09/27 Urbanization and Public Health

Health Environments
- Natural vs. urban environments
- How many hours are you outside each day?

Urbanization
- 1700: 90% of Americans live in towns < 5000
- Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston
- Immigration and urban growth in the 19th century
  - Boston
  - New York
  - New Orleans

Health of Cities
- Substantial urban vs. rural disparities
- Mortality increased with increasing immigration
- Squalor: garbage, sewage, animals: only 20% take one bath per year
- Epidemics: smallpox, measles, yellow fever, cholera

Epidemiology 101
- Epidemics vs. endemic
- Virulence

Disease Theories in the 19th century
- Miasmatism vs. contagionism
- Constitution
- Morality and religion

Responding to Epidemics
- Miasmatists: flee environment, or change environment: sanitation
- Contagionists: quarantine, isolation, disinfection
  - Case: Cholera Years
- Changing theories of disease: John Snow
- Rise of effective government responses

Health and Environments: Hurricane Katrina