

SOCI 3362--Medical Sociology
University of Texas at El Paso
Fall 2019
TR 9:00-10:20 pm
MAIN 205

Instructor

Dr. Ophra Leyser-Whalen, PhD

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30-11:30 am, and by appointment

Teaching Assistant

Required Readings:

- Book: *The Sociology of Health, Illness, and Health Care: A Critical Approach*, **7th ed.** by Rose Weitz
- Articles are posted on Blackboard

Course Objectives: The main objective of this course is to introduce you to the sociological perspective and thinking critically about society. We begin with the idea that we cannot understand the topics of health and illness simply by looking at biological phenomena and medical knowledge, but, instead, we must also consider a variety of social, political, economic, and cultural forces. This course uses sociological perspectives to explore the role and meaning of medicine in modern U.S. society.

This class has been designated as a Liberal Arts Honors Program [LAHP] course. It has received this designation because it features at least five of the Honors course criteria, which include student leadership, advanced readings and/or reviews, opportunities for intensive writing, opportunities for intensive research, opportunities to utilize technology, opportunities to make extensive use of campus resources, community-based experiences, pre-professional opportunities, and development of critical thinking. In broader terms, this course is honors-designated because of its creativity and/or intellectual rigor, both of which are integral components of the Liberal Arts Honors Program. No additional coursework is necessary for this course to count towards the LAHP Honors minor. If you are not a member of the LAHP, and are interested in the program, please visit the LAHP website at <http://academics.utep.edu/lahp>.

Grading:

- **Exams = 150 points**
 - 3 exams (this includes two exams plus a non-comprehensive final) = **50 points each**
- **Paper = 140 points**

- Details on Blackboard. Grade will be based on completing & transcribing interview (**20 points**), outlining paper (**20 points**), draft of paper (**50 points**), final paper (**50 points**)
- **QIPs** (see description below) = **132 points**
 - One assignment will be dropped at the end of the semester (if you complete all the assignments, the extra 1 will count as additional points) = **12 points each**
- **In-class writing assignments = 20 points each**
 - Spaced out through the semester, you must be in class to receive credit, no make ups. One assignment will be dropped at the end of the semester (if you complete all the assignments, the extra 1 will count as additional points).

The course will be graded on a standard scale: 90+ =A, 80-89 =B, 70-79 =C, 60-69 =D, 59 and below is an F.

***Please note that several assignments will be due electronically (emailed as a Word document to me) and I will give you feedback, back to your email. You are responsible for checking your email regularly. ***

Exams: Exams will have multiple-choice and short-answer sections. For the multiple-choice section, students must bring their own #2 pencil to class on the day of the test and one standard Scantron (Form No. 882-E-LOVAS) (the small one) to each exam. Scantron forms are available for purchase at the UTEP University Bookstore. Students may use a pen for the short-answer sections.

QIPS (*Question, Interest, Problem, Summary*)

Homework for this course will be taken in the form of QIPS. Each QIPS is worth 4 points. To develop your critical thinking skills, be an active reader, and prepare for the exams you are required to read the material before coming to class and write down your evaluation of the readings. A typed, one (1) page (double spaced) reflection in the form of a Question, Interest, Problem, and Summary (QIPS) will be ***picked up in class*** on the assigned due day (*see class schedule below*).

Your QIPS need to address all these points:

Question: A substantive question from the readings.

Interest: What caught your attention?

Problem: At least one critique about the reading. For instance, is there a problem with the theory, methods, or claims that the author is making? Does the author contradict him/herself or do they contradict other author (s) findings?

Summary: In 2 to 3 sentences tell me what the main points of the reading were.

You will turn in your typed QIPS in class on the day they are due. QIPS should not be e-mailed to Professor or TA.

Attendance: I highly encourage you to attend all class sessions, but will not be taking attendance. I value your attendance in class and regular attendance will improve your

performance on the exams because you will be tested on information in the text and information provided during my lectures. If you have to miss class, I recommend that you borrow the class notes from a classmate. The professor and teaching assistant will not provide class notes to students.

