

MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY 3550-01
FALL 2018
ROOM: GEOLOGY 216
TIME: 11:00-12:15PM

PROFESSOR: JENNIFER TABLER
E-MAIL: jtabler@uwo.edu
OFFICE: A&S 306
HOURS: TUES/THURS (1PM-2PM); WED (10AM-11AM).

Pre-requisites: Sociology 1000 or equivalent

Required Textbook:

Medical Sociology (14th edition). By Cockerham

Additional readings will be posted online

A supplemental book (your choice) will be required for your report, please see the provided list

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to the field of medical sociology through lectures, discussions, and media depictions of major concepts, theories, and issues relating to the causes and consequences of health and illness. Examples of topics covered are conception of health, social stress and health, living and dying in the U.S. health system, doctor-patient relationship, controversial health practices, and issues in the U.S. health care delivery system.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of the course the learner should be comfortable:

- Debating controversies with regard to the U.S. Health Care System
- Identifying the main forms of stratification occurring in the U.S. in relation to health outcomes
- Explaining/Identifying the main social theories of health as well as Assessing the strengths and weaknesses of these theories
- Reading and evaluating research articles

Grading Policies:

Grades will be assigned as follows:

A:90+	B:80-89	C:70-79
D:60-69	F:59 or below	

EVALUATION:

- **Six activities or mini-quizzes:** randomly assigned in-class across the semester (lowest grade dropped)—*15% total*
- **Book report:** Papers will be 5-7 pages in length. Students will be required to select a book from the provided reading list, and complete an empirical book report. Small assignments related to the report will be due across the semester and culminate in a final paper—*25% total*
- **Student presentations:** Students will be required to present on the books they selected, and discuss the books with the class. Excerpts from peers' books will be provided online.—*5% total*
- **Two exams:** Exams are not comprehensive. Students will be required to complete the multiple choice portion of the exam, but will then be asked to choose one of two essays to complete—*55% total*

WYOCOURSES:

As a resource for this class, a WyoCourse site is available to you. This site provides the opportunity to have all of the course materials in one place that is accessible to everyone. Assignments and announcements will be posted to this site. As part of the requirements for this class, you are expected to check and use this site regularly. **Make sure to check your UW email as this is the address that will be utilized for any posted announcements.**

COURSE SCHEDULE:

The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change (and probably will) at the discretion of the instructor. In order to stay current with announcements regarding the schedule, you will need to attend and be on time for class, and check WyoCourse regularly.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE POLICIES

UNIVERSITY EXCUSED ABSENCE:

In order to be excused from an examination, a valid University excuse or doctor's excuse must be obtained. University excuses can be obtained from the Office of Student Life. The Office of Student Life (OSL) will provide the excuse, provided the students' absence meets the criteria for an authorized absence. For further information on obtaining an excused absence, contact the OSL or visit their website at: <http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/OSL/absences.htm>.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

It is University of Wyoming policy to accommodate students, faculty, staff, and visitors with disabilities. If you have a physical, learning, sensory, or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to register with University Disability Support Services (UDSS) in the Student Educational Opportunity offices, Room 330 Knight Hall, and provide UDSS with documentation of your disability.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:

As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity, and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the University guidelines (see UW regulation 2-114). In addition, grade appeals will be handled according to these same guidelines. These guidelines can be found in the University Regulations.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE:

The faculty and staff of the University of Wyoming actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

In accordance with University policy, your instructor is a "Responsible Employee" for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student's time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he/they becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure (see UW regulation 4-3). More information, including access to confidential resources, can be found at <http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit/policies/index.html>.

COURSE SCHEDULE *SUBJECT TO CHANGE, CHECK WYO COURSES REGULARLY*

UNIT ONE: THE HISTORY OF THE SOCIAL ORGANIZATION OF THE U.S. HEALTH "SYSTEM"

Week 1: Introduction to Medical Sociology	Readings:
Aug 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham, Ch. 1: "Medical Sociology"

Week 2: Issues of "Health"	Readings:
Sep 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">"Your money or your life." Cutler (2004) (online)
Sep 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham, Ch. 2: "Epidemiology"

Week 3: The Power of the Medical Profession	Readings:
Sep 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham, Ch. 11: "Physicians"
Sep 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>The Social Transformation of American Medicine</i>. Starr (1982) Ch. 3 (online)Assignment 1 due

