

INFUSING SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH INTO THE SOCIOLOGY CURRICULUM



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DESCRIPTION: SOCI 3371—Culture, Society and Disease: An Ecological Approach

- This course focuses on the sociological study of health and disease patterns in a cultural and environmental context. It involves a comparison of health and disease patterns of modern and isolated populations (It is the same as Anthropology 3334). Prerequisites: SOCI 2310 or ANTH 2321

CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES

NIDA/SAMSHA

In order to disseminate information to the addiction treatment field, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has created a partnership with the Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) Network funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

(CD ROM)

COURSE OBJECTIVES 1

The course, Culture, Society & Disease, will explore links between social factors, health and disease. It will provide models that demonstrate the relationship between social structures and the distribution of health and disease in modern society.



COURSE OBJECTIVES 2

This course will explore links between social factors, health and disease. It will provide models that demonstrate the relationship between social structures and the distribution of health and disease in modern society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES 3

- In addition it will demonstrate that medical knowledge is both shaped by and shapes the social structures within which it is embedded.
- The course will review Marxist, Parsonian, Feminist and Foucauldian approaches to health, as well as examine the data on the impact of ethnicity on health.

USING BEST PRACTICES TO ADDRESS LEARNING STYLES

- **Varying Delivery of Material**
 - **Auditory—listening**
 - **Logic—reading/research**
 - **Kinesthetic—presenting**
 - **Visual—using technology**

TOOLBOX

- **Integration of Learning and Instructional Strategies**
 - **Socratic**
 - **Jigsaw**
 - **Lecture/demonstration**
 - **Multimedia**

STUDENT-GENERATED TOPICS-1

- **Alcohol and Drug Abuse: Men vs. Women**
- **Child Sexual Abuse and Self-Esteem Levels**
- **Depression and Its Effect on African American Women**
- **Drug and Alcohol Abuse by Juveniles**

STUDENT-GENERATED RESEARCH TOPICS-2


- Drug Abuse among Housewives
- Elderly Abuse
- Mental Aspects of Firefighters/EMT Personnel
- Mental Problems Related to Sexual Dysfunction (ED)

STUDENT-GENERATED RESEARCH TOPICS-3

- Substance Abuse among Athletes
- Substance Abuse among White Males
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health among the Elderly
- Suicide among African American Males



RESEARCH METHODS

- **APA Style**
 - **Topic/Thesis**
 - **Abstract (Turn-It-In)**
 - **Introduction**
 - **Literature Search**
 - **Surveys/Interviews**
 - **Field Experience**
 - **Findings/Conclusion**
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FIELD EXPERIENCE I & II

- **Field Notes**
- **Recordings**
- **Photos**
- **Video Camera**

EVALUATION TECHNIQUES

- Essay exams/quizzes
- Consultations with Senior Seminar Professor and Field Experience Professors
- Rubrics for:
 - Power Point Presentations (Socratic Discussion)
 - Research Paper

GRADUATE CONNECTIONS

- Students can use their research as a writing sample for admissions process, if it is relevant.
- The experience itself can serve as a duplication of the graduate experience
- Students visit a graduate school. (Morehouse, LSU, University of Connecticut)

RESOURCES 1

Brown, G. and Harris, T. (1978) *Social Origins of Depression: A Study of Psychiatric Disorder in Women*. New York: Free Press.

Durkheim, E. (1966) *Suicide: A Study in Sociology*. New York: Free Press.

Erchak, G. and Rosenfeld, R. (1989) 'Learning Disabilities, Dyslexia and the Medicalization of the Classroom.' In *Images of Issues: Contemporary Social Problems*, edited by J. Best. New York: Aldine.

RESOURCES 2

Gabe, J. and Thorgood, N. (1986) 'Prescribed Drug Use and the Management of Everyday Life: The Experiences of Black and White Working Class Women.' *The Sociological Review* 34:737-72.

Lewis, M. (1988) *A Rum State: Alcohol and State Policy in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Services.

Meyer, R. 'The Disease Called Addiction: Emerging Evidence in a Two Hundred Year Debate.' *The Lancet*: 162-6.

RESOURCES 3

- Parsons, T. (1958) 'The Definitions of Health and Illness in the Light of American Values and Social Structure.' In *Patients, Physicians and Illness*, edited by E. Jaco. Chicago: Free Press.
- Wohlfarth, T. and Vandenbrink, W. (1938) 'Social Class and Substance Abuse Disorders – The Value of as Distinct from Social-economic Status.' *Social Science and Medicine*. 47: 51-8.



HBCU-NRC

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Charlotte, NC

Holiday Inn, City Center

