SOCI 4362.783 Health & Illness

Spring II, 2018

Basic Information:

Instructor: Professor Erin Ellis.
E-Mail: ellis_e@utpb.udu
Office Hours: By appointment

Method of Instruction:

This course is a Web Course and is conducted within Canvas at http://utpb.instructure.com

Notes: The due dates and times for the activities will adhere to the Central Time Zone.

Academic assistants may be used within this course. The academic assistant is responsible to the instructor and will be assigned specific tasks.

Course Catalog Description:

Course Credits: 3.0. Social and cultural factors associated with the definition, occurrence, and experience of health and illness. An examination of the social determinants that affect the etiology and distribution of illness and the social organization of the medical profession and the hospital.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:
  o   Create a profile example of social determinants of health and well-being in society;
  o   Classify how socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, environment, and religion inform health disparities within U.S. society;
  o   Discuss the importance of micro and macro sociological approaches to understanding health & illness;
  o   Differentiate how major sociological theories and perspectives inform our understanding of health disparities and health care systems;
  o   Identify sociological concepts, such as stigma and illness narratives, regarding how they relate as social psychological contributors to health;
  o   Carry out academic reading and writing in the fields of social epidemiology and medical sociology;
  o   Recognize examples of global health disparities.

Prerequisites: SOCI 1301

Required Materials:

Conrad, Peter and Valorie Leiter. 2009. *The Sociology of Health & Illness, 9th edition*. New York: Worth Publishers. You may also use the 8th edition by Peter Conrad.

Additional required readings will be available through the UTPB library's electronic databases. Other materials will be web-based links, PDF files, WORD documents, etc. You will be expected to discover information through academic research of scholarly works (journal articles) within the field of sociology or music. Websites, content and links in the course are not endorsed by UT Permian Basin, The University of Texas System Administration, or the UT TeleCampus.

Other Materials: See section: Computer Skills, Technical & Software Requirements

Important Academic Dates: UTPB Academic Calendar

UTPB Academic Calendar

Course Overview:

Discussion Participation - 20%
You will have ten discussion board participations. It is a vital component of the successful completion of this course and involved interaction with peers.

Assignments - 20%
Five assignments will be short, typically 1-2 pages, and address various issues relating to the course. Assignments may involve a summary and critique of an academic article, finding and critiquing a mass media article, or other thought exercises relating to course material. These assignments will require you to be concise. That is, when I ask for 1 page, please do not submit an 8-page term paper.

Mid-Term Examination - 20%
The mid-term examination will involve any combination of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and essay questions.

Final Examination - 20%
The final examination will involve any combination of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and essay questions.

Social Autopsy Project - 20%
You will be given an article to read about how social environments impact our health both directly and indirectly. You will conduct a "social autopsy" of a neighborhood near where you live and examine the environment for positive and negative contributors to health.

Grading:

Course Activity	Points	% of Grade
10 Discussion Board @ 10 pts each	100	20%
5 Assignment Papers @ 20 pts each	100	20%
1 Mid Term Exam	100	20%
1 Social Risk Paper	100	20%
1 Final Exam	100	20%

Grading Scale:

Grade Range	Letter Grade
90 and above	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
Less than 59	F

Unless otherwise stated, all materials, activities, and assessments are required and are not optional.

Communication, Grading & Feedback: As an online course, inevitably most of our interaction will occur within the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS). For communication, please first use the course questions discussion board. If your question is not suited for that, send me a message using the course INBOX.

If for any reason, you do not get a reply to your INBOX message, or if your communication is of a more urgent nature, send me an email. I will typically answer your messages within 48 hours, usually sooner. However, be sure to review your materials and assignments early. If you wait until the last day to begin and have a question – you might not receive the answer in a timely manner to be of help.

Each message should begin with a Subject line that tells me something about your question. Sign your full name as it appears in the course. Those two things alone will make your email much more likely to be returned efficiently. You cannot imagine how often I get student emails with no subject line, no name signed, and from an email address that does not indicate who the person is.

The majority of course activities will be graded within one week after the set due date. Should longer assignments (writing assignments) take additional grading time, I will let you know.

You can check your grades by clicking on the **Grades** tab (on the left of your screen). If there is any discrepancy in the grade, you must contact me within 7 days of the grade being posted. I will

provide individual feedback or a general feedback in the performance of the course activity. The last week of the course is too late to salvage grades.

Time Management:
Student should expect to spend three hours on preparation and learning assignments for every semester credit hour in a typical 16-week course. Therefore, for a 3-semester credit hour course, a student should expect to spend about 12 hours per week on assignments to obtain an "A" in a class. For the condensed format classes, you can expect to need 24 hours each week for reading, research, writing, and class interaction and participation. If you have family, work, or other obligations, it will be important to develop a Time Management Plan to be successful. If you need help, contact the UTPB Student Success Center.

Policies

1. **Discussion Board**:
    a. Read all message postings in online discussion. Do not submit a Word file. Post directly into the text box.
    b. Respond to the question directly (no later than Thursday for primary post)
    c. Reply to minimum of three other student posts.
    d. Use a person's name when you reply to their message.
    e. Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc.
    f. Ensure responses to questions are meaningful reflective.
    g. Support statements with concepts from course readings.
    h. Follow Rules of Behavior.

2. **Rules of Behavior:** Discussion area are public to every student in this class (including your instructor) who will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following guidelines:
    a. Do not post anything too personal.
    b. Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting or prejudicial in regard to race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status.
    c. Do not use all caps in the message box unless you are emphasizing (it is considered shouting).
    d. Be courteous and respectful to everyone in the course (professors, teaching assistants, students)
    e. Do not use acronyms like you would use in text messaging. Some students may not be familiar with acronyms.
    f. Use line breaks and paragraphs in long responses.
    g. Write your full name at the end of the posting.
    h. Be careful with sarcasm and subtle humor; one person's joke is another person's insult.

    NOTE: If you do not adhere to the guidelines for any posting, you will lose the points that would have been granted, and the instructor reserves the right to remove your posting and to deny you any further posting privileges.

3. **Submission of Course Activities:**
   All the course assessment activities will be submitted via the assignments. Keep in mind the following standards/practices for submission of assignments:
   a. All course assessment activity files that will be submitted to the instructor should be in Word (doc or docx) format. Discussions should be text based in the text-box. Do not attach Word documents for your discussions.
   b. Write your name at the top of each page header.
   c. **Always keep a copy of all the work you submit so that you won't need to re-do it if it should get lost in cyberspace.** It's a good idea to write your Discussions in .txt or Word files and **save them**. Once you have saved your work, copy it as rich text file (.txt or .rtf) to erase formatting. Then, copy and paste your Discussion directly into the text box. It is your responsibility to make sure your work is submitted properly by the due date.

4. **Make-Up/Late Submission Policy:**
   Late work is not accepted. All course activities must be submitted before the set due dates and times. All due dates are provided to you on the first day of class. If you are unable to submit an assignment by the due date, contact me as soon as possible and I will consider opening an assignment early. Do not wait until the last moment to submit an assignment and then have an emergency (illness, internet trouble, family activity, etc.) If you have an extended illness or other emergency, you will need to contact the UTPB Student Success Center as soon as reasonably practical. They will document your emergency and let me know if your situation warrants a special consideration.

   Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating: The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Any suspicion of academic dishonesty will be reported and investigated. A student who engages in scholastic dishonesty that includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will receive an "F" for the course.

   All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. For complete information on UTPB student conduct and discipline procedures consult the [University's Handbook: Scholastic Dishonesty](#)

   Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor, or the attempt to commit such acts.

   Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, other expression

and media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit.

Whereas the Discussion Board work will be a collaborative process, homework assignments and exams should be completed only by you, the student.

5. **Attendance and Class Participation:** Regular and active participation is an essential, unmistakably important aspect of this online course. The expectation of the instructor is that students will log on a minimum of three times every seven days. It is critical that you read all of the lecture and assignment materials as well as all of the public discussion materials.

6. **Tracking:** The learning management systems have a tracking feature. Statistics are collected that quantifies how often and when students are active in the course and provides information if the student has accessed different pages of the course.

7. **Absenteeism:** All the course activities have set dates to be completed and submitted. After the due dates the activities will not be available for the students. Not logging into an online course is considered absenteeism. Contact the instructor immediately in case of emergency medical situation.

8. **Course Incomplete/Withdrawal/Grade Appeal:**
All students are required to complete the course within the semester they are signed up. Incomplete grades for the course are rarely given and will only be granted if the student has completed at least 75% of the course with a grade of 'C' or better and provides a valid, documented excuse for not being able to complete the course on time and has contacted me prior to the last regular class day to request an extension. The student will sign a contract that includes the incomplete course activities and the new due dates.

Find information and dates regarding drops and withdrawals consult the University Handbook: [Drops and Withdrawals](#) and [Appeal Process](#).

9. **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provides "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities. Any student with a disability who is requesting an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter from the ADA Officer for Students. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. **Adapted from UTSA ADA syllabus statement.**

ADA Officer for Students: Mr. Paul Leverington
Address: Mesa Building 4243 /4901 E. University, Odessa, TX 79762
Voice Telephone: 432-552-4696
Email: ada@utpb.edu

Computer Skills, Technical & Software Requirements:

You will need basic computer and Microsoft Office (e.g. Word) program skills.

Students can use cloud version of Word, PowerPoint and other Microsoft products through use of their UTPB Outlook 365 and UTPB email address. For more information refer to UTPB Office 365 Page.

Computer Technical Requirements:

See Technical Requirements.

For the accessibility and privacy statements of external tools used within online and blended UTPB courses, go to https://www.utpb.edu/online/reach/ADA_Privacy

Online Student Authentication:

UTPB requires that each student who registers for an online course is the same student who participates in, completes, and receives credit for the course. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires faculty members to employ at least two methods of verification to ensure student identities. To access online courses students must login to the UTPB learning management system using their unique personal identifying username and secure password. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires at least one additional student identification method within the course that has been determined and approved by the faculty or academic program. This course satisfies student authentication by providing 2 forms of photo ID (e.g. driver's licenses, military ID, dual credit and early college high school students use school district identifications). I just need to see you, then the image of you on the card with your name. You will not be able to see the course modules if you do not submit this, nor will you receive your grade for the course. Student must provide through the assignment drop box:

• A clear image of yourself in color, well lit, and no shadows on your face or your ID that can obscure your image, must be taken on the day you submit the photo to reflect your current appearance, taken in full-face view directly facing the camera with a neutral facial expression and both eyes open.
• AND a picture of your ID with only your name and picture showing (Picture ID card in which the ID number has been covered (tape over any numbers).
• Attach both images as JPEG or PNG files to the assignment BEFORE you submit it.

*Approved up to date photo identifications: current UTPB school IDs, passports, government issued identification, driver's licenses, military ID from DoD. Dual credit and early college high school students use school district identifications.

Preparation for Emergencies:

Computer Crash: Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a

scheduled time. NOTE: Identify a second computer before the semester begins, that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

Complete Loss of Contact: If you lose contact with course connectivity completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Canvas or email), you need to call instructor, and leave message regarding connectivity loss and contact information.

Lost/Corrupt/Missing Files: You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external drive, UTPB Outlook 365 OneDrive, or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g. virus infection, student's own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any contradictions/problems, you may be required to resubmit the files.

End-of-Course Evaluation & Instructor Evaluation

Every student is encouraged to complete an end-of-course evaluation survey provided by UTPB. During the last few weeks of class, you will receive an announcement through email notifying you that the Course/Instructor Survey is available. You may follow the link in the email to complete the survey using the same credentials to access your courses here. When entering the emailed Survey link you will see a list of surveys for you to complete. Another way to find End-of-Course Evaluations is through you my.utpb.edu account > My Surveys & Evaluations are on the first page after you login.

The survey is anonymous, and your responses are confidential. Your feedback is critical to us and to your instructor as we strive to improve our offerings, and our support of you, the students.

Student Support Services:

SERVICE	CONTACT
ADA Accommodation/Support	Testing Services & Academic Accommodations Department (432) 552-2630
Advising	UTPB E-Advisor (432) 552-2661 UTPB Academic Advising Center
Bookstore	UTPB Campus Bookstore (432) 552-0220
Email, Outlook 365, my.utpb.edu	Information Resources Division (IRD)
Financial Aid and Scholarship	UTPB Financial Aid (432) 552-2620

SERVICE	CONTACT
Library	The [J. Conrad Dunagan Library](#) Online at (432) 552-2370
Registrar	[UTPB Registrar](#) (432) 552-2635
Student Services	[Dean of Students](#) (432) 552-2600
Technical Support	[Canvas](#) 1-866-437-0867
Tutoring & Learning Resources	If you are taking courses through UTPB the following links provide services: [Smarthinking Online Tutoring](#) (provides tutoring services), [SmarterMeasure](#) (measures learner readiness for online course).

Disclaimer & Rights:

Information contained in this syllabus was to the best knowledge of the instructor considered correct and complete when distributed for use in the beginning of the semester. However, the instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of UTPB to make changes in the course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. The students will be informed about the changes, if any.

Copyright Statement:

Many of the materials that are posted within UTPB courses are protected by copyright law. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for the purpose of the course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

Schedule:

Conrad readings are denoted by number. Readings followed by "(Lib)" can be accessed through the library's online journal databases.

Dates	*Module Number/ Class Topic*	Assignments Due*
Mar 18-23	**"Start Here" Module:** Syllabus and course overview AND **Student Identification Authentication** **Syllabus Quiz** **Discussion – Self Introductions** **Module 1:** Social Determinants of Health **Discussion 1**	First Day First Day First Day First Day Thu & Sat
Mar 24-30	**Module 2:** Health Disparities: Race & Ethnicity **Module 3:** Health Disparities: Gender **Discussion 2 and Discussion 3** **Assignment 1**	 Thu & Sat Sat
Mar 31-Apr 6	**Module 4:** Environments; Religion & Health **Discussion 4** **Assignment 2** **Midterm Exam**	 Thu & Sat Sat Wed-Sat
Apr 7-13	**Module 5:** Social Psychology of Health **Module 6:** Rise of the Medical Profession; Medicalization **Discussion 5 & Discussion 6** **Assignment 3**	 Thu & Sat Sat
Apr 14-20	**Module 7:** HIV/AIDS **Discussion 7 and Discussion 8**	 Thu & Sat
Apr 21-27	**Module 9:** Ethical Issues in Medicine **Discussion 9** **Social Risk paper due**	 Thu & Sat Sat
Apr 28-May 2	**Module 10:** U.S. Health Care & International Comparisons **Discussion 10** **Final Exam** (open 4 days)	 Thu Mon-Thu
*Discussions #1-9 require a PRIMARY post no later than Thursday for credit. Peer interactions are open through Saturdays. Discussions that begin after Thursday will not be graded.		