The United States has a fraught history when health is concerned. From George Washington’s losing battle against smallpox during the Revolution, to New Orleans endemic yellow fever throughout the 20th century, to the rise of anti-vax movement in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, and the most recent COVID-19 crisis, the country has struggled to mitigate disease while preserving the lives and livelihoods of its citizens. This course covers the trials and triumphs of the U.S., from the Revolutionary period to present, in the face of insidious invisible opposition. Students will develop an understanding of the way epidemics and disease have shaped U.S. history while honing their writing and research skills. This course entails weekly discussion assignments and quizzes. The final will be a research paper that students will work on throughout the session and an online synchronous presentation.