

Medical Sociology 759
Revised syllabus - June 2006
with new disability readings in **bold**

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Course Description:

Medical Sociology 759 is a survey course that applies sociological principles to medicine, health, illness, and health care. To fully develop insights generated by this framework, it is necessary to situate medicine, health, illness, and health care in a variety of institutional domains: economic markets, politics, science, religion, and culture, broadly construed. Topics include but are not limited to: medical and sociological models of illness, epidemiology, epidemics, an (abbreviated) history of medicine in the West, public health, the social stratification of illness, medicalization and de-medicalization of illness, disability, individuals' experience of illness, the medical profession, health care systems in developing countries, health care provision, access and delivery, complementary and alternative health care, and, the contemporary U.S. health movement.

Responsibilities, Evaluation and Progress:

Students are responsible for reading and discussing the material each week. During one of those weeks, each student will prepare a summary of the readings including questions and criticisms (2-3 pages), distribute the summary, and lead the discussion. In addition, I will ask the class to respond to questions put to the material in the form of periodic summaries (1-2 pages). Lastly, there is a final paper (15-20 pages) covering your own research interests, the content of which can vary widely. You may do a literature review, a research proposal, a dissertation or masters' prospectus or work on an empirical project. Grades are based on participation (20%), two discussion-lead (25%), periodic summaries (20%) and a final paper (55%).

Texts:

Conrad, Peter and Valerie Leiter (eds.). 2003. *Health and Health Care as Social Problems*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield.

Turner, Bryan. 2004. *The New Medical Sociology: Social Forms of Health and Illness*. New York: Norton.

Starr, Paul. 1982. *The Social Transformation of American Medicine: The Rise of a Sovereign Profession and the Making of a Vast Industry*. Basic Books.

Reader in medical sociology, compiled 2005, revised June 2006.

Course Outline and Calendar: Medical Sociology

Week 1

Introduction: definitions and concepts, medical model of illness, sociological model of illness, epidemiology.

Required Readings:

- (1) Turner, Bryan S. 2000. "The History of the Changing Concepts of Health and Illness: Outline of a General Model of Illness Categories." Pp. 9-23 in *The Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine*, Gary Albrecht, Ray Fitzpatrick, and Susan Scrimshaw (eds). London: Sage.
- (2) Turner, Bryan. 2004. "Introduction." Pp. xiii-xxviii in *The New Medical Sociology: Social Forms of Health and Illness*. New York: Norton.
- (3) Weitz, Rose. 2001. *The Sociology of Health, Illness, and Health Care: A Critical Approach*, 2nd ed. New York: Wadsworth. Pp. 17-31, 125-128, 117-125

Supplemental readings:

- (4) *Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health*. 1987. Edited by Benjamin F. Miller, MD, and Claire Brackman Keane, RN,BS,MEd. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Company. Pp. 747-748;
- (5) *Encyclopedia of Medical History*. 1985. Edited by Roderick E. McGrew and Margaret P. McGrew. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company. Pp. 108-111

Week 2

(Abbreviated) history of medicine: epidemics and medicine from the middle ages to the twentieth century.

Required Readings:

- (1) Inglis, Brian. 1965. *A History of Medicine*. Cleveland: World. Pp. 49-71, 87-95, 111-116, 124-128, 133-165
- (2) Turner, Bryan. 2004. "Disease and Culture." Pp. 82-130 in *The New Medical Sociology: Social Forms of Health and Illness*. New York: Norton.
- (3) *Encyclopedia of Medical History* pp. 165-172, 37-45, 59-64

Week 3

(Abbreviated) history of public health.

Required Readings:

- (1) *A History of Medicine* pp. 165-171
- (2) *Public Health Sourcebook*. 1999. Health Reference Series, edited by Wendy Wilcox. Detroit: Omnigraphics, Inc.
- (3) *Encyclopedia of Medical History* pp. 284-291
- (4) Meyer IH, Schwartz S. 2000: "Social Issues as Public Health: Promise and Peril." *American Journal of Public Health* 90 (8): 1189-1191.

Supplemental readings:

- (5) Inhorn, Marcia C. and Peter Brown (eds.) 1997. *The Anthropology of Infectious Disease: International Health Perspectives*. New York: Gordon and Breach Publishers.

