

**Assignment 2**  
**Lioi/21W.746**  
**Your Place in the Tradition**

For your next essay, I would like you to consider the following question:

*In what sense do you belong to the Western tradition of medicine?*

**Requirements:**

- You must answer this question in dialogue with the Hippocratic Corpus and the history of Western medicine as described in our readings. Dialogue requires direct quotation.
- You must take a personal position, i.e. you may not simply perform an analysis of the tradition's texts and history without relating those texts and that history to your own expectations of doctoring.
- You must also consider at least one alternative to traditional Western medicine in your discussion. This may include one of the enemies of the Hippocratic/Galenic tradition, e.g. the Method, or a contemporary alternative form of medicine. **For this requirement, you must use one academic or professional source from outside our class reading that does not come from the Web**, though the source may be accessed through the Web, e.g. the *New England Journal of Medicine* online.
- Your analysis must include a discussion of what it means to belong to a tradition in itself. This discussion might consider what it means to be a student in a tradition, what the symbols of a tradition mean, what it means to choose one tradition over another, what it means to synthesize traditions, etc.
- The paper must be 5 pages long at minimum, and must conform to standard format for academic essays.