

SOC 6022H Sociology of Health & Illness Fall 2017

Mondays 4-6PM

Instructor: William Magee, Associate Professor

Medical sociologists work in diverse settings (e.g. NGOs, hospitals, public health organizations, academic departments at universities, etc.). Research in the field also employs many different methods and theoretical orientations. This course surveys the field, broadly defined.

Summary of Evaluation:

Take Home Test 1 - 15% : Distributed October 16, Due October 20

Take Home Test 2 - 15% : Distributed November 20, Due November 24

Reaction Papers (3 pages, 6% each, for 2 weeks) 12%

In-class Overview of Readings & Issues (8% each week, for 2 weeks) 16%

Research Paper (20 pages) 34% Due Dec. 7

Attendance & Verbal Participation: 8%

Detailed Description of Evaluation

Attendance & Participation: Attendance at all classes is expected. It is also expected that you will be able to respond knowledgeably to questions about the readings when asked, and give your opinion about issues raised in the readings. If you have to miss class, it is good form to notify the instructor in advance. If you miss a more than one class due to illness, or if you miss any class when you are scheduled to present for that reason, you must submit a Verification of Student Illness or Injury form (see below).

Reaction Papers: For two of the weeks that you are *not* assigned to do an in-class presentation you will write a 3-4 page paper that provides an analysis of a theoretically or methodologically relevant topic raised in one or more of the assigned readings. Some synthesis across readings is also encouraged. You might be assigned a topic for a reaction paper. *Penalty for late submission* is 1 point per day (out of the 6 allotted).

In-class Overview of Readings & Issues: Outline the most important issues raised in (or by) all the readings for the week. Although this will require some amount of review and descriptive summary, you should also place issues raised in the readings in broader historical and theoretical context. For example, historical trends in economic inequality provide relevant context for thinking about the association of

inequality with health). Your presentation might also should outline and critique focal research questions or theoretical issues address in the specific papers, methodology, or policy implications. You should be prepared to present for 30 minutes, in 10-minute segments, interspersed with discussion.

Research Paper: Topic must be approved after an individual meeting. *Marking:* Grading of papers and essays will be based on how well you draw on the literature in logically coherent and innovative ways. Part of the credit will be allocated on the basis of technical aspects of writing (i.e., grammar, sentence structure, references, etc.). Please submit both a hard copy and electronic version (in a .docx file). *Penalty for late submission* is 1 point per weekday.

Take Home Tests: You will be given two questions at the end of class on Monday October 16, and again Monday November 20. Your answers to one of the two questions will be due about four-days later, on Friday October 20 and November 24 respectively, at 4pm. Some questions are likely to be in the form of comprehensive exam questions. Answers should be 4-5 pages, double-spaced, excluding references and cover page. There will be no extensions; lateness penalty will be 100%, except in cases of documented serious illness, or serious personal problem.

Illness: Please note that requests for medically based exemptions from deadlines must be accompanied by a duly completed Verification of Student Illness or Injury form (available at www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca). A doctor's note is not acceptable. The original form must be given to me in person, with the opportunity for me to make a hard copy. Forms that are scanned or xeroxed may not be accepted. The university will accept documentation of medical matters only on the U of T Verification of Illness or Injury form, which may only be completed only by a physician, surgeon, nurse practitioner, dentist or clinical psychologist.

Reading List & Course Schedule

The following is a *tentative* reading list.

I. Broad Trends in Health & Mortality

Week 1.

September 11

Overview & Introductions

Hannah Bradby. (2016). Research Agenda in Medical Sociology. *Frontiers in Sociology*, 1, 14, 1-4.

Suggestion: briefly review an undergrad text on medical sociology or sociology of health and illness

Scheduling of reaction papers and in-class overviews

Week 2:

September 18

Epidemiology, Public Health, Medicine & Medicalization

James Colgrove. 2002. "The McKeown thesis: a historical controversy and its enduring influence." *American Journal of Public Health* **92**(5): 725-729.

Anne Case and Angus Deaton. 2017. "Mortality and Morbidity in the 21st Century (Conference Version)." Vol. *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*. 1-59

World Health Organization "Summary, & Road Traffic Injuries" pp 173-181 in Health in 2015: from MDGs to SDGs in "Chapter 8: Injuries & Violence".
<http://www.who.int/gho/publications/mdgs-sdgs/en/>

Jocalyn Clark. 2014. "Medicalization of Global Health 1: Has the Global Health Agenda Become Too Medicalized?". *Global health action* 7. 1-6

Joan Busfield. 2017. "The Concept of Medicalisation Reassessed." *Sociology of Health & Illness*. 1-16.

Simon J Williams, Catherine Coveney and Jonathan Gabe. 2017. "The Concept of Medicalisation Reassessed: A Response to Joan Busfield." *Sociology of Health & Illness*. 1-6.

