



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on in their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title	Course Code Number	Credit Value
Health, Policy, and Society (Term 2 – January to April 2020)	KIN 261	3 credits

Prerequisites: Completion of 1st year kinesiology core courses.

Course Instructor: Dr. Laura Hurd

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Office Hours: By appointment

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COURSE STRUCTURE

Class Time: Wednesdays – 16:00 to 19:00 (4 to 7pm)

Lecture Location: UBC Life Building, Room 2201 (16:00 to 18:00) (4 to 6pm)

Tutorial Locations: Neville Scarfe, Rooms 201, 202, and 209 (18:00 to 19:00) (6 to 7pm)

The course will be held on **Wednesdays** from **16:00 to 19:00**. The first two hours of the class will be held in the main lecture theatre (UBC Life Building, Room 2201) where there will be a lecture followed by a documentary viewing or guest speaker. During the third hour of class, the group will divide into tutorial groups, which will meet in smaller classrooms in Neville Scarfe. Please see the Tutorial Group list to find out your assigned group you and you will meet in the third hour of class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the sociology of health and illness. The first part of the course provides students with a theoretical and macro sociological view of health and illness. To that end, we will discuss key sociological theories regarding health as well as the history and structure of the Canadian health care system. During the second part of the course, we will continue our exploration of sociological theory with a particular focus on the individual experience of health and illness and the social determinants of health.

Rationale

This course is part of the core curriculum in the School of Kinesiology. The course material builds on the social theories and concepts introduced in KIN 161 whilst also shifting the focus from sport and physical activity to an examination of health and health policy. The course will provide students with an in-depth understanding of the Canadian health care system and pressing, current health issues, considered from a sociological perspective. As such, the course will provide a further sociological foundation for students interested in pursuing careers in health care and health-related fields.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

Week#1 – Introduction (January 8, 2020)

This week we will begin by reviewing the course content and evaluation procedures. The opening remarks will include an examination of the biomedical and social models of health. Following the documentary, tutorial groups will begin this week in the third hour of class.

Week#2 – Social Models of Health and Illness (January 15, 2020)

This week the opening remarks will continue to outline sociological understandings of health and illness by focusing on two particular theories, namely Structural Functionalism and Marxism (Conflict Theory) and beginning to consider the social determinants of health.

Week #3 – The Canadian Health Care System (January 22, 2020)

This week we will examine the changing health care system in Canada. Beginning with an overview of the historical roots of our current health care system, the opening remarks will discuss contemporary problems and issues, including ongoing debates pertaining to public versus private health care.

Week#4 – Health Professionals (January 29, 2020)

This week we will use the sociological theory Weberianism to consider the experiences of health professionals working in the Canadian health care system.

Week#5 – Chronic Illness and Disability (February 5, 2020)

This week we will use the sociological theory Symbolic Interactionism to examine how people perceive and experience chronic illness, including chronic pain and mental health issues, and disability.

Week#6 – Indigenous Peoples and Health (February 12, 2020)

After briefly discussing the upcoming midterm exam, we will focus on the health and social issues facing Aboriginal Peoples in Canada. Of special note: Kory Wilson will be our guest speaker.

No Class on February 19 due to the Midterm Break (February 18-21)

Week#7 – Midterm exam (February 26, 2020)

No tutorials today.

Week#8 – Gender and Health (March 4, 2020)

This week the opening remarks for this week will introduce feminist theory and consider the relationships between gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, and health.

Week#9 – The Pharmaceutical Industry (March 11, 2020)

This week the opening remarks will consider the role of the pharmaceutical industry in the commercialization and marketing of health and health care products as well as the medicalization of everyday life.

Week#10 – Aging and Health (March 18, 2020)

This week the opening remarks will focus on the concept of ageism to explore the health and illness experiences of older adults.

Week#11 – Ethnicity, Racialization, and Health (March 25, 2020)

Beginning with an examination of human rights and anti-racism sociological frameworks, this week we will examine the relationships between ethnicity and health, with a particular focus on new immigrants and refugees in Canada.

Week#12 – Health and the Environment (April 1, 2020)

This week we will use the sociological theories of Post-structuralism/Postmodernism to consider the relationships between our environment, environmental policies and practices, and our health.

Week#13 – Wrap Up and Review (April 8, 2020)

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students taking this course will become familiar with the sociological theories and socio-cultural research concerned with health and health policy. The goal of the course is to provide students with sufficient knowledge and understanding that they will be able to critically (1) examine health in a social context; (2) use sociological theories to explore topics related to health and illness; and (3) explicate the tensions between agency and determinism in relation to health, illness, and the social determinants of health.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will have:

1. **Identified** important aspects of the Canadian healthcare system, including the Canada Health Act and key historical moments in the development of contemporary Canadian health policy. (*Assessment = Midterm and Final*)
2. **Discussed and expounded** upon the debates between agency and structure as they relate to individual and population health. (*Assessment = Midterm, Final and Tutorial Activities*)
3. **Described** the social aspects of health and illness, including but not limited to the social determinants of health and the social norms influencing health and illness experiences. (*Assessment = Midterm, Final and Written Assignment*)

4. **Demonstrated** proficiency in applying sociological concepts to everyday experiences of health and illness. (*Assessment = Written Assignment*)

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students are expected to come to class, having done the assigned readings in advance as well as having downloaded the incomplete lecture notes for completion during class. Participation in weekly tutorials is required. Students will additionally be required to write a mid-term and final exam as well as complete a writing assignment.

