

SOCI 3362--Medical Sociology
University of Texas at El Paso
Spring 2022
12-1:20pm
LART 303

Instructor: Dr. Ophra Leyser-Whalen

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Office Hours: TR 11-11:30am or by appointment

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Office Hours: MW 1-1:30pm

Required Readings:

- Howard Waitzkin, Alina Pérez, Matt Anderson, *Social Medicine and the Coming Transformation* (Routledge, 2021) ISBN 9781138685987
- 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**

- 2 exams covering topics from readings and class lectures and discussions. Exams will be posted on Blackboard. = **100 points each**
- **Paper**
 - Details on Blackboard. Draft of paper (**50 points**), final paper (**100 points**).
- **QIPS** (see description below)
 - **10 points each = 120 total points**
- **In-class writing assignments**
 - Spaced out through the semester, you must be in class to receive credit, no make ups. = **10 points each**
- **Extra Credit Offered Throughout the Semester**—will count as an in-class assignment

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 most assignments will be due electronically on Blackboard and I will give you feedback. You are responsible for checking your email and Blackboard regularly. ***

QIPS: To develop your critical thinking skills, be an active reader, and prepare for the exams you are required to read the material 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 *due on Blackboard* 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.

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). 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 or assignments, 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	Reading & Assignment
Week 1	Jan 18-21	Introduction to Sociology of Health	Chapter 1 QIPS Ch 1 due
Week 2	Jan 24-28	Social Sources of Illness	Chapter 2 QIPS Ch 2 due
Week 3	Jan 31- Feb 4	Social Determination— environment, economy, and health	Chapter 3 QIPS Ch 3 due
Week 4	Feb 7-11	Social Determination—Class, race/ethnicity, gender	Chapter 4 QIPS Ch 4 due
Week 5	Feb 14-18	Medicalization	Rosenhan article QIPS Rosenhan article due
Week 6	Feb 21-25	Social Medicine in the United States—Health Care	Ch 5 QIPS Ch 5 due
Week 7	Feb 28-Mar 4		Ch 5 cont'd EXAM ONE DUE
Week 8	March 7-11	Nursing/ Profession of Medicine	Chen article QIPS Chen article due
Week 9: SPRING BREAK	Mar 14-18		

Week 10	Mar 21-24	Profession of Medicine cont'd	PAPER DRAFT DUE
Week 11	Mar 28-Apr 1	Social Medicine, Health Care, Patient-Dr encounters	Ch 9 QIPS Ch 9 due
Week 12	Apr 4-8	Health & Empire/ Big Pharma	Ch 6 QIPS Ch 6 due
Week 13	Apr 11-14	Resisting Empire	Ch 7 QIPS Ch 7 due
Week 14	Apr 18-22	Global Health/ Latin America	Ch 8 QIPS Ch 8 due
Week 15	April 25-29	Health Praxis Reform	Ch 10 QIPS Ch 10 due
Week 16	May 2-5	Bioethics	FINAL PAPER DUE
Final	May 10	1-3:45pm	EXAM TWO