

SOC 4396 HN1
Socio-Behavioral Sciences for Medicine

Fall 2014
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Course Overview

By instituting a new section of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) elevates the importance, for the premedical student, of understanding psychological and sociocultural determinants of health. As currently outlined, the testing focus appears to be on the student's knowledge of definitions and theories. Other initiatives in the healthcare field, such as the Blue Zones Project™, direct attention to behaviors deemed desirable for healthy living. In this class we'll consider theories posited to explain individual human motivation as well as theories relating to group behaviors, with specific emphasis on patient compliance.

Learning Outcomes

"Student Learning Outcomes are the accumulated knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students develop during a course of study" (see <http://www.web.virginia.edu/iaas/assessment/outcomes.htm>). The following are identified outcomes, although I sincerely hope and expect that you will gain much more from the course.

- In classroom writings, students will relate foundational concepts in psychology and sociology to individual human and social issues in medicine
- Students will assess applicability of theories to issues in patient compliance.
- In a term project, students will collect information and develop a plan for a community health project.
- For the final unit exam, students will be expected to identify socio-behavioral determinants of compliance and assess the pros and cons of a compliance model.

Reading

Jurassic Park, by Michael Crichton. This book is readily available through on-line retailers as well as in bookstores. The actual book, rather than the movie, is required reading.

How Doctors Think, by Jerome Groopman. This book is also readily available through on-line retailers as well as in bookstores.

Students will also be expected to read articles and case studies as assigned in weekly readings. All are available online as noted in this syllabus.

Grading

15%	Weekly In-Class Writings
25%	Take Home Midterm
30%	Term Project
30%	Final Exam

Late work will be accepted in accord with UT Dallas absence and attendance policies. For information on UT Dallas policies and procedures see <http://provost.utdallas.edu/home/syllabus-policies>

The following is taken directly from UT Dallas Syllabus Policy and Procedures:

It is the policy and practice of The University of Texas at Dallas to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. However, written notification from the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA) is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for a course, please discuss it with an OSA staff member and allow at least one week's advanced notice. Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact the Office of Student AccessAbility for a confidential discussion.

The primary functions of the Office of Student AccessAbility are to provide:

1. academic accommodations for students with a documented permanent physical, mental or sensory disability
2. non-academic accommodations
3. resource and referral information and advocacy support as necessary and appropriate.

OSA is located in the Student Services Building, suite 3.200. They can be reached by phone at (972) 883-2098, or by email at disabilityservice@utdallas.edu.

Week One

Course Overview and Introduction

August 25	Course Overview
August 27	The Art and Science of Asking Questions

Readings to Be Completed by August 27

1. *Jurassic Park* (Introduction through "Control")
2. "About Michael Crichton" <http://www.crichton-official.com/aboutmichaelcrichton-biography.html>

Week Two

Case Study: Patient Compliance

Sept 1	Labor Day NO CLASS
Sept 3	Basic concepts and definitions

Reading to Be Completed by September 3

1. Finish reading *Jurassic Park*
2. *Self-Study Modules on Tuberculosis: Managing Tuberculosis Patients and Improving Patient Adherence*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014, pp. 1-22

Week Three

Social Processes

Sept 8	Approaches in Sociology
Sept 10	Building Blocks: Role, Status, Social Networks

Reading to Be Completed by September 8

1. *Self-Study Modules on Tuberculosis: Managing Tuberculosis Patients and Improving Patient Adherence*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014, pp. 23-28
2. Johnson, Doyle Paul. "Development of American Sociology: A Brief Historical Overview." In *Contemporary Sociological Theory: An Integrated Multi-Level Approach*, 53-79. New York: Springer. 2008. (Access online through the McDermott Library)

Reading to Be Completed by September 10

"Social Theory and Social Action" by F. Stuart Chapin

<http://www.asanet.org/images/asa/docs/pdf/1935%20Presidential%20Address%20%28Stuart%20Chapin%29.pdf>

Week Four

Foundational Concepts

Sept 15	Normative Behavior
Sept 17	Deviance

(see next page for reading assignment)

Reading to Be Completed by September 15

1. *Self-Study Modules on Tuberculosis: Managing Tuberculosis Patients and Improving Patient Adherence*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014, pp. 29-37
2. Sutton, Robert I., and Barry M. Staw. "What Theory is Not." *Administrative Science Quarterly* 40, no. 3 (September 1995): 371-384. (Access online through the McDermott Library)

Reading to Be Completed by September 17

1. "Robert K. Merton Remembered" by Craig Calhoun, in <http://www.asanet.org/footnotes/mar03/indextwo.html>

