TIME: Mondays 1:30-4:00 p.m.  
BusAd D-102

TEXTS:

Articles as handouts. The articles listed in the syllabus are subject to substitution during the course of the semester. Thus, the syllabus is to some degree is dynamic.

COURSE CONTENT:

This course is intended as a graduate-level foundational course in the field of medical sociology. The course is intended for graduate students in sociology intending to focus on the field of medical sociology as well as for graduate students from other disciplines or professional schools who wish to acquire a knowledge of sociological aspects of health, illness and medical care. The course will cover important theoretical paradigms and methodological perspectives in medical sociology as well as the important domains of research in medical sociology, ranging from the micro social analysis of illness perception and help-seeking, doctor-patient interaction, adaptations to chronic disease and disability, to the macro social analysis of social epidemiology, professionalization, medicalization, organizational analysis and the political economy of health systems. We will examine classic discussions of the important theoretical approaches as well as examples of research. The course should equip students with knowledge of the available theoretical paradigms which might be useful in framing their own future research endeavors.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

The assignments will include short papers (1-2 pages) based on the weekly reading assignments as well as a longer course paper in which the student can focus on a particular topic of his or her choice. This assignment is intended to help students apply the material in the course to their own personal academic and career interests. The student should in this paper draw upon the theoretical frameworks and concepts introduced in this course in analyzing the issues and identifying important research questions relevant to the topic. The paper will be due on the last day of class of the semester. There will be opportunities during the course for individual students to share progress in doing their papers.

Assistance with Disabilities. Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you, and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 (voice/text) in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.
Scholarly Integrity: Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms. (University of Hawaii at Manoa, Student Conduct Code, Section H. Academic Dishonesty, Part 2, Page 6).

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 January 12 Medicalization: the Social Construction of Disease and Illness

Phil Brown. “Naming and Framing: The Social Construction of Diagnosis and Illness"

Week 2 January 19 Martin Luther King holiday

Week 3 January 26 Social Epidemiology: Explaining Health Disparities

Leonard Syme and Irene H. Yen. 2000. “Social Epidemiology and Medical Sociology: Different Approaches to the Same Problem” Ch. 25 in Handbook of Medical Sociology, Cloe E. Bird, Peter Conrad, Allen M. Freemont (eds.)
**Week 4  February 2  **  Health Promotion and Intervention: Models of Public Health and Planning


**Week 5  February 9  **  The Political Economy of Medicine


**Week 6  February 16  **  President's Day Holiday

**Week 7  February 23  **  Professionalization & Professional Domains

Week 8  March 2  Social Control, Regulation and Quality of Care

Marcia Millman, “Medical Mortality Review: A Cordial Affair”

Week 9  March 9  Organizational Processes and Delivery of Services


Week 10  March 16  Illness Behavior: Constructing Illness and Help-seeking


SPRING BREAK – MARCH 23 – 27

Week 11  March 30  Models of Utilization of Health Services

Week 12 April 6 Doctor-patient Relationship: Communication


Week 13 April 13 Doctor-Patient Relationship: Decision-making and Influence


Week 14 April 20 Wellness Behavior and Alternative Medicine


Week 15 April 27 Chronic Disease: Adaptation and Management of Illness

Bryan Turner, The New Medical Sociology:
“Time, Self and Disruption” Ch. 4: 131-162.
“Reshaping Health and Illness” Ch. 5: 163-190.


Week 16  May 4   Managing Health and Illness: Caregiving


