

Kate Crosier
Work and the Human Condition
Annotated Bibliography

The following bibliography provides sources pertaining to the history of surgeon's. This includes some history of how the field developed, discussions of the profession has changed over the years, personal accounts/memoirs and all other related useful information in the realm of this field.

Abbott, Andrew. The System of Professions: An Essay on the Division of Expert Labor. Chicago: University of Chicago P, 1988.

One of the questions that this book asks is why are there occupational groups monopolizing expert knowledge? He attempts to answer that question by providing historical context for how in a general sense professions have evolved over the last century. It's written from the standpoint of sociologist researching how work has developed.

Berg, Jessica. Informed consent legal theory and clinical practice. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2001.

Berg provides a useful historical account of informed consent. She uses examples to explain how informed consent works in the medical work place.

Cassell, Joan. Woman in the surgeon's body. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard UP, 2000.

Cassell is an Anthropologist studying surgeons. She sets out to examine the "differences between women surgeons and their male colleagues." Cassell gathers information from various surgical, and other medical physicians and nurses. Some of the book illustrates ramped sexism in the medical industry, and some of it paints an interesting picture the details to medical life. The intensity of the typical surgeon is not lost on her. This quote was the best I came across that describes a surgeon: "By the time they have finished their training surgeons have incorporated a stoic ethos that defies physical weakness and sets them off from the quotidian world. This ethos has been learned by body...it is not something that the surgeon has, like knowledge that can be brandished; it is something that the surgeon is." Even though this book has similar information as some of the memoirs, it's more candid since Cassell has the freedom of not having to work with her subjects.

Century of Black surgeons the U.S.A. experience. Vol. Vol 1. Norman, Okla: Transcript P, 1987.

This is volume 1 of a 2 volume series of a historical and biographic account of black surgeons in the United States from the late 19th century through most of the 20th century. The Material gives a first hand account of the hardships black surgeons overcame to advance their careers in medicine. Many of them succeeded against staggering odds. Reading these accounts as a group presents the reader with a pattern that highlights the

courage these individuals had, as well as the awful way racism has affected the field of medicine. All of these people did important groundbreaking work in medicine.

Chen, Pauline W. Final Exam A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality (Vintage). New York: Vintage, 2008.

Dr. Chen delivers to us a book in which she's sharing with us her own personal experiences starting from her times in medical school. She's a transplant surgeon and the book mainly focuses on the way she has dealt with losing patients and death within the medical field. She also presents to us a critique of the often cold way she sees death handled in her field. She informs us about how the handling of death has evolved based on what older colleagues share with her.

Collins, Michael J. Hot Lights, Cold Steel Life, Death and Sleepless Nights in a Surgeon's First Years. Boston: St. Martin's Griffin, 2006.

This is a personal account from Collins who writes this memoir after completing a four year residency as an orthopedic surgeon at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. Unlike some of the other memoirs, this author has a strong sense of humor which relieves some tension during patients coming in having survived brutal accidents and during other medical complications.

Gawande, Atul. Better A Surgeon's Notes on Performance. New York: Picador, 2008.

Gawande is a surgical resident, Rhodes scholars, staff writer for the New Yorker, and his writing came up all over the place when I was researching. Oh, he also use to advise former president Bill Clinton on health policy. This book includes 12 essays. The essays focus on improving medical performance. To tackle this subject he explores the ideals of diligence, doing right, and ingenuity. Also, sometimes the ideas for improving medical performance are basic (there's some part where he starts talking about getting everyone to wash their hands). Sometimes the ideas explored are larger and have political implications to them. Some very interesting topics are brought up, for instance one of the essays is about the ethics of Drs administering lethal injections to people on death row. These essays mostly concern the complicated problems that come up for those in the medical profession. He tends to throw in a lot of medical details, but he keeps it clear enough for the general public.

Gawande, Atul. Complications A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science. New York: Picador, 2003.

Another collection of essays from Gawande. This set provides some details about how surgeons make decisions, and how they troubleshoot when things go wrong. He was also candid enough to talk honestly about physician burnout and how that affects medicine.

Haakonssen. Medicine & Morals in Enlightenment. Minneapolis: Rodopi Bv Editions, 1998.

