

Breakthroughs That Changed Medicine — and Our Lives **Summer 2026 Syllabus**

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Format: 9 Weeks, Virtual (Zoom)
1.5 Hours per Week
Tuesdays, 10:45-12:15

Course Description

This course explores some of the most important medical breakthroughs that transformed human health and dramatically increased life expectancy over the past two centuries. Each session combines compelling historical stories, clear explanations of the science in everyday language, and thoughtful discussion of ethical and social implications.

Weekly Schedule

May 26	Vaccination: Preventing Disease Before It Starts
June 2	Germ Theory: Discovering the Invisible Enemy Antibiotics: The Penicillin Miracle
June 9	Anesthesia: The Day Surgery Changed Forever
June 16	NO CLASS
June 23	Insulin: Changing the Course of Diabetes
June 30	Medical Imaging: Seeing Inside the Living Body
July 7	Organ Transplantation: Redefining Life and Death
July 14	Genetics: Changing our Knowledge of Diseases
July 21	Nursing Innovations that Changed Healthcare
July 28	Open for Student Requests