Week 4

Social distribution of illness: inequality

Required Readings:

- (1) Williams, David R. and Chiquita Collins. 1999. "U.S. Socioeconomic and Racial Differences in Health: Patterns and Explanations." Pp. 349-377 in *Health, Illness and Healing: Society, Social Context and Self, An Anthology*, eds. Kathy Charmaz and Debora A. Paterniti. L.A: Roxbury Publishing.
- (2) Robert, Stephanie A. and James S. House. 2000. "Socioeconomic Inequalities in Health: Integrating Individual-, Community-, and Societal-Level Theory and Research." Pp.115-135 in *The Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine*, Gary Albrecht, Ray Fitzpatrick, and Susan Scrimshaw (eds). London:Sage.
- (3) Lane, Sandra D. and Donald A. Cibula. 2000. "Gender and Health." Pp.136-153 in *The Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine*, Gary Albrecht, Ray Fitzpatrick, and Susan Scrimshaw (eds). London:Sage
- (4) Baynton, Douglas, C. 2001. " Disability and the Justification of Inequality in American History" in The New Disability History: American Perspectives. Eds. Paul K. Longmore and Lauri Umamsky. NY: New York UP. Pp. 33-57.**
- (5) Hahn, Harlan. The Political Implications of Disability Definitions and Data. Journal of Disability Policy Studies; 1993; 4(2): 41-52.**
- (6) Yount, Kathryn M. 2002."Like Mother, like Daughter? Female Genital Cutting in Minia, Egypt." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 43(3): 336-358.

Supplemental readings:

- (7) Pappas G, Queen S, Hadden W, Fisher G. 1993. The Increasing Disparity In Mortality Between Socioeconomic Groups in The United States, 1960 And 1986. *New England Journal of Medicine* 329(3) : 103-109.
- (8) Lantz PM, House JS, Lepkowski JM, Williams DR, Mero RP, Chen J. 1998. Socioeconomic Factors, Health Behaviors and Mortality. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 279 (21): 1703-1708.

Week 5

Medicalization and the social construction of health and illness.

Required Readings:

- (1) Turner, Bryan. 2004. "The Social Construction of Knowledge." Pp. 36-81 in *The New Medical Sociology: Social Forms of Health and Illness*. New York: Norton.

- (2) Pfohl, Stephen J. 2003. "The 'Discovery' of Child Abuse." Pp. 69-86 in *Health and Health Care as Social Problems*, Peter Conrad and Valerie Leiter (eds). Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield.
- (3) Johnson, Michael P. and Karl Hufbauer. 2003. "Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and a Medical Research Problem since 1945." Pp. 87-106 in *Health and Health Care as Social Problems*, Peter Conrad and Valerie Leiter (eds). Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield
- (4) Schnieder, Joseph W. 2003. "Drinking as a Disease: Alcoholism as a Social Accomplishment." Pp. 9-24 in *Health and Health Care as Social Problems*, Peter Conrad and Valerie Leiter (eds). Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield
- (5) Conrad, Peter and Deborah Potter. 2003. "From Hyperactive Children to ADHD Adults: Observations on the Expansion of Medical Categories." Pp. 39-66 in *Health and Health Care as Social Problems*, Peter Conrad and Valerie Leiter (eds). Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield
- (6) **Kudlick, Catherine J. 2003. "Disability History: Why We Need Another 'Other'," *The American Historical Review* 108: 763-793.**

Supplemental readings:

- (7) Brumberg, Joan Jacobs. 1997. "Anorexia Nervosa in Context." In *The Sociology of Health and Illness: Critical Perspectives, 5th edition* ed. Peter Conrad. New York: St. Martin's Press, 110-124.
- (8) Kushner, Howard I., Christena H. Turner, John F. Bastian, & Jane C. Burns. 2004. "The Narratives of Kawasaki Disease" *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 78: 410-439.

Week 6

Experiences of health and illness

Required Readings:

- (1) McElroy, Ann and Mary Ann Jezewski. 2000. "Cultural Variation in the Experience of Health and Illness." Pp. 191-209 in *The Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine*, Gary Albrecht, Ray Fitzpatrick, and Susan Scrimshaw (eds). London:Sage.
- (2) Klienman, Arthur and Don Seeman. 2000. "Personal Experience of Illness." Pp. 230-242 in *The Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine*, Gary Albrecht, Ray Fitzpatrick, and Susan Scrimshaw (eds). London:Sage.
- (3) Kathy Charmaz. 2000. "Experiencing Chronic Illness." Pp. 277-292 in *The Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine*, Gary Albrecht, Ray Fitzpatrick, and Susan Scrimshaw (eds). London:Sage
- (4) Garland -Thomson, Rosemarie. 1997. *Extraordinary Bodies: Figuring Physical Disability in American Culture and Literature*. New York: Columbia University Press. Pp. 5-18.
- (5) **Johnson, Harriet McBryde. 2003. Unspeakable Conversations. The New York Times Magazine February 16, 2003.**

Supplemental readings:

- (6) Turner, Bryan. 2004. "Time, Self and Disruption." Pp. 131-162 in *The New Medical Sociology: Social Forms of Health and Illness*. New York: Norton.
- (7) Goffman, Erving. *Stigma : Notes on the Management of Spoiled Identity*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall; 1963.

