

PPPE/SOC 6356 Health and Illness

Spring 2017
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Tuesday 4-6:45 p.m.
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Medicine is a social science, as much as it is a biological science. Who gets sick, what they do about it, and what kind of treatment they receive are the result of the interplay of behavioral, cultural, economic, and political forces. In this course we will examine health and illness in their social and economic contexts, including health disparities and how social and economic factors affect health and illness behavior; the social construction of health and illness; social aspects of health professions; and health care policy and finance.

Course requirements include a series of weekly essays (40% of the course grade), a research paper (40% of the course grade), and a take-home final examination (20% of the course grade). For the essays, students will prepare a short (1-2 page) critical essay on all or part of each week's assigned readings, and may be called on to provide a brief oral summary to the class on the reading. Each essay will count 4% toward the course grade; only the top ten essay grades will count.

The research paper will address a research question within the framework of theory and research in medical sociology. The paper will count 40% of the total course grade. Paper topics are subject to the approval of the instructor. Students will submit a topic statement on the paper by February 14 and an annotated bibliography by March 7. The paper is due on April 18, both in hard copy and electronically. Paper guidelines are given below. Students will give a brief (10-15 minute) class presentation on their paper in the last few class meetings of the semester. The take-home final examination will include two essays; it will count 20% toward the final class grade. The exam will be distributed in class on April 18 and will be due on May 2.

Required readings for the course are listed below. The three books have been ordered at both the UTD Bookstore and Off Campus Books and a number of journal articles will be made available through electronic reserve (designated **ER**).

Laurie Abraham, *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead: The Failure of Health Care in Urban America*, U of Chicago Press, 1993. ISBN: 9780226001395

Donald A. Barr, *Health Disparities in the United States: Social Class, Race, Ethnicity, and Health* (2nd edition), Johns Hopkins U Press, 2014. ISBN: 9781421414751

Peter Conrad and Valerie Leiter, *The Sociology of Health and Illness: Critical Perspectives* (9th edition) (C&L) Worth Publishing, 2013. ISBN 9781429255271

University Policies

Information on university policies related to this class is at <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>

Course Outline (subject to revisions announced in class)

January 10 Introduction to the Course: Health and Social Science

Conrad & Leiter 1 (McKinlay and McKinlay);

January 17 Health and Poverty I

Barr: chapters 1-4

Conrad & Leiter 2 (Syme and Berkman), 5 (Banks et al.)

January 24 Health and Poverty II

Abraham: Introduction and chaps 1-7 (pp. 1-133)

January 31 Health and Poverty III

Abraham: Chaps 8-14 and Epilogue (pp. 134-259)

February 7 Health, Social Capital, and Networks

Conrad & Leiter 8 (House et al.) 9 (Klinenberg)

Ichiro Kawachi, "Social Capital and Health" in Bird et al. (eds) *Handbook of Medical Sociology (Sixth Edition)* Vanderbilt University Press, 2010. pp. 18-32 **ER**

Janet K. Shim, "Cultural Health Capital: A Theoretical Approach to Understanding Health Care Interactions and the Dynamics of Unequal Treatment" *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51:1 March 2010 1-15. **ER**

February 14 Health Disparities and Race/Ethnicity PAPER TOPIC DUE

Barr: chapters 5-9

Conrad & Leiter 3 (Williams & Sternthal) 7 (Brown et al.)

February 21 Health Disparities and Immigration

Tamara Dubowitz et al. "The Latino Health Paradox: Looking at the Intersection of Sociology and Health" in Bird et al. (eds) *Handbook of Medical Sociology (Sixth Edition)* Vanderbilt University Press, 2010. pp. 106-133 **ER**

David T. Takeuchi, "Vintage Wine in New Bottles: Infusing Select Ideas into the Study of Immigration, Immigrants, and Mental Health" (2016) 57:4 423-435. **ER**

Jacqueline M. Torres and Roger Waldinger, "Civic Stratification and the Exclusion of Undocumented Immigrants from Cross-border Health Care" (2015) 56:4 438-459 **ER**

February 28 Health and Gender

Conrad & Leiter 4 (Snow), 21 (Reverby)

Patricia P. Rieker, Chloe E. Bird, and Martha Lang, “Understanding Gender and Health: Old Patterns, New Trends, and Social Directions” in Bird et al. (eds) *Handbook of Medical Sociology (Sixth Edition)* Vanderbilt University Press, 2010. Pp. 52-74 **ER**

Renee R. Anspach, “Gender and Health Care” in Bird et al. (eds) *Handbook of Medical Sociology (Sixth Edition)* Vanderbilt University Press, 2010. Pp. 229-248 **ER**

March 7 Reproductive Health ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Katrina Kimport, Tracy A Weitz, and Lori Freedman, “The Stratified Legitimacy of Abortions” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (2016) 57:4 502-516 **ER**