Week Five

Application and Theory

Sept 22	Guest Speaker
Sept 24	Constructing Theory

Reading to Be Completed by September 24

Johnson, Doyle Paul. "Formal Theory Construction: Developing Sociological Theory as Part of a Scientific Enterprise." In *Contemporary Sociological Theory: An Integrated Multi-Level Approach*, 81-105. New York: Springer. 2008. (Access online through the McDermott Library)

Week Six

Psychological Perspectives

Sept 29	Guest Speaker
October 1	Basic Perspectives

Reading to Be Completed by October 1

1. *Self-Study Modules on Tuberculosis: Managing Tuberculosis Patients and Improving Patient Adherence*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014, pp. 38-48.
2. Brainerd, C.J. 1996. "PIAGET: A centennial celebration." *Psychological Science (Wiley-Blackwell)* 7, no. 4: 191-195. (Access online through the McDermott Library)

Week Seven

Psychological Perspectives (continued)

October 6	Behavioral Perspectives
October 8	Socio-Cultural and Biopsychosocial Perspectives

Reading to Be Completed by October 8

1. Henry A. Murray, B. F. Skinner, Abraham H. Maslow, Carl R. Rogers, Lawrence K. Frank, Anatol Rapoport and Hallock Hoffman. *Daedalus*, Vol. 90, No. 3, Evolution and Man's Progress (Summer, 1961), pp. 570-586. (Access online through McDermott Library <http://www.jstor.org.libproxy.utdallas.edu/stable/20026674>)
2. Tolin, David F. 2011. "Understanding and treating hoarding: A biopsychosocial perspective." *Journal Of Clinical Psychology* 67, no. 5: 517-526. (Access online through the McDermott Library)

TAKE HOME MIDTERM DUE OCTOBER 13

Week Eight

Concepts and Theory

October 13	Turn in Midterm Exam. Class Topic: Attribution Theory
October 15	Motivation

Reading to Be Completed by October 15

Leontiev, Dmitry A. "From Drive to Need and Further: What is Human Motivation About? In *Psychology of Emotions, Motivations and Actions : Motivation, Consciousness and Self-Regulation* edited by Dmitry Leontiev, 9-25. New York, NY, USA: Nova Science Publishers, Inc., 2012. (Access online through McDermott Library)

Week Nine

Collective Behavior: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

October 20	Concepts and Theory
October 22	Guest Speaker

Reading to Be Completed by October 22

Goldstone, Robert L., and Todd M. Gureckis. 2009. "Collective Behavior." *Topics In Cognitive Science* 1, no. 3: 412-438.

TERM PROJECT TOPIC DUE OCTOBER 27

Week Ten

Near Group, Peer Group, and Self-Efficacy

October 27 Identity Theory
October 29 Social Identity Theory

Reading to Be Completed by October 29

1. Pfautz, Harold W. "Near-Group Theory and Collective Behavior: A Critical Reformulation." In *Social Problems*, 9, no. 2 (Autumn, 1961), pp. 167-174.

Week Eleven

Making a Difference

Nov 3 Social Movements
Nov 5 Theories of Social Change

Reading to Be Completed by November 3

1. "Our Story" on the Partners in Health website <http://www.pih.org/>
2. "Paul Farmer Biography on the Academy of Achievement website <http://www.achievement.org/autodoc/page/far1bio-1>

Reading to Be Completed by November 5

Dello Bueno, Richard, and Fasenfest, David, eds. *Studies in Critical Social Sciences, Volume 19: Social Change, Resistance and Social Practices*. Boston, MA, USA: Brill Academic Publishers, 2010. Read pp. 1-9 and 57-72.

Week Twelve

Case Study

Nov 10 Blue Zones
Nov 12 Blue Zones (cont)

Reading to Be Completed by November 12

Blue Zones Project™ by Healthways <http://www.texashealth.org/bluezonesproject>

Week Thirteen

Attitude and Behavior Change (MCAT Content Category 7C)

Nov 17	Types of Learning
Nov 19	Theories

Reading to Be Completed by November 19

Groopman, Jerome. *How Doctors Think*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company. 2008 (pp. 1-76)

FALL BREAK NOVEMBER 24-26

Week Fourteen

Demographic Characteristics and Processes (MCAT Content Category 9B)

Dec 1	Demographic Structure of Society
Dec 3	Demographic Shifts and Social Change

Reading to Be Completed by December 3

Finish *How Doctors Think*

Week Fifteen

Term Project Presentations

Dec 8	Term Projects
Dec 10	Unit Exam