Week 7

Addiction

Required Readings:

- (1) Gardner, Eliot L. 1999. "The Neurobiology and Genetics of Addiction: Implications of the 'Reward Deficiency Syndrome' for Therapeutic Strategies in Chemical Dependency." Pp. 57-119 in *Addiction: Entries and Exits*, Jon Elster (ed). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- (2) Waal, Helge and Jorg Morland. 1999. "Addiction as Impeded Rationality." Pp. 120-148 in *Addiction: Entries and Exits*, Jon Elster (ed). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- (3) Watson, Gary. 1999. "Disordered Appetites: Addiction, Compulsion, and Dependence." Pp. 3-28 in *Addiction: Entries and Exits*, Jon Elster (ed). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Supplemental readings:

- (4) Acker, Caroline Jean. 1999. "Addicts as Objects of Study: Clinical Encounters in the 1920s." Pp. 279-300 in *Addiction: Entries and Exits*, Jon Elster (ed). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- (5) Sterk, Claire E. 1999. *Fast Lives: Women Who Use Crack Cocaine*. Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press.

Week 8

Professionalization

Required Readings:

- (1) Timmermans, Stefan and Alison Angell. 2001. "Evidence-Based Medicine, Clinical Uncertainty, and Learning to Doctor." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 42: 342-359.
- (2) Hafferty, Frederic. 1999. "Mr. Kiwauski." In *Health, Illness and Healing: Society, Social Context and Self, An Anthology*, eds. Kathy Charmaz and Debora A. Paterniti. L.A: Roxbury Publishing, 207-219.
- (3) Klass, Perri. 1999. "A Weekend in the Life of a Medical Student." In *Health, Illness and Healing: Society, Social Context and Self, An Anthology*, eds. Kathy Charmaz and Debora A. Paterniti. L.A: Roxbury Publishing, 121-131.

Supplemental readings:

- (4) *Encyclopedia of Medical History*. Pp. 179-184

Week 9

Medical authority

Required Readings:

- (1) Starr, Paul. 1982. *The Social Transformation of American Medicine: The Rise of a Sovereign Profession and the Making of a Vast Industry*. Basic Books. Book I.

Week 10

Social insurance

Required Readings:

- (1) Starr, Paul. 1982. *The Social Transformation of American Medicine: The Rise of a Sovereign Profession and the Making of a Vast Industry*. Basic Books. Book II.

Week 11

Health care systems

Required Readings:

- (1) Scott, W. Richard., Ruef, Martin, Mendel, Peter J., & Caronna, Carol A. 2000. Institutional Change and Healthcare Organizations: From Professional Dominance to Managed Care. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 1-69
- (2) Bodenheimer, Thomas S. and Kevin Grumbach. 2002. *Understanding Health Policy*. New York: McGraw-Hill. Chapters 4-7.
- (3) Sosin, Michael R. "Negotiating Case Decisions in Substance Abuse Managed Care." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 43:277-295

Supplemental readings:

- (5) Weitz 223-246; 249-257

Week 12

Health movements

Required Readings:

- (1) Brown, Stephen, Stephen Zavestoski, Sabrina McCormick, Brian Mayer, Rachel Morello-Frosch, Rebecca Gasior Altman. 2004. "Embodied Health Movements: New Approaches To Social Movements In Health." *Sociology of Health and Illness*, 26:1-31
- (2) Gamson, Josh. 2003. "Silence, death and the Invisible Enemy: AIDS Activism and Social Movement 'Newness'." Pp. 125-144 in *Health and Health Care as Social Problems*, Peter Conrad and Valerie Leiter (eds). Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield.
- (3) Quinby, Ernest and Samuel R. Friedman. 2003. "Dynamics of Black Mobilization against AIDS in New York City." Pp. 145-160 in *Health and Health Care as Social Problems*, Peter Conrad and Valerie Leiter (eds). Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield.

Supplemental readings:

- (4) Turner, Bryan. 2004. "The New Medical Sociology." Pp. 270-313 in *The New Medical Sociology: Social Forms of Health and Illness*. New York: Norton.

Week 13

Disability movements

Required Readings:

- (1) **DeJong, Gerben. 1983. Defining and Implementing the Independent Living Concept. Independent Living for Physically Disabled People. Nancy M. Crewe, Irving Kenneth Zola, and Associates (editors). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers. Chapter 1.**
- (2) **Shapiro, Joseph. 1993. No Pity: People with Disabilities Forging a New Civil Rights Movement. New York: Times Books/Random House.**

Supplemental readings:

- (3) **Shakespeare, Tom. 1993. Disabled People's Self-Organisation: A New Social Movement? Disability, Handicap & Society. 8(3): 249-64.**
- (4) **Doris Zames Fleischer and Frieda Zames. 2001. The Disability Rights Movement: From Charity to Confrontation. Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press.**

Week 14

Presentation and discussion of papers