

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH CARE
SOC 331
Fall 2018

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00-11:00AM, or by appointment

The image of the solitary doctor caring for us from birth has faded since the latter half of the twentieth century. We now come into contact with numerous health care professionals, sometimes for just a brief episode in our lives. The contact may not even occur face-to-face, but over the telephone, e-mail, or video conference. Any conclusions that result from this contact may be shared among several individuals, whose profession and expertise are now deemed critical for coordinating the management of our health.

Health care is evolving, but are the problems being solved? Our goal in this course will be to cultivate a sociological perspective of health care, which we will use to evaluate health care in whatever form it takes in the future. By the end of the course you will be able to use this perspective to:

- Identify sources for research on health and health care
- Evaluate research that assesses health care innovations
- Compare and contrast health care globally
- Develop and understand arguments for or against an innovation
- Communicate the findings of health care research and its implications to others

DESIRE2LEARN (D2L)

Our course has a D2L website: <http://D2L.uwm.edu>. You will use the same username (*username@uwm.edu*) and password that you use for your UWM email account. If you have any questions about content on the course website, please contact me. If you have questions about, or problems using, the D2L website, please email help@uwm.edu, call 229-4040, or see the service staff in Bolton 225 during their office hours.

LECTURE FORMAT

Lectures will be primarily dedicated to briefly reviewing the required readings for the day and discussing additional content (e.g., research studies, examples, theories) that is related to these readings. All of this information will be summarized in PowerPoint slides, which I will upload onto the course's D2L website by the morning before class.

Most slides present data such as tables, graphs, and quotes, which may come from required readings or the additional content. I will review these data during lectures and describe why it is important. Consequently, in addition to attending class, you will also need to be attentive during

lecture to complete course requirements successfully. Please feel free to ask me to repeat or elaborate on any information while I review the slides.

While I go over the slides, there will occasionally be short opportunities to engage in classroom discussion. These will take one of two forms. The first form generates examples of important ideas, which may appear in some way in the quizzes. The second form are questions for which there is no clear right or wrong answer. They tend to deal with ethical issues or existing puzzles in health care research to help you understand the complexity of crafting health policy that considers multiple perspectives or pieces of evidence.

REQUIRED READING

I expect students to complete assigned reading prior to our class time. All readings that are required for the class can be located on the course's D2L website.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Quizzes (10 points each): A total of four (4) quizzes that last 25 minutes each. These will be completed in-class and will be closed book/notes. They will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short answers (2-4 sentences each). They will cover material in the readings, in-class videos, classroom discussion, and the additional content that I discuss during lecture. On the class date prior to a quiz, we will have time for Q&A where I will respond to any questions that students bring about course material. Generally, the breakdown of points by course material will be:

- Main research findings and conclusions from required readings that are also reviewed during lecture (1-3 points)
- Main points in the required readings that are not reviewed during lecture (0.5-1 point)
- Text that appears verbatim in the PowerPoint slides (e.g., definitions) (1-2 points)
- Main research findings and conclusions from studies reviewed only in lecture (1-2 points)
- Class discussion that is not based on opinion but instead on evidence (e.g., questions that appear in PowerPoint slides, questions that follow in-class videos, questions on activity days) (2-3 points)
- Lecture material that does not appear verbatim in PowerPoint slides and that synthesizes ideas spread across course material (2-3 points)

Activities (3 points each): A total of five (5) activities will be completed in-class and each will have a write-up due on a D2L Dropbox.

Debate presentation (15 points) and write-up (30 points): We will have a debate toward the end of the semester. I will assign students to groups, and as a group you will prepare a presentation to the class that summarizes your side of the debate. Each student will submit their own 5-7 page write-up of the debate. Your group presentation and individual write-up of the debate will be your final assignment for this class (instead of a "final exam").

MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS

In the event that your absence from class prevents you from completing a course requirement, you will be able to make-up the requirement if *either* of these two conditions are met:

- You notify me at least *two days* prior to the class date you will miss *and* provide documentation for the reason you will miss class; or
- This is an unforeseeable circumstance (e.g., illness) and you provide documentation when you return to class that explains clearly why you missed the date(s) on which a requirement was to be completed.