Blackboard: You can access this course's Blackboard site through your my.utep.edu portal (use your email address and password to sign in). Blackboard offers a discussion board that students can use to ask questions of each other. As a requirement of this class, you must regularly check your Blackboard for this class. This is where I will send all class announcements, post any readings, and send personal messages to students. The syllabus and any supplementary course materials will be posted here, along with your grades after each exam and assignment.

Drop Policy: I will NOT drop students from the course. If a student chooses to drop the course, it is the student's responsibility to do so. Failure to do so will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Classroom Conduct: Unprofessional behavior (e.g., texting, sleeping, talking, using Facebook, and internet surfing) will not be tolerated. Students who arrive late or need to leave early should sit near the door to minimize class disruptions. All cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off. If a student is acting unprofessionally, he/she will be required to leave class for the day. Permission is required to have guests attend class with you. Unauthorized guests will be asked to leave.

Making up work: Make up work is acceptable only if I receive written documentation, prior to the absence, if it is a valid excuse. If you have an emergency and cannot contact me prior, contact me within 48 hours of your missed test/assignment. Religious observers and student competitors also need to inform me of absences.

Academic Integrity: This course is based on the principle of academic integrity. Students are responsible for their own academic behavior, and for making themselves fully aware of UTEP's policies. Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student and possessing unauthorized materials during a test. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as ones' own. And, collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students' Office for disciplinary action. In addition to receiving a failing grade in the class, the student may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Further information can be gained from the UTEP Dean of Students' web page. Go to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/>, then click the "Student Conduct" tab on the top.

Disability: Any student with a disability that may prevent her/him from fully demonstrating her/his abilities should contact me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate educational opportunity. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP

Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. This should be done within the first 2 weeks of classes.

If you are in the Liberal Arts Honors Program, this is an honors- designated course. The honors course criteria it meets are: student leadership, advanced readings, opportunities for intensive writing, opportunities for intensive research, and development of critical thinking.

Course Schedule (Subject to change)

Week	Dates	Topic	Assignment
Week 1	Aug 27 Aug 29	Introduction to Sociology of Health	W: Chapter 1
Week 2	Sept 3 Sept 5	Social Sources of Illness	W: Chapter 2 QIPS on Ch 2 due
Week 3	Sept 10 Sept 12	Social Distribution of Illness	W: Chapter 3 Courtenay article (QIPS on article due)
Week 4	Sept 17 Sept 19	 Social Meaning of Illness	EXAM ONE W: Chapter 5
Week 5	Sept 24 Sept 26	Social Meaning... Cont'd Big Pharma/ Interviewing	Rosenhan article (QIPS on article due) In-class work for your final paper today (very important!)
Week 6	Oct 1 Oct 3	Big Pharma cont'd Chronic Illness/ Disability	 Frederick article (QIPS on article due)
Week 7	Oct 8 Oct 10	Chronic Illness/ Disability cont'd Health Care	W: Chapter 6 W: Chapter 8 QIPS on Ch 8 due
Week 8	Oct 15 Oct 17	Health Care Global Health Care	 Anderson article (QIPS on article due)
Week 9	Oct 22	Global Health Care cont'd	TRANSCRIPTIONS FOR PAPER DUE

	Oct 24		W: Chapter 9 QIPS on Ch 9 due
Week 10	Oct 29		EXAM TWO
	Oct 31	Profession of Medicine	W: Chapter 11 (QIPS on Ch 11 due)
Week 11	Nov 5	Profession of Medicine cont'd	PAPER OUTLINE DUE
	Nov 7		Chen article (QIPS on article due)
Week 12	Nov 12	Alternative Health Care	W: Chapter 12
	Nov 14		PAPER DRAFT DUE
Week 13	Nov 19	Bioethics	W: Chapter 13
	Nov 21		Turner article (QIPS on article due)
Week 14	Nov 26	Bioethics Cont'd	Carrese et al. article (QIPS on article due)
	Nov 28	NO CLASS-THANKSGIVING	
Week 15	Dec 3	Bioethics Cont'd	Blackhall et al article (QIPS on article due)
	Dec 5		PAPER DUE
Final	Dec 10	10-12:45pm	EXAM THREE