

CENTRE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE SEMINAR SERIES 2011-2012 SPRING TERM

Tuesday, 7 February 2012 (Week 5)
5.00 pm – Ramphal Building Room R.014

Dr Ole Peter Grell
(Open University, History Department)



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A Natural Philosopher in Action. The many Faces of an Early Modern Professor of Medicine: the Case of Ole Worm (1588-1654)

Joint with Early Modern Seminar Series

I shall seek to explain why the physician Ole Worm embraced not only all the periods innovations in medicine and natural philosophy which he meticulously gathered and constantly sought to validate, but also why his interests were so diverse, even for a seventeenth century scholar and natural philosopher. Did Worm have a coherent strategy for all his scholarly interests or were they simply the result of a particularly inquiring mind? Can his concern for anatomy, medicine, botany, natural history, alchemy, astrology and mineralogy be seen as constituting a coherent part of his interests in history, archaeology, philology, numismatics, chronology and collecting? If so, what was his rationale?



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