Even if you cannot meet either of the two conditions above, you will still be able to make-up an assignment you missed. However, you will not be eligible for full credit as I will deduct a percentage of the maximum, possible score for the assignment from your score:

- The percentage that I deduct depends on how many 24-hour periods (including weekends and holidays) have passed between the due date/time for an assignment and the time you notify me (either in person or through email) that you would like to make-up an assignment. If you notify me within the first 24 hours (including weekends and holidays) that pass an assignment due date/time, I will deduct 20%. For each additional 24 hours after this, I will deduct an additional 20%.
- For example, quizzes are administered at the start of class and are worth 10 points each. 20% of this maximum, possible score is 2 points. If I receive an email from you 10 minutes after the quiz starts that you are unable to make it to class and would like to make-up the quiz, then I will deduct 2 points from your score (it is within the first 24-hour period). If the quiz is on a Monday, you miss it, and you catch me just before class starts on Wednesday and say that you want to make-up the quiz, then I will deduct 4 points from your score (two 24-hour periods have passed).
- This also means that after five 24-hour periods pass a due date/time you are ineligible to make-up an assignment as you would no longer be eligible to receive any points.

GRADES

Requirement	Points
Quiz #1	10
Quiz #2	10
Quiz #3	10
Quiz #4	10
Activity #1	3
Activity #2	3
Activity #3	3
Activity #4	3
Activity #5	3
Debate – group presentation	15
Debate – individual write-up	30
Total	100

Your final grade will be based on the number of total points you receive for completing course requirements.

Total Points	Grade	Total Points	Grade
94-100	A	74-76	C
90-93	A-	70-73	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
84-86	B	64-66	D
80-83	B-	60-63	D-
77-79	C+	0-59	F
Partial points will always be rounded up			

CREDIT HOURS

The university has asked departments to break down for students how much time they will spend working on various aspects of their classes.

As the UW System assumes “that study leading to one semester credit represents an investment of time by the average student of not fewer than 48 hours” (UWS ACPS 4), a 3-credit course such as this one will require a minimum of 144 (3 x 48) hours of your time. You may find it necessary to spend additional time on a course; the numbers below only indicate that the course will not require any less of your time.

- 37.5 hours in the classroom
- 75 hours preparing for class, which may include reading, note taking, completing minor exercises and assignments, and discussing course topics with classmates and the instructor in structured settings
- 31.5 hours preparing for and writing major papers and/or exams.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Course Overview		
<i>Class Date</i>		<i>Course Requirements</i>
Sept. 5	-Review syllabus	
Theme #1: Patients		
<i>Class Date</i>	<i>Topic & Readings</i>	<i>Course Requirements</i>
Sept.10	“Social Determinants of Health I” -Bylander -Woolf	-Activity #1 in-class
Sept. 12	“Social Determinants of Health II” -Allen et al.	-Activity #1 write-up due on D2L
Sept. 17	“Social Determinants of Health III” -Arcaya & Figueroa -Walton	
Sept. 19	“Privacy” -Carmack	-Activity #2 in-class
Sept. 24	“Patient Engagement & e-Health” -Greene et al. -Mesch et al.	-Activity #2 write-up due on D2L -Q&A for Quiz #1
Theme #2: Health Care Professionals		
<i>Class Date</i>	<i>Topic & Readings</i>	<i>Course Requirements</i>
Sept. 26	“Sociology of Professions”	-Quiz #1 on Theme #1
Oct. 1	“Professionals and Change” -Kellogg -Whooley	