Week 4: The Rise of Hospitals	Readings:
Sep 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham, Ch. 14: "The Hospital in Society"
Sep 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>The Social Transformation of American Medicine</i>. Starr (1982). Ch. 4 (online)

Week 5: Challenges to the Profession	Readings:
Sep 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham, Ch. 12: "The Physician in a Changing Society."
Sep 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">"The continued social transformation of the medical profession." Timmermans & Oh (2010) (online)"Physician's perception of the changing healthcare system." Hojat et al. (2000) (online)

UNIT TWO: THE PATIENT IN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Week 6: Being Poor Kills	Readings:
Oct 2 nd	EXAM 1
Oct 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham Ch. 3: "The Social Demography of Health: Social Class"

Week 7: Minority Statuses and Health	Readings:
Oct 9 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham Ch. 4: "Social Demography: Gender, Age, and Race""Multiple disadvantaged status and health" Grollman (2014) (online)
Oct 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cockerham Ch. 5: "Social Stress and Health""Stigma-related stressors, coping self-efficacy, and physical health in lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals." Denton et al. (2014) (online)

Week 8: Social Construction of "illness"	
Oct 16 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cockerham Ch. 7 & 8: "Illness Behavior"/"The Sick Role"
Oct 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Chronic back pain sufferers—striving for the sick role." Glenton (2003) "'sick role' or 'empowerment? The ambiguities if life with an HIV+ diagnosis." Crossley (1998)

Week 9: Lifeworld vs. Medicine: are we responsible for our own health?	Readings:
Oct 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cockerham Ch. 6: "Health behavior and Lifestyles" "the social determinants of health: it's time to consider causes of the causes" Braverman and Gotlieb (2014)
Oct 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cockerham Ch. 9: "Doctor-patient interaction" "Giving voice to the lifeworld. More humane, more effective medical care? A qualitative study of doctor-patient communication in general practice." Barry et al. (2001)

UNIT THREE: FUTURE and CONTROVERSIES IN HEALTH and CARE

Week 10: Healthcare Reform	Readings:
Oct 30 th	Exam II
Nov 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cockerham Ch. 15 "Healthcare reform" Assignment 2 due

Week 11: Universal Healthcare	Readings:
Nov 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cockerham Ch 16 "Global healthcare" "Comparative models of healthcare systems" Light (2005) "Why the United States Has No National Health Insurance: Stakeholder Mobilization against the Welfare State, 1945-1996" Quadango (2004)
Nov 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "The affordable care act at 5 years" Blumenthal (2015) "the end of Obamacare" Oberlander (2017) "what Trump's election means for Obamacare" Jost (2016) https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20161109.057524/full/

Week 12: Complementary and Alternative Medicine	Readings:
Nov 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cockerham Ch. 13 "Complementary and Alternative Medicine"
Nov 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "A ship upon a stormy sea: The medicalization of pregnancy" Barker (1998) "Alternative and authoritative knowledge" Henley (2015) "Invisible Wounds: Obstetric violence in the United States" Diaz-Tello (2015) "Bearing witness: United States and Canadian maternity support workers' observations of disrespectful care in childbirth" Morton et al. (2018)

Week 13: Climate Change and Health	Readings:
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Nov 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 3 due • "Climate change and human health: present and future risks." McMichael et al. (2006) • "Climate change: Challenges and opportunities for global health." Patz et al. (2014) • "Health impacts of climate change in Pacific Island countries: A regional assessment of vulnerabilities and adaptation priorities" McIver et al. (2016)
Nov 22 nd	No Class (Thanksgiving)

Week 14: Right to Die Movement	Readings:
Nov 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Quality of Life and Cost of Care at the End of Life: The Role of Advance Directives" Garrido et al. (2014) • "Hospice Use, Hospitalization, and Medicare Spending at the End of Life" Zuckerman et al. (2016) • <i>The Sudden Death and the Myth of CPR</i>. Timmermans (1999) • "Watching Brian die." Weitz (1999)
Nov 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Cultural scripts of a good death Japan vs. US" Long (2004) • "The Euthanasia debate" Materstvedt (2003) • "Concerns about end of life care and support for euthanasia" Givens et al. (2009) • "legalized physician assisted suicide in Oregon" Sullivan et al. (2000)

Week 15: Review of the Course and Book Reports	Readings:
Dec 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final book report due • Student presentations • Excerpts will be provided online
Dec 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student presentations • Excerpts will be provided online

Week 16: Dec 12th-18th is finals week	
Dec 13 th (3:30-4:50 pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam III