

SOC 364H1F: Urban Health
Summer 2014 – MW3-5; SS2135
Professor Jooyoung Lee
Department of Sociology
University of Toronto
jooy.lee@utoronto.ca
Office Hours: W 5-6; 272 inside 725 Spadina Ave
TA: Brigid Burke

b.burke@mail.utoronto.ca

Overview

For generations, medical doctors zeroed in on the individual risk factors that led to diseases, early mortality, and other health disparities in urban poor communities. Social scientists have challenged this approach, showing that social conditions also play an important role in determining who gets sick, dies early, and suffers over the life course. In this course, we will broadly examine the health effects of gun violence and mass incarceration in urban poor communities. My goal is to equip you with an overview of social scientific perspectives on these issues. In addition to stimulating your sociological imagination, I hope that you will leave this course with a more critical understanding of how we might collectively combat these issues and care for the vulnerable.

Required books

Goffman, Alice. 2014. *On the Run: Fugitive Life in an American City*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Shakur, Sanyika. 2004. *Monster: An Autobiography of an L.A. Gang Member*. New York: Grove Press.

Webster, Daniel & Jon Vernick (eds). 2013. *Reducing Gun Violence in America: Informing Policy with Evidence and Analysis*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Introduction

NOTE: The prerequisite for SOC 364H1 is successful completion of a 200+ level SOC course. Students without this prerequisite will be removed at any time they are discovered.

Course Expectations

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory.

You are responsible for all material presented in class. Students who are unable to attend class are responsible for obtaining information about any announcements that may have been made in class as well as notes on the material covered from their classmates.

Proper documentation from a University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate or college registrar is required to justify an absence.

Course Webpage

We will have a course website hosted on Blackboard. This website will contain the course syllabus, links to all the readings that are in journal article form, handouts, and course announcements. You are responsible for all the course materials and for all announcements. Please make sure to check your official utoronto.ca email addresses regularly.

Live Tweets

I encourage you to post ideas from lectures and readings to the course Twitter. These can be observations, questions, random ideas, or links to additional readings and media that relate to course material. Please post using the hashtag: **#SOC364UrbanHealth**. Not only will it encourage critical dialogue with your colleagues, it will also provide me with a sense of what you find interesting, puzzling, and provocative. Each week, I will choose the “top 3” tweets and announce these in lecture. There might be prizes for the most creative and interesting tweets.

Assignments

You will have 4 major grades for this course, which add up to 100% of your final grade (the research paper will be discussed in class):

- 1) An in-class midterm (30%)
- 2) A short research paper (30%)
- 3) An in-class final (30%)
- 4) 2 in-class pop quizzes (10%)

The pop quizzes will be short and in-class assignments. During these assignments, I will play you a video clip or music. You will then write a short response piece on how the multimedia might connect with one of the themes that we have covered in class. These assignments are not meant to test whether or not you know the “right” or “wrong” answers. Instead, these are designed for you to make some connections between readings, lectures, and in-class discussions. Make-ups for these impromptu assignments will **NOT** be accepted. I will only make exceptions for students who provide me with email and medical documentation *before* assignments are due.

Plagiarism: Avoid plagiarism. It is a serious academic offense with serious penalties (see the “Code of Behavior on Academic Matters”). If you are using somebody else’s ideas, do not present them as your own, whether you are quoting exact words, paraphrasing or summarizing. Give proper references if you are using somebody else’s ideas, and use quotation marks if you are quoting. When in doubt, it is always safer to over-reference--you are not going to be penalized for that. Go to <http://turnitin.com> to submit your research paper online. “Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.”

Deadlines: Late work will **NOT** be accepted.* I will only make exceptions for students who provide me with email and medical documentation of an emergency *before* the test dates and

deadline to turn in the essay. **Also, the essay must be turned in by YOU; I will not accept papers from friends in or out of the class. Similarly, these papers will not be due at the beginning or end of class. Instead, I will announce sometime in the course of my lecture when I will collect these essays. I will not accept papers from students who arrive early just to drop off their papers and leave. Similarly, if you are not present when I collect these essays, your paper will be counted as LATE. There are no exceptions to this rule.**

DOCUMENTATION FROM YOUR PHYSICIAN OR COLLEGE REGISTRAR

If you miss a test or a paper deadline, **do not** contact the instructor or a TA unless you have followed the steps described here. Telling the professor or TA why you missed a deadline or a test will not be considered.