Oct. 3	“Demography of Health Care Workforce” -Andrews	-Activity #3 in-class
Oct. 8	“Doctors in Society” -Jauhar -Petronio	-Activity #3 write-up due on D2L
Oct. 10	“Trends in Health Care Professions” -Dill et al. -López-Sanders	-Q&A for Quiz #2
Theme #3: Group Processes in Health Care		
<i>Class Date</i>	<i>Topic & Readings</i>	<i>Course Requirements</i>
Oct. 15	“Sociology of Groups”	-Quiz #2 on Theme #2
Oct. 17	“Inter-Professional Interaction” -Anspach -Lichtenstein et al.	
Oct. 22	“Shared Decision Making” -Peek et al.	-Activity #4 in class
Oct. 24	No Class	-Activity #4 write-up due on D2L
Oct. 29	“Talking about Death” -Almack et al. -Finish in-class video	-Q&A for Quiz #3
Theme #4: Organizing Health Care		
<i>Class Date</i>	<i>Topic & Readings</i>	<i>Course Requirements</i>
Oct. 31	“Market Logic in Health Care”	-Quiz #3 on Theme #3 -Activity #5 in class
Nov. 5	“Evaluating the Affordable Care Act I” -Volk -Watch in-class video	-Activity #5 write-up due on D2L
Nov. 7	“Evaluating the Affordable Care Act II” -Mazurenko et al. -Sohn & Timmermans	
Nov. 12	“Caring for Vulnerable Populations” -Livne	
Nov. 14	“Accountable Care Organizations & Pay for Performance” -Wennberg -Lewis et al.	-Q&A for Quiz #4
Special Topic: Health Information Technology		
<i>Class Date</i>	<i>Topic & Readings</i>	<i>Course Requirements</i>
Nov. 19		-Quiz #4 on Theme #4 -Review Health IT debate in class

Nov. 26	“Putting it all Together: Health Information Technology” -Timmermans & Berg	
Nov. 28		-Health IT debate in-class prep
Dec. 3		-Health IT debate in-class prep
Dec. 5		-Health IT debate in-class prep
Dec. 10		-Health IT debate group presentations
Dec. 12		-Health IT debate group presentations
Debate Write-up Due on D2L by 2:30PM on Monday, Dec. 17		

UNIVERSITY AND SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT POLICIES

The Secretary of the University maintains a web page that contains university policies that affect the instructor and the students in this course, as well as essential information specific to conduct of the course. The link to that page is:

http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/news_events/upload/Syllabus-Links.pdf

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. In the pursuit of equal access and in compliance with state and federal laws, the University is required to provide accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is expected that a statement be placed on your syllabus informing students to contact you to arrange needed accommodations. A sample syllabus statement can be found here: <https://uwm.edu/arc/wpcontent/uploads/sites/97/2015/08/Recommended-Syllabus-Statement.pdf>.

Religious Observances. Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following: <http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm>

Students called to active Military Duty. Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty are found at the following: <https://uwm.edu/active-duty-military/>

Incompletes. You may be given an incomplete if you have carried a course successfully until near the end of the semester but, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond your control, have been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of course work. An incomplete is not given unless you prove to the instructor that you were prevented from completing the course for just cause as indicated above. The conditions for awarding an incomplete to graduate and undergraduate students can be found at the following: https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_31_INCOMPLETE_GRADES.pdf

Discriminatory Conduct (such as sexual harassment). Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Policies regarding discriminatory conduct can be found at: https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina_duct_Policy.pdf

Academic Misconduct. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Policies for addressing students cheating on exams or plagiarism can be found at the following: <https://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/>

Complaint Procedures. Students may direct complaints to the Sociology Department Chair or the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences. If the complaint

allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the Sociology Department Chair, the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences, or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. Policies may be found at: https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina duct Policy.pdf

Grade Appeal Procedures. A student may appeal a grade on the grounds that it is based on a capricious or arbitrary decision of the course instructor. Such an appeal shall follow the established procedures adopted by the department, college, or school in which the course resides or in the case of graduate students, the Graduate School. These procedures are available in writing from the sociology department chairperson or the Academic Dean of the College of Letters & Science. Procedures for undergraduate student grade appeal can be found at:

<https://uwm.edu/letters-science/advising/answers-forms/policies/appeal-procedure-for-grades>

Procedures for graduate student grade appeal can be found at

<https://uwm.edu/graduateschool/appealing-academic-decisions/>

Final Examination Policy. Policies regarding final examinations can be found at the following:

<http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S22.htm>

Book Royalties. In accord with Department of Sociology policy, the royalties from the sale of faculty-authored books to students in their classes are donated to a UWM Foundation/Sociology Account to support future awards and activities for UWM students in Sociology.

Update 08/2018