epistemological role of figures and genres in the denotation and connotation of a medical category? How have cultural imaginings of pathology been constructed and displaced? How have the role of medicine, patients' expectations, and doctors' status changed in the process? Words provide a frame to see the body. They postulate a relationship of obscurity and transparency between the body's inside and its outside, and, like anatomical illustrations, present a clean and stylized body. Focusing on the writing of bodily disorders and sensibility in seventeenth- to nineteenth-century France, Spain, Scotland, England, and Germany, we will examine some of the strategies and articulations of that process.

## Program

### 6

9:30 WELCOME

*Chair* Sean Dyde

10:00 Cathy McClive

Melle Baudoin's Letter on the 'Art of Childbirth': an Unpublished Midwifery Treatise from 1671

10:45 Lucia Aschauer

The Rhetorics of Pregnancy and Birth. Obstetrical Case Studies in Eighteenth Century France

11:30 Mauricio Menchero

The Circulation and Uses of Knowledge (and Ignorance), through Medical Books in New Spain (18th Century)

12:15 Discussion

12:30 LUNCH

*Chair* Irmela Krüger-Fürhoff

13:30 Wayne Wild

The Rhetorical Origins of a Modern Medical Ethics in Enlightenment Scotland

14:15 David Shuttleton

'More Particulars': Narrative Competence and the Limits of Medical Communication

15:00 BREAK

15:30 Sabine Arnaud

Destinies of a Metaphor: Figuring What Cannot Be Defined in French Modern Medicine (1575-1820)

16:15 Open discussion

### 7

9:30 COFFEE

*Chair* Debolina Dey

10:00 Anne Vila

Imagining the Cataleptic in French Medicine and Literature, 1730-1840

10:45 Javier Moscoso

Morbid Jealousy: The Medicalization of Passions in the Early 19th Century

11:30 Janet Beizer

The Paper Eaters: Colette, Balzac, Pica, and the Perversion of Reading

12:15 Discussion

12:30 LUNCH

*Chair* Lara Keuck

13:30 Peter Logan

Dickens and Delusion

14:15 Marie Guthmüller

Dreams as Symptom: Attempts to Integrate Dreams into Psychopathological Diagnoses in the 19th Century

15:00 BREAK

15:30 Open discussion