This course uses Paul Starr: The Social Transformation of American Medicine (Basic Books NY 1983) and other readings to trace what Starr calls “the rise of a sovereign profession and the making of a vast industry”. The content of lectures in Medicine in the Community, and some material mentioned below, should cause you to ask whether the Australian health care system is following a history like the American history.

The University bookshop has copies of Starr and YOU ARE ADVISED TO OBTAIN YOUR OWN COPY. Material from Starr will NOT be available from the Department of Community Medicine.

Week Beginning:

11 June  NO TUTORIAL
BUT there will be an introductory lecture in the Verco Theatre at 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday 13th June AND you should read two of the following:
Paul Starr: Social Transformation... pp. 1-9, 17-29;

17 June  COMPETITION
Why was competition so fierce in the supply of health care in America in the second half of the 19th century? Did lay people suffer as much as practitioners did? What were the practitioners’ responses?

Reading:
Starr: Social Transformation... pp. 47-59, 96-102 [for Australia, see E. Willis: Medical Dominance (Allen & Unwin Sydney 1983) pp. 36-61].

24 June  LODGES, DISPENSARIES etc.
What were lodges and dispensaries designed to achieve? Did they succeed? Why
1 July  MEDICINE AND SCIENCE
What effect did developments in science towards the end of the 19th century have on the practice of medicine?

Reading: (Two of the following, according to your interests.)
R.E. Kohler: “Medical Reform and Biomedical Science-Biochemistry ...” in Vogel & Rosenberg: Therapeutic Revolution ... pp. 27-66;
G.L. Geison: “Divided We Stand: Physiologists and Clinicians ...” in Vogel & Rosenberg: Therapeutic Revolution ... pp. 67-90;
R.C. Maulitz: “Physician Versus Bacteriologist ...” in Vogel & Rosenberg: Therapeutic Revolution ... pp. 92-109;

8 July  PUBLIC HEALTH
What purposes did public health work fulfill? Did those purposes change over time?

Reading:

15 July  MEDICAL EDUCATION
Was the “Flexner” movement merely a capitalist plot? If not, what other forces were at hand to change the structure of medical education around the turn of the century?

Reading: (two of the following
Brown: Rockefeller Medicine Men ... pp. 135-156a;
22 July  
**SPECIALIZATION**  
What benefits and what disadvantages has the medical profession derived from specialization during the 20th century?

**Readings:** (two of the following).
Starr: *Social Transformation of Medicine* ... pp. 112-127.

29 July  
**HOSPITALS**  
What have been the main types of hospitals, who have they served and who have been the most powerful influences in their policy since 1880?

**Reading:** (two of Vogel, Stevens or Clarke)
M.J. Vogel: “Machine Politics and Medical Care ...” in Vogel & Rosenberg: *Therapeutic Revolution ...* pp. 159-175;
Starr: *Social Transformation ...* pp. 154-169, 347b-351 [for Australia, see K.S. Inglis: *Hospital & Community* (MUP 1958), Ch. 2; and A. Mitchell: *The Hospital South of the Yarra* (Alfred Hosp. Melbourne 1977), Intro. & Ch. 4.

5 August  
**“HEALTH” INSURANCE**  
What have been the pressures for national health insurance in America since 1930; what have been the main points of opposition to such a policy; has the compromise been effective?

**Reading:**
Starr: *Social Transformation ...* pp. 266-315

2 Sept.  
**MEDICAL SCIENCE**  
In 1984 “Baby Fae” got a baboon’s heart from a not very well-known surgeon in a not very well known hospital. What features of research funding might have prepared the American Public and its medical profession for this event?

**Reading:**
Stevens: *American Medicine and the Public Interest* pp. 358-377;
Starr: *Social Transformation ...* pp. 338-347a;
J. Misticelli: “Baby Fae” (Scope Note No.4, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Washington, January 1985).
9 Sept.  
**THE “MEDICAL-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX”**
Remember our old friend, C. Wright Mills? who would he see as the ‘new men of power’, What would he see as the elements of the “medical-industrial complex” and what might he discern as the underlying “drift” of American medicine?

Reading:
Starr: *Social Transformation ...* pp. 381-393; [for Australia, see Medical Gazette passim, 1984].

16 Sept.  
**COST CONTAINMENT**
Do people have a right to health – or to health care? (Or, defend a list of rights in health care.) Are those rights positive or moral ones? Where does the responsibility lie to meet those rights claims? Where does the “patients’ rights movement” fit into this discussion?

Reading:
Encyclopedia pp. 1507-1516, 1201-1205 AND

23 Sept.  
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
How much say have American consumers of health care? What structures have been promoted to amplify their voice? Have those efforts worked?

Reading: To be advised.

30 Sept.  
**THE STARR THESIS**
Starr’s book has had great popular success in the United States, possibly because his last chapter invokes the American fascination for Old Testament prophecy! What is his thesis?

Reading:
Starr: *Social Transformation ...* pp. 420-449

7 October  
**STARR WARS** (sorry about that one)
After the popular acclaim (and the gratifying sales!) *The Social Transformation ...* began to attract considerable criticism. Who should we believe, Starr or his
critics? And what relevance has all of this for Australia?

**Reading:**
See the collection of reviews in the Department of Community Medicine.