Syllabus
Medical Sociology
Spring 2018
Sociology-SYO-4402

Tuesday and Thursday
5:15-6:30 pm
023 Bel

Contact Information
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Office: 619 Bellamy
Email: mmcfarland@fsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 4:10-5:10 pm

COURSE OVERVIEW
Medical Sociology is one of the largest specializations in the field of Sociology. This course will examine the social causes and consequences of health, illness, and health care. There will be a special emphasis on how medical sociologists analyze the relationship between society and health. Some of the questions that will be discussed in the class lectures are: Does social inequality make us sick? Do rich people live longer, healthier, and happier lives? Can stress make us sick? How do we cope with stress? How can we improve the health care system in the United States and how does it compare to other countries?

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The purpose of this course is to teach students:
- To develop a knowledge base pertaining to medical sociology research
- That health is socially patterned (and not just a result of biology)
- To review, present, and interpret information in order to develop lines of argument
- To develop critical academic writing, group discussion and facilitation skills

REQUIRED READINGS

*Other Required Readings can be found on Canvas in the Course Library and will be noted on the Course Outline (C).

In order to participate in class effectively you will NEED to have read the required readings prior to attending class. Extra credit opportunities will be based on readings.

COURSE POLICIES.

Seminar vs. Lecture Format
Students must participate appropriately and competently for a seminar. What is a Seminar?
A seminar is a joint endeavor among students and faculty where members work individually and collectively to better understand the issues of the course. In a seminar, members participate in
discussions after reading assignments, completing assigned tasks, and considering data on and explanations for the phenomena under study. A seminar does not consist primarily of lectures by the professor nor is it based on the participants' personal opinions or biases. See students' and professor's responsibilities, styles of participating, behavior toward each other, and grounds for student assessment below. Films or DVDs/videos and invite guest speakers will be part of our seminar. This material should be considered required course content, the same as readings and other tangible assignments.

*Courtesy in the Classroom.*
Classroom courtesy is necessary to ensure that all students have the opportunity, to learn without distractions. This means no cell phones, talking during lectures (unless recognized by the professor reading newspapers, engaging in twitter/facebook/etc. during class. If you must have a cell phone to receive emergency calls about kids or other family members, keep it on vibrate.

Entering and leaving is distracting to your instructor and other students. Therefore, you need to be on time for class and stay until the end. If you must enter late or leave early, please inform me before class begins and take the seat nearest an exit and enter or leave as quietly as possible. Please make sure the door does not 'bang' as you enter or leave. Repeated disruption of class may lead to penalties that reduce your final grade (see below). Class discussions of the issues we study can stimulate strong feelings and heated debate. Because this is a college classroom, all discussions must be scholarly.

*Absence from Exams*
Anyone who misses an exam for an excused reason must contact the instructor within 48 hours of the test date for permission to make up that test. If you know you will be absent from a test and have a legitimate reason, you must make arrangements to take the test prior to the test date. For the Final Exam, you must contact the instructor within 24 hours of missing the exam. Students taking make up exams will be given a different exam (i.e. questions and format) than the one given in class.

*Extra Credit*
There will be opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester; however, it will only be available during class. You must be present to earn the points.

*Incompletes*
Missing work or uncompleted assignments are insufficient reasons for a grade of Incomplete. An Incomplete grade will not be given except under extenuating circumstances at the instructor's discretion. Note that College of Social Science guidelines require that students seeking an "I" must be passing the course.

**COURSE EVALUATION AND GRADING**

Attendance/Participation (25 pts)
Book Review (100 pts)
Exam 1 (75 pts)
Exam 2 (100 pts)
Final Exam (200 pts)

The grading scale for this course is based on 500 possible points. This translates into the following grading scale:

*Grades:*
A: 93-100 (465-500)
A-: 90-92 (450-464)
B+: 87-89 (435-449)
B: 83-86 (415-434)
B-: 80-82 (400-414)
C+: 77-79 (385-399)
C: 73-76 (365-384)
C-: 70-72 (350-364)
D+: 67-69 (335-349)
D: 63-66 (315-334)
D-: 60-62 (300-314)
F: <60 (Less than 300)

I also assign pluses and minuses according to standard FSU guidelines. There is no rounding of scores (if your final percentage is 79.7%, this constitutes a C+ in the course not a B-).

**Use of Canvas**

This course will extensively use Canvas to aid in communication as well as to provide course materials in an efficient manner. We will go over a tutorial on the third day of class after the add/drop period. Please note that you will need an FSU Webmail account to use this interface.

**Class Assignment**

*Book Review (100 Points):*

You will choose a book related to health and health care from a list provided. You will be responsible for summarizing and critiquing the book based on what you have learned in class. Examples will be provided on blackboard by Week 3. The review should be 400-600 words.

**University Attendance Policy:**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

**Academic Honor Policy:**

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University’s expectations for the integrity of students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to “. . . be honest and truthful and . . . [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University.” (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at [http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy.](http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy.))

**Americans With Disabilities Act:**

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:

1. register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
2. bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.
For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:
Student Disability Resource Center
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167
(850) 644-9566 (voice)
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)
sdrc@admin.fsu.edu
http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/

Free Tutoring from FSU
On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at Florida State University. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services’ comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options - see http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring or contact tutor@fsu.edu. High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

Syllabus Change Policy
"Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Schedule</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introductions/ Trends in Medical Sociology</td>
<td>1/9/18</td>
<td>WC-Preface &amp; Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Epidemiology</td>
<td>1/16/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Social Class and Health</td>
<td>1/23/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Race/Class/Gender and Health</td>
<td>1/30/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Race/Class/Gender and Health</td>
<td>2/6/18</td>
<td>C4</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Stress and Health</td>
<td>2/13/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Stress and Health (Continued)</td>
<td>2/20/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Health and Behavior</td>
<td>2/27/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 6</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Religion and Health</td>
<td>3/6/18</td>
<td>C8</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Spring Break Week-No Classes</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Review and Exam</td>
<td>3/20/18</td>
<td>Exam Review</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Sociology of Mental Illness</td>
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<td>C9</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Construction of Illness</td>
<td>4/3/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Week</td>
<td>Topic</td>
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<td>Chapters</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Hospitals, Physicians, and Healthcare providers</td>
<td>4/10/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 10; 11</td>
<td>4/12/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 12; 14; Book Review Due</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td>The Changing Face of Healthcare</td>
<td>4/17/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 15</td>
<td>4/19/18</td>
<td>C12</td>
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<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Global Health Care Options</td>
<td>4/24/18</td>
<td>WC-Chapter 16, C13</td>
<td>4/26/18</td>
<td>Exam Review</td>
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<td>Final Exam Week</td>
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<td>5/3/18-5:30 to 7:30 pm</td>
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