09/20  The Health of Colonists

Health Conditions in Early Modern Europe
   Law of Natural Urban Decline
   Epidemics: Bubonic Plague and Smallpox
   Endemic disease: low life expectancy
   Disparities: rich vs. poor, urban vs. rural

Colonization and Health
   Sea voyages: invigorating or abysmal?
   Arrival, exposure, and high mortality
   Roanoke: vanishing colonies
   Pemaquid: abandoned
   Jamestown: 80% mortality 1607-1625
   Plymouth: 50% die first winter
   Massachusetts Bay: initial failures, eventual success

Demographic Trajectories
   New England Indians: steady and dramatic decline
   Massachusetts Bay: 2.7% growth over 17th century
   Middle Colonies: immigration and growth
   Chesapeake Colonies: population not able to reproduce itself until 1700
   Africans in America: the slave trade

Health Disparities
   Urban vs. rural
   North vs. south

Mortality and Culture: Providence and Faith