

Course discipline/number/title: SOC 2614: Sociology of Health, Illness, and Health Care

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): SOC 1614
4. Other requirements: None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): NA

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course uses the sociological perspective to examine the role of the social environment in health, illness, and health care systems. Historical and contemporary issues relating to medicine, health, and illness are studied along with the diverse ways in which social categories such as gender, race, ethnicity, and social class affect health, illness, and medical care. College level reading and writing skills are recommended.

C. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): February, 2020

D. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

1. Perspectives on the Sociology of Health, Healing, and Illness
  - a) History and Development of Medical Sociology
  - b) The Development of Medicine
2. The Influence of the Social Environment on Health and Illness
  - a) Social Epidemiology
  - b) Society, Disease, and Illness
  - c) Social Stress
3. Health and Illness Behavior
  - a) Health Behavior
  - b) Illness and Disability
4. Health Care Practitioners and Their Relationship with Patients
  - a) Physicians and the Medical Profession
  - b) Medical Education
  - c) Nurses, Mid-Level Practitioners, and Allied Health Workers
  - d) Healing Options
  - e) Physicians' Ethics, Obligations, and Relationships with Patients
5. The Health Care System
  - a) Health Care in the United States
  - b) Health Care delivery
  - c) Health Care technology
  - d) Comparative Health Care Systems

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:

1. Apply the sociological perspective and its founding theoretical perspectives to understand health, illness, and healing along with the U.S. health care system.
2. Demonstrate how the social structure of the health care system affects human thought and action at both the micro and macro levels.
3. Explain how hierarchy, power, and authority influence the operation of the health care system.
4. Articulate how the meanings of health and illness are socially constructed.

F. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA

G. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING: Methods may include but are not limited to:

1. Essay exams
2. Research papers
3. Quizzes
4. Objective exams
5. Written homework

- G. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING: Methods may include but are not limited to:  
Continued. . .
6. Small group projects and/or activities
  7. Discussions
  8. Journals
- H. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S). This course contributes to meeting the following RCTC Core Outcome(s):  
Global Awareness and Diversity. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and respect for human diversity through their words and actions.
- I. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None