Nancy Krieger et al., “Reproductive justice & preventable deaths: State funding, family planning, abortion, and infant mortality: US 1980-2010.” *SSM – Population Health* (2016) 2 (December) 277-293 **ER**

Zakiya Luna and Kristin Luker, “Reproductive Justice” *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* (2013) 9:327-52 **ER**

March 14 SPRING BREAK

March 21 Health and Human Capital

Catherine E. Ross and John Mirowsky, “Why Education is the Key to Socioeconomic Differentials in Health” in Bird et al. (eds) *Handbook of Medical Sociology (Sixth Edition)* Vanderbilt University Press, 2010. pp. 33-51 **ER**

John Mirowsky and Catherine E. Ross, Education, Health, and the Default American Lifestyle” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (2015) 57:4 297-306 **ER**

March 28 Social Construction of Health and Illness

Conrad & Leiter 11 (Saguy & Gruys) 12 (Scott) 13 (Armstrong et al.), 14 (Barker)

April 4 Doctors and Patients

Conrad & Leiter 15 (Conrad), 31 (Mishler), 32 (Lo), 33 (Timmermans), 34 (Anspach)

April 11 Medicine and Other Health Professions / Student Presentations

Conrad & Leiter 17 (Conrad), 18 (Wertz & Wertz), 19 (McKinlay & Marceau), 20 (Light)

April 18 Mental Illness / Student Presentations FINAL EXAMINATION DISTRIBUTED

Carol S. Aneshensel, "Toward Explaining Mental Health Disparities" *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (2009) 50:4 377-394. **ER**

Michael Halpin, "The DSM and Professional Practice: Research, Clinical, and Institutional Perspectives (2016) 57:2 153-167 **ER**

Jane D. McLeod, "Why and How Inequality Matters" *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (2015) 56:2 149-165. **ER**

Andrew R. Payton, "Mental Health, Mental Illness, and Psychological Distress: Same Continuum or Distinct Phenomenon" *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (2009) 50:2 213-227 **ER**

April 25 Disability and Chronic Illness / Student Presentations RESEARCH PAPERS DUE

Gary Albrecht, "The Sociology of Disability: Historical Foundations and Future Directions" in Bird et al. (eds) *Handbook of Medical Sociology (Sixth Edition)* Vanderbilt University Press, 2010. Pp. 192-209 **ER**

Gerben DeJong, Susan E. Palsbo, Philip W. Beatty et al. "The Organization and Financing of Health Services for People with Disabilities" *The Milbank Quarterly* 80:2 (2002) 261-301. **ER**

May 2 FINAL EXAMINATION DUE

Research Paper Guidelines

The research paper should be at least 15 pages, and should deal with some current issue in health care within the framework of theory and research in medical sociology. The paper will count for 40% of the total course grade, and paper topics are subject to the approval of the instructor. You are required to submit a topic statement (due February 14) and an annotated bibliography (due March 7). **The final version of the paper will be due on April 18, with papers submitted both in hard copy and electronically through the turnitin.com link in eLearning.** Students will give a brief class presentation on their papers during the last few weeks of the semester. Late papers may be subject to grading penalties unless prior approval has been given by the instructor.

Topic Statement (due February 14)

The topic statement should consist of a paragraph or two that briefly summarizes the specific research question to be addressed and explains why this question is interesting and/or important.

Sources

Research for the paper should include an examination of the significant peer-reviewed literature on your topic in scholarly sociology and other academic journals, as well as related peer-reviewed books and monographs on the topic. You may incorporate material from non-peer-reviewed sources, but at least two-thirds of your references should be peer-reviewed. While the number of sources will vary according to your topic, you should aim to include at least 8-10 peer reviewed articles or other sources. If you need assistance in identifying appropriate reference material, you may consult with me or with the reference librarians at McDermott Library

Annotated Bibliography (due March 7)

The annotated bibliography should consist of a list of the likely sources to be used for the paper that includes a full citation for each source and a brief (one or two sentence) description of the material found in the source. This should be a working summary, and may be modified for the final paper.

Format Guidelines

The final paper should be approximately 15 double spaced pages. (Longer papers are discouraged, but acceptable.) Papers should begin with a title page, and be printed with page numbers, 1" margins, and a 10 or 12 point font, and stapled.. No cover or folder is necessary.

Citation

All direct quotes, close paraphrases, and statistical data in your paper should cite the relevant source. Students are encouraged to use the ASA Style Guide (copies available through ASA website), but may use guidelines from another field. Whatever citation format you select should be used consistently, and with sufficient information provided on the works cited. Any citations for Internet sources should include the complete URL and the data on which the material was obtained.

Submission Requirements

Students should submit a hard copy of their paper directly to the instructor, and also upload an electronic copy through the turnitin.com link at the course eLearning site.