Haakonssen tackles the just developing history of medical ethics. He starts out by going over what's been done in the discussion of medical ethics, and then continues by adding to it. This book philosophically heavy as well as containing many historical accounts. Overall, it will succeed in providing you an outline with how medical ethics developed.

Jauhar, Sandeep. Intern: A Doctor's Initiation. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009.

Jauhar is now a top cardiologist, but this book takes us through his early days. It's classic memoir style, and provides us a good personal account of how a medical professional starts out. It's a good account of how doctors get trained, and very helpful in that respect.

Katz, Jay. The Silent World of Doctor and Patient. New York: The Johns Hopkins UP, 2002.

Katz provides both an informative account of bio-ethics and ethics in the medical field as well as succeeding in being compelling. Informed consent is discussed at length. Although this book was written over two decades ago the same ethical questions about properly informing patients are still troubling doctors today.

Miller, Robert H., and Dan Bissell. Med School Confidential: A Complete Guide to the Medical School Experience By Students, for Students. Boston: St. Martin's Griffin, 2006.

This book is a step by step guide through the medical school process. It broke the system down much further than any of the memoirs did. It's a comprehensive and chronological account of the medical school experience. There aren't any personal stories, it's written from an academic standpoint.

Morris, Charles. The Surgeons: Life and Death in a Top Heart Center. New York: W.W. Norton and Co., 2008.

Morris embeds himself for six months in the prestigious cardiac surgery center at Columbia-Presbyterian hospital in New York. He is an author most known for his economic writing, and he does fill us in on how economics affects health care. Mostly he gives us an outsider's perspective on the work a heart surgeon does. We basically get a day in the life of a surgeon as he's doing his best to keep up. The book is very detail orientated, and doesn't leave anything out. There are many detailed descriptions of procedures being done

Nolen, William A. The Making of a Surgeon. New York: Mid-List P, 1999.

Nolen was one of the few authors that made surgery sound like a field actual real people could enter into, and that it isn't a job reserved for over-confident superheroes who don't sleep. Nolen says the transformation to becoming a surgeon "is a slow process marked by a little more dexterity on one case, a slight improvement in judgment on another, a bit more confidence on a third." His stories are from his own personal

experience, and are informative as well as entertaining. He also provided a detailed account along the way of how you move up professionally, and how hospital staff is organized.

Osler, Sir William. Way of Life. Minneapolis: Dover Publications Inc., 2000.

Osler wrote this in 1937. Osler has had more influence on the practice of modern medicine than any other individual in the last century, but this book wasn't very useful at all. It's part of a lecture he gave at Yale and it starts out with his philosophy of life. It didn't seem to get too far past that.

Osler, William. The Evolution of Modern Medicine. Grand Rapids: Kessinger, 2004.

This comes from a series of lectures Osler gave at Yale University in 1913. Osler is one of the founding fathers of modern medicine and offers many insights as to how medicine got started and what direction the field is going in.

Starr, Paul. The Social Transformation of American Medicine. New York: Basic Books, 1984.

Starr provides us a very thorough historical account of the American Medical System. He provides accounts of early hospitals, and the journey continues to 1985. Besides the history of how hospitals developed, there's also an interesting analysis of the modern healthcare system and why it's failing.

Temkin, Owsei. "On second thought" and Other Essays in the History of Medicine and Science. Baltimore, Md: Johns Hopkins UP, 2002.

Owsei is a well respected historian who chronicles the history of medicine. These essays tackle subjects such as: ethics, medical history of the respect for life, and interpretation for the Hippocratic Oath.

Transue, Emily R. On Call A Doctor's Days and Nights in Residency. Boston: St. Martin's Griffin, 2005.

Transue was a resident in internal medicine at the University of Washington for three years. This book goes through the real life experiences of medical residents from a day-by-day stand point. There's a good deal of information here about how the medical residency process works, and many compelling stories of what a residents day entails.

Zetka, James R. Surgeons and the Scope (Collection on Technology and Work). New York: Cornell UP, 2003.

This book examines the way technology changes the medical profession. Specifically it looks at the way a video laparoscope allows surgeons to see places in the body they couldn't get to before, and perform complicated operations. This book takes a look at the politics involved in improving medical technology. There's a useful discussion of the pros and cons to be considered when talking about upgrading medical technology.