Survey of Medical Sociology  
SOC 354 (on-line course)  
Summer 2010  
June 7 through Aug 13, 2010

Instructor: Krista Hodges  
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Office hours: via Laulima  
Course website: https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal

Please be sure to read this syllabus carefully, you are responsible for everything on it.

Course Content: The focus of this course will be on gaining an understanding of the social factors in disease and treatment; illness behavior, roles of patients and healers; nature of healing professions; use of medical services; alternative systems of medical organization. Questions we will ask of ourselves include: why some groups of people have lower health status, what are the factors that contribute to health, how has the medical field/industry changed, etc.

Internet Access: All students must have a University of Hawaii email account and regular access to the internet. All course work will be via Laulima (you will sign on with your UH username and password) and your grade will depend on your timely submission of work. Please be sure to have a backup plan for internet access in case of travel or possible problems with your current access. Technical problems are not accepted as excuse for missed or late assignments.

Student Learning Objectives
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize and discuss universal, gender and cultural aspects to health.
- Effectively communicate understanding by writing on health topics.
- Evaluate macro- and micro-level factors that influence health in our society.
- Compare and contrast issues and theories using a sociological point of view.
- Discuss issues and concerns related to medical sociology.

Required Texts:
Rose Weitz - Arizona State University  

Additional readings may be assigned

Quizzes, Tasks and Midterms (520 pts)
- There will be chapter quizzes that will serve as your attendance score which is 100 points. Quizzes may be multiple choice or short answer, you have 30 minutes from the time you begin the quiz to finish, and you can review your results and retake it as a study tool and to improve your score. Your highest score out of the two attempts will be your final score. Your attendance score will be based whether you take the quizzes. Each quiz missed will reduce your attendance by 10 points.
• There will be occasional tasks or homework assigned that will amount to 120 points over the semester.
• There will be 4 exams (1 for each section), all non-cumulative with no make-up allowed except