Rebecca L Siegel, Stacey A Fedewa, William F Anderson, Kimberly D Miller, Jiemin Ma, Philip S Rosenberg and Ahmedin Jemal. 2017. "Colorectal Cancer Incidence Patterns in the United States, 1974–2013." *JNCI: Journal of the National Cancer Institute* 109(8). 1-6

II. Life Course & Health in Context

Week 3:

September 25

Lifecourse & Illness: Micro to Macro Issues

Michael EJ Wadsworth and Diana Kuh. 2016. "Epidemiological Perspectives on the Life Course." Pp. 639-659 in *Handbook of the Life Course*: Springer.

Brea L. Perry. 2015. "The Sociology of, in, and with Genetics: The Role of Medical Sociology in the Era of "-Omics"." Genetics, Health and Society (Advances in Medical Sociology (Volume 16) Emerald Group Publishing Limited, **only pp. xi-xix** (9 pages total)

Kate Weiner, Paul Martin, Martin Richards and Richard Tutton. 2017 (forthcoming). "Have We Seen the Geneticisation of Society? Expectations and Evidence." *Sociology of Health & Illness*. 1-16

Chioun Lee, Tsenkova V and Carr D. 2014. "Childhood trauma and metabolic syndrome in men and women" *Social Science & Medicine* 105: 122-130.

Alexandra Michel. 2015. "Dualism at Work: The Social Circulation of Embodiment Theories in Use" *Signs and Society*, 3(S1), S41-S69.

Matthew A. Andersson. 2016. "Chronic Disease at Midlife: Do Parent-Child Bonds Modify the Effect of Childhood SES?". *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 57(3):373-389.

Eileen N. Crimmins and Sarinnapha M. Vasunilashorn. 2015. "Biodemography: Adding Biological Insight into Social, Economic, and Psychological Models of Population and Individual Health Change with Age." Pp. 55-75 in Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences, edited by L. George and K. Ferraro: Academic Press.

Rhys Price-Robertson, & C. Duff (2016). Realism, materialism, and the assemblage: Thinking psychologically with Manuel DeLanda. *Theory & Psychology*, Vol. 26(1) 58-76 (**read only pp 70-74**) – provides some a philosophical context)

Week 4

October 2

"Fundamental Causes": Social Positions, Mediation & Moderating Processes & Health

Sean AP Clouston, Marcie S Rubin, Jo C Phelan and Bruce G Link. 2016. "A Social History of Disease: Contextualizing the Rise and Fall of Social Inequalities in Cause-Specific Mortality." *Demography* 53(5):1631-1656.

Karen Lutfeiy and Jeremy Freese. 2005. Toward Some Fundamentals of Fundamental Causality: Socioeconomic Status and Health in the Routine Clinic Visit for Diabetes. *American Journal of Sociology* 110: 1326-1372.
<http://go.utlib.ca/cat/7684063>

Bradley R Crammond & Gemma Carey. 2016 "What Do We Mean by 'Structure' when We Talk About Structural Influences on the Social Determinants of Health Inequalities?". *Social Theory & Health*:1-15.

Ellis P. Monk Jr, 2015. "The Cost of Color: Skin Color, Discrimination, and Health among African-Americans 1." *American Journal of Sociology* 121(2):396-444.

Andrea E. Willson and Kim M. Shuey. 2016. "Life Course Pathways of Economic Hardship and Mobility and Midlife Trajectories of Health." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 57(3):407-22.

Jenny Torssander and Ylva B Almquist. 2017. "Trajectories of Economic, Work-and Health-Related Disadvantage and Subsequent Mortality Risk: Findings from the 1953 Stockholm Birth Cohort." *Advances in Life Course Research* 31:57-67.

THANKSGIVING

October 9

Week 5

October 16

Politics, Governance & Health: A Sampling of Levels & Contexts

Ramya Kumar, Anne-Emanuelle Birn and Peggy McDonough. 2016. "Agenda-Setting in Women's Health: Critical Analysis of a Quarter Century of Paradigm Shifts in International and Global Health." *Handbook on gender and health*:25-43.

Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English. from "Complaints & Disorders: The Sexual Politics of Sickness." Pp 11-24

Asadul Islam, Paul Raschky and Russell Smyth. 2011. "The Long-Term Health Effects of Mass Political Violence: Evidence from China's Cultural Revolution." *Social Indicators Research*:1-16.

Gholam Khiabany. 2016. "Refugee Crisis, Imperialism and Pitiless Wars on the Poor." *Media, Culture & Society*: 1-8.

Aronowitz, Robert. 2015. "Lyme Disease Vaccines: A Cautionary Tale of Risk Intervention." Pp. 111-35 in *Risky Medicine: Our Quest to Cure Fear and Uncertainty*: University of Chicago Press.

Scott Vrecko. 2016. "Risky Bodies, Drugs and Biopolitics: On the Pharmaceutical Governance of Addiction and Other 'Diseases of Risk'." *Body & Society* 22(3):54-76.

Angus Deaton (2013) "How to help those left behind. The great escape: health, wealth, and the origins of inequality". Princeton University Press, 267-313.

Matthew Basilio, Jonathan Weigel, Anjali Motgi, Jacob Bor and Salmaan Keshavjee. 2013. "Health for All? Competing Theories and Geopolitics." [Reimagining global health: an introduction](#): 74-110.

Bartley, Mel. 2016. Health Inequality: An Introduction to Concepts, Theories and Methods (second Edition): John Wiley & Sons. Chapter 11. The Way Forward for Research and Policy Debate (10 pages)

TAKE-HOME TEST Distributed – Due FRIDAY Oct 20

Week 6: October 16

Integration & Discussion

We will “catch up”, take stock, further integrate readings, discuss final paper topics, and discuss take-home test.

Discussion newspaper / non-academic magazine articles – e.g.:

“In Sweden, Hundreds Of Refugee Children Gave Up On Life”

<http://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2017/03/30/521958505/only-in-sweden-hundreds-of-refugee-children-gave-up-on-life>

Students are asked to identify articles ahead of time.

Plan student-selected readings for week 12: Each student will identify an academic reading in the “sociology of health” area, not listed on this syllabus, that they think particularly important or interesting for themselves & other students in this course to read and discuss for week 11 (e.g. selections from Health Area comp list, etc.).

III. Cultural & Structural Considerations in Relation to Embodiment & Agency

Week 7: October 23

Sociomateriality & Practices: Body Parts, Medicines, Cigarettes, Lifestyles, Health & Illness Behaviors, etc.

*Nikolas Rose. 2007. “Molecular biopolitics, somatic ethics and the spirit of biocapital” *Social Theory & Health* 5: 3-29. <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/7755576>

Charlotte Ikels. 2013 The anthropology of organ transplantation. *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 42, 89-102

Jeremy A Greene. 2015. "Essential Drugs and Their Critical Legacies." *Reimagining (Bio) Medicalization, Pharmaceuticals and Genetics: Old Critiques and New Engagements*: 89-111

Stanley Blue, Elizabeth Shove, Chris Carmona and Michael P Kelly. 2016. "Theories of Practice and Public Health: Understanding (Un) Healthy Practices." *Critical Public Health* 26(1):36-50.

Sarah L Bell, Jessica Tyrrell and Cassandra Phoenix. 2016. "A Day in the Life of a Ménière's Patient: Understanding the Lived Experiences and Mental Health Impacts of Ménière's Disease." *Sociology of Health & Illness*: 1-16

Jarron M Saint Onge and Patrick M Krueger. 2017. "Health Lifestyle Behaviors among US Adults." *SSM-Population Health* 3:89-98.

Jon Ivar Elstad. 2010. "Indirect Health-Related Selection or Social Causation? Interpreting the Educational Differences in Adolescent Health Behaviours." *Social Theory & Health* 8(2):134-50.

Katie Kilroy-Marac 2016. "A Magical Reorientation of the Modern: Professional Organizers and Thingly Care in Contemporary North America." *Cultural Anthropology* 31(3):438-57.

Week 8: October 30

Health, Healthiness, Healthism: Regulating Health & Fitness

Paul Higgs. 2012. Consuming bodies: Zygmunt Bauman on the difference between fitness and health. In: Scambler G (ed) *Contemporary theorists for medical sociology*. London: Routledge. Routledge, 20-32.

Peter Freund. 2015. "Norbert Elias and Erving Goffman: Civilised-Dramaturgical Bodies, Social Status and Health Inequalities." Pp. 158-73 in *The Palgrave Handbook of Social Theory in Health, Illness and Medicine*: Springer.

Meika Loe. 2008. "The prescription of a new generation" *Contexts*, Vol. 7, No. 2, pp. 46–49

Dana Garbarski. 2016. "Research in and Prospects for the Measurement of Health Using Self-Rated Health." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 80(4):977-97.

Anna Wexler. 2017. "The Social Context of "Do-It-Yourself" Brain Stimulation: Neurohackers, Biohackers, and Lifehackers." *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience* 11:1-6.

Britta Pelters and Barbro Wijma. 2016. "Neither a Sinner nor a Saint: Health as a Present-Day Religion in the Age of Healthism." *Social Theory & Health* 14(1):129-48.

Peeters, Rik and Marc Schuilenburg. 2017. "The Birth of Mindpolitics: Understanding Nudging in Public Health Policy." *Social Theory & Health* 15(2):138-59.

NO CLASS During Undergrad Reading Week

November 6

I assume many will have TA duties for midterms, and will need this time.

Week 9:

November 13

**Self, Symbolic Interaction, and Illness Experience:
From to Cultural Discourse, and Back**

- Carla Willig. 2011. Cancer diagnosis as discursive capture: Phenomenological repercussions of being positioned within dominant constructions of cancer. *Social Science & Medicine* 73: 897-903. <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/7755526>
- Annika Taghizadeh Larsson and Eva Jeppsson Grassman. 2012. Bodily changes among people living with physical impairments and chronic illnesses: biographical disruption or normal illness? *Sociology of Health & Illness* 34: 1156-1169. <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/7755682>
- Maren Klawiter. 2004. Breast cancer in two regimes: the impact of social movements on illness experience. *Sociology of Health & Illness* 26: 845-874.
- Sarah Nettleton. 2006. "I just want permission to be ill': Towards a sociology of medically unexplained symptoms." *Social Science & Medicine* 62(5): 1167-1178.
- Kathy Behrendt. 2017. "Narrative Aversion: Challenges for the Illness Narrative Advocate." *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 42(1):50-69.
- David A. Karp and Lara B. Birk Listening to Voices: Patient Experience and the Meanings of Mental Illness. Chapter 2, pp23-40 The Handbook of the Sociology of Mental Health, 2nd Edition, edited by C. S. Aneshensel, J. C. Phelan, and Alex Bierman. New York: Springer.
- Rochelle Ann Burgess and J Gideon. 2016. "Dangerous Discourses? Silencing Women within "Global Mental Health Practice". *Handbook on Gender and Health*:79-97.
- Brea L. Perry. 2011. "The Labeling Paradox: Stigma, the Sick Role, and Social Networks in Mental Illness." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 52:460-77
- Robert Perinbanayagam. 2016. " The Dialogic of Madness." Pp. Read pp. **123-26 only** in *The Rhetoric of Emotions" a Dramatistic Exploration*. New Brunswick (U.S.A.): Transaction Publishers.

Mental Health & Therapeutic Society on The Boundaries

A separate course focuses on mental health. These readings represent a select sampling of issues that resonate with some previously readings from previous weeks

Piet Bracke. 2016. "Comparative Mental Health Sociology: In between Psychiatric Epidemiology and Theories of Societal Discontent." Pp. 125-54 in *Future Challenges for Health and Health Care in Europe*, Vol. 3: Aalborg University Press.

Alison Abbott. 2016. "The Troubled Minds of Migrants." *Nature* 538:158-60.

Robert Perinbanayagam. 2016. "The Dialogic of Madness." Pp. Read **pp. 36-54 only** in *The Rhetoric of Emotions" a Dramatistic Exploration*. New Brunswick (U.S.A.): Transaction Publishers.

Ben Alderson-Day, Marco Bernini and Charles Fernyhough. 2017. "Uncharted Features and Dynamics of Reading: Voices, Characters, and Crossing of Experiences." *Consciousness and Cognition* 49:98-109.

Kenneth F. Ferraro and Lindsay R. Wilkinson. 2013. "Age, Aging, and Mental Health." Pp. 183 – 204 in *The Handbook of the Sociology of Mental Health*, 2nd Edition, edited by C. S. Aneshensel, J. C. Phelan, and Alex Bierman. New York: Springer.

Christian Bröer and Broos Besseling. 2017. "Sadness or Depression: Making Sense of Low Mood and the Medicalization of Everyday Life." *Social Science & Medicine*. 183: 28-26

Dawne Mouzon 2017. "Religious Involvement and the Black–White Paradox in Mental Health." *Race and Social Problems* 9(1):63-78.

China Mills. 2014. "Psychotropic Childhoods: Global Mental Health and Pharmaceutical Children" *Children & Society* 28: 194-204. <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/7694946>

Des Fitzgerald, Nikolas Rose and Ilina Singh. 2016. "Revitalizing Sociology: Urban Life and Mental Illness between History and the Present." *The British Journal of Sociology* 67(1):138-60.

*Each student or group identifies a reading they chose for the class to read for week 11

Second TAKE-HOME TEST Distributed – Due FRIDAY November 24

Week 11:

November

27

Integration, Discussion & Student Selected Readings

Catch up (e.g. with any lagged presentations).

Discuss just completed take-home test.

Discuss student-selected readings TBD – see weeks 6 & 10 for student selection of readings

Discuss frameworks and theories for integrate readings.

Discuss Strategies for Teaching Undergrad Sociology of Health & Illness

Week 12:

December

4

Review Final Papers & Discuss Future Directions

Schedule & format TBD