Drama and medicine are strongly linked in people's imagination. This module invites you to look at and explore these links through workshop style sessions exploring different aspects of drama and medicine.

SESSIONS:

**Media and Medicine**
You will examine and explore the way in which health professionals are portrayed by different types of media, e.g. radio, television and the press, to gain an insight into how your chosen profession is presented to the public.

**Film and Medicine**
You will watch relevant films and perform presentations on them. You will also be asked to think about how filmmakers use the themes of medicine and illness and the roles of health professionals for entertainment.

**Dramatic Literature and Medicine**
You will be asked to prepare a scene from a play in which you can either act or direct. Exploring the way in which playwrights use theatre as a medium to highlight medical issues you will discover how theatre can be a powerful tool in examining the human element of illness and medicine.

**Role Play in Medical Education**
As well as examining the uses of role-play within medical education, this session will give you the chance to write a scenario and see how it works both clinically and educationally.

**Theatre in Health Education**
You will examine the many opportunities for using drama as a tool for health education and health promotion. You will also get the chance to experience some of the techniques involved in the process of devising a piece of theatre for health education.

**Drama as a Resource for Doctors**
A guest lecturer will give you an insight into the uses of drama within healthcare. You will be given an opportunity to experience different methods within a workshop environment.

*Coordinated by Connie Wiskin, Helen Timmins and the Interactive Studies Unit*
For further information contact: c.m.wiskin@bham.ac.uk
Senior Lecturer: Primary Care Clinical Sciences
**How the course is taught**

During this module you will explore the above using a range of methods – textual, research based and interactive. Each session will be taught by either a member of teaching staff from the Interactive Studies Unit or an approved external facilitator.

**Assessment**

Assessment is consistent across all the modules – i.e. every module requires an essay and interactive presentation. For Drama & Medicine the weighting is Essay 60% Interactive Presentation 40%. The essay element will reflect on the course experience, or a related topic suggested by you and approved by the organisers. In short you need to set a question that interests you, and answer it, so the scope is broad. Guidance will be offered by course tutors as applicable.

**Requirements**

*No Acting Experience is necessary* – you will get the opportunity to work with a piece of script in one of the workshops, but performing is not compulsory.

The basic requirements are enthusiasm and an interest in the relationship between drama and medicine. You also need to be open to learning in a workshop environment where interaction is essential. Preparation work is integral to the course and you will be expected to come to each session with the appropriate materials.

**Course outcomes**

By the end of the course you will be able to describe different styles of the presentation of medicine, illness and health professionals in different forms of drama and media. You will also have an understanding of the importance of the relationship between medicine, the public and the media. You will clearly understand the uses of role play as a tool for medical education and have an insight into the design of role-play materials. You will have an understanding into the uses of drama in health education and have an insight into the process which may be used to devise a piece of theatre for these means. You will also have learned about the application of drama in the therapeutic context. We hope that this course will give you a broader understanding of your vocation as well as the confidence to experience something new.