- In case of **illness**, you must supply a duly completed **Verification of Student Illness** or Injury form (available at www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca). A doctor's note is not acceptable. **The form must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted with your work** at class or to your TA during their office hours.
- If a **personal or family crisis** prevents you from meeting a deadline, you must get a letter from your college registrar (it is a good idea anyway to advise your college registrar if a crisis is interfering with your studies). **The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted with your work** at class or to your TA during their office hours.

*Late assignments will be penalized 10% for the first week after the original due date and 5% per day afterwards.

Accessibility Services: If you have documentation that you are using accessibility services, please see me as soon as possible to discuss how best to assist you in this course.

Class 1: Introduction – May 12th

Class 2: Theoretical Foundations – May 14th

Farmer, Paul. 1996. "On Suffering and Structural Violence: A view from Below." *Daedalus* 125(1): 261-283.

Link, Bruce & Jo Phelan. "Social Conditions as Fundamental Causes of Disease." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (extra issue): 80-94.

Wacquant, Loic. "Deadly Symbiosis: When Ghetto and Prison Meet and Mesh." *Punishment & Society* 3(1): 95-133.

Class 3: The Stress of Poverty – May 19th

Dumont, et al. 2012. "Public Health and the Epidemic of Gun Violence." *Annual Review of Public Health* 33: 325-39.

Hemenway, David & Matthew Miller. 2013. "Public Health Approach to the Prevention of Gun Violence." *The New England Journal of Medicine* 368: 2033-2035.

Richardson, Glenn; Neiger, Brad; Jensen, Susan; and Karol Kumpfer. 1990. "The Resiliency Model." *Health Education* 21(6): 33-39.

Rios, Victor. 2006. "The Hyper-Criminalization of Black and Latino Male Youth in the Era of Mass Incarceration." *Souls* 8(2): 40-54.

Class 4: On the Run 1 – May 21st

Goffman, Alice. *On the Run* Prologue – Ch.3

Anderson, Elijah. 1994. "The Code of the Streets." *Atlantic Monthly* 80-94.

Class 5: IN-CLASS MIDTERM – May 26th

Class 6: On the Run 2 – May 28th

Goffman, Alice. *On the Run* Ch. 4 – end

Ezeonu, Ifeanyi. 2010. "Gun Violence in Toronto: Perspectives from the Police." *The Howard Journal* 49(2): 147-165.

Class 7: Monster 1 – June 2nd

Shakur, Sanyika. *Monster* Ch. 1 – 6

Schepper-Hughes, Nancy. "Small Wars and Invisible Genocides." *Social Science & Medicine* 43 (5): 889-900.

Class 8: Monster 2 – June 4th

Shakur, Sanyika. *Monster* Ch. 7- end

Lee, Jooyoung. 2012. "Wounded: Life After the Shooting." *ANNALS of the American Political & Social Sciences* 642: 244-257.

Class 9: Gun Violence & Policy 1 – June 9th

Webster & Vernick *Reducing Gun Violence in America* Part I

Cukier, Wendy. 1998. "Firearms Regulation: Canada in International Context." 19(1): 25-34.

Class 10: Gun Violence & Policy 2 – June 11th

Webster & Vernick *Reducing Gun Violence in American Parts II, III, IV*

Mauser, Gary and W.T. Stanbury. 2003. "Can the Canadian Firearm Registry Reduce Gun Deaths?" *Fraser Forum* 26-27.

Class 11: Caring for the Vulnerable – June 16th

Drucker, Ernest. 2013. "Drug Law, Mass Incarceration, and Public Health." *Oregon Law Review* 91: 1097-1128.

Kleinman, Arthur; Eisenberg, Leon; and Byron Good. 1978. "Culture, Illness, and Care: Clinical Lessons from Anthropologic and Cross-Cultural Research." *Annals of Internal Medicine* 88: 251-258.

Lee, Jooyoung. 2013. "The Pill Hustle: Risky Pain Management for a Gunshot Victim." *Social Science & Medicine* 99: 162-8.

Travis, Raphael and Anne Deepak. 2011. "Empowerment in Context: Lessons from Hip-Hop Culture for Social Work Practice." *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work* 20(3): 203-222.

! SHORT Paper Due!

Class 12: IN-CLASS FINAL – June 18th