LEARNING MATERIALS

Textbook

The textbook for this course is available at the UBC Bookstore and is as follows:

Germov, J., & Hornosty, J. (Eds.) (2017). *Second opinion: An introduction to health sociology* (2nd Canadian ed.). Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford.

Each week, a specific chapter will be assigned as required reading. The schedule of assigned readings is listed on Canvas and above in the 'Schedule of Topics' section.

The instructor will upload lecture summary to Canvas ahead of class. Students should download or print off the incomplete lecture summary sheets and bring them to class so that they can make additional notes on the handouts.

This course makes extensive use of video documentaries. Many of these documentaries are available through UBC Library and others can be viewed for free online. The names of the videos and the library call number and/or links are noted below and will also be posted on Canvas.

Additional resources and information about specific assignments will be made available on Connect throughout the term.

ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING

Summary

Tutorial Participation and Activities	10%
Mid Term Exam (<i>February 26, 2020</i>)	20%
Written Assignment (<i>March 25, 2020</i>)	30%
Final Exam	40%

Tutorial Group Participation

Each student will be randomly assigned to a tutorial group that will meet during the last hour of class. Tutorials will be facilitated by Teaching Assistants and will provide students with an opportunity to discuss the issues and material presented in lectures. Students will receive a participation mark that will be based on attendance and the completion of small, in class assignments during tutorials.

Mid Term Exam

On Wednesday, **February 26, 2020** (Week#7), there will be a midterm exam held in class. This exam will cover all the lecture material, required chapter readings, and documentaries for Weeks#1 – 6. The mid-term exam will take the form of multiple-choice, true/false, and short answer questions.

Written Assignment

The assignment is due on Wednesday, **April 1, 2020** (Week#12). Students will submit a written assignment online via the course's Canvas page (<http://canvas.ubc.ca>). Assignments are due at 4pm. (See policy regarding late assignments below).

During the first nine weeks of the course, we will collectively compile a list of current health issues (taken from class discussions, newspaper articles, etc.). This list will be shared in class and on Canvas. Each student will then select a topic from the list and independently complete the assignment.

The assignment will entail a consideration of the health issue from a sociological perspective. Students will select one of the sociological theories (and respective key concepts) presented in the weekly lectures to discuss and analyze the health issues. Additionally, students will utilize and reference two (published during or after 2011) **sociological journal articles** that have researched or theorized the topic. Further details about the assignment, including a grading rubric, will be presented in class and posted on Canvas.

Final Exam

Held during the official examination period (April 14 – 29, 2020), the final exam will include multiple-choice, true/false, and short answer questions. The final exam is cumulative and will cover all of the course material from Weeks#1 – 12.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.

Details of the policies and how to access support are available on **the UBC Senate website**.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Class Attendance

Regular class attendance is expected of students for all lectures and tutorials. Students who neglect their academic work and assignments may be excluded from final examinations. Students who are absent from class for whatever reason are responsible for obtaining the missed lecture materials from a classmate or, in the case of documentaries, from the UBC library system.

Students who unavoidably absent for multiple classes should contact Dr. Hurd Clarke to discuss. (Please note further policies on missing tutorial and/or exams outlined below.)

Classroom Conduct

In order to create a respectful and stimulating learning environment, the instructor requests that everyone in the class abide by the ‘one person speaks at a time’ rule. Thus, students are asked to refrain from engaging in side conversations during lectures, guest speaker presentations, documentaries, and tutorials.

Extensions

Extensions for written assignments will only be granted in cases of medical or serious family emergencies. Students must contact the instructor prior to the due date of the paper in order to discuss an extension.

Late Written Assignments

Written assignments will be accepted with a penalty of two marks per day (including weekends) out of the total 30 marks for the assignment, with each day ending at 4PM. Assignments not submitted online via the course’s Canvas page by 4PM on April 1, 2020 will be considered late and subject to mark deductions. Late assignments should also be submitted online via Canvas.

Missed Midterm Exam

There are no make-up exams for the **Midterm**. Should students miss the midterm exam due to illness, family emergency, sports team commitments, or other extenuating circumstances, the final exam will become worth 60% of the student’s final grade.

Missed Tutorials

Students who miss a **Tutorial** due to medical/serious family emergencies, varsity athletic commitments, or other similar reasons will have the option to complete a brief (one to two pages), individual, reflective writing assignment based on that week’s tutorial activity in order to receive their attendance and participation marks. Students must contact the tutorial leader (Teaching Assistant) by 4pm on the Friday following the missed tutorial to request the make-up assignment. They will then have until 4pm the following Wednesday (i.e. next class) to submit.

Grading

Occasionally students disagree with the marks they receive. To request a review of a mark the following procedure must be followed. The student should write approximately one-page typed memo describing in detail the nature of the perceived marking error and the basis for the request to review. This memo must be submitted to the instructor by email. Requests may be submitted for review **no sooner than 48 hours**, and **no later than one week after the assignments/exams are handed back** (exact date to be confirmed, depending on final exam date). Please note that when a mark is reviewed, the final re-graded mark may stay the same, be increased, or go down from the originally assigned grade.

Learning Analytics

Learning analytics includes the collection and analysis of data about learners to improve teaching and learning. This course will be using the Canvas learning technology, which will enable the

instructor to capture data about your activity and provide information that can be used to improve the quality of teaching and learning. In this course, I plan to review statistics on course content being accessed to support improvements in the course.

Copyright

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