



The Health Humanities Working Group

The Health Humanities Working Group is open to graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, fellows, and postdocs interested in exploring the role of the humanities (its methods and training) in the study of health, the body and culture, as well as in healthcare settings, particularly in the service of undergraduate and medical education, patient care, health justice, and community engagement. This working group strives to build a collaborative community of faculty and students from various disciplines to share our research and creativity in order to address topics related to the history and future of health/care, healing, and the human condition.

We seek to build a community of scholars who can contribute to the development of the health humanities, with an emphasis on disability studies and narrative medicine. The working group will harness the expertise of colleagues and students working in folklore and oral history, creative writing and literary studies, narrative ethics, and more to develop research and creative projects at the intersection of health and the body and the humanities.

Sponsored by the [Levan Institute for Humanities](#).

To be included on our mailing list for future events and activities, please access the [Health Humanities Interest Form here](#).

Coordinators

- Erika Wright, Medical Education and English
- Kristiana Willsey, Anthropology
- Julie Van Dam, French/Italian and Gender and Sexuality Studies

Tentative Schedule of Events for 2026-7

February 2026

What is Health Humanities?

Discussion with coordinators about Health Humanities at USC, with particular emphasis on three areas of expertise and how you can get involved:

- Narrative Medicine (Erika Wright and Kairos Llobrera)
- Disability Studies (Julie Van Dam)
- Anthropology, Ethnography, and Ethics (Kristiana Willsey)

Readings: TBD

Discussion Questions: TBD

[Health Humanities Consortium](#)

Date/Location: February XX, 2026 | 11:30-1:00

Location: Tutor Campus Center (TCC) 350/351

March 2026

Bioethics conversation moderated by Kristiana Willsey

Readings: TBD

Date/Location: TBD

April 2026

Narrative Medicine Workshop - facilitated by Kairos Llobrera and Erika Wright

Date/Location/Time: TBD

September 2026

Disability Studies: An Overview and Applications - Discussion hosted by Julie Van Dam

October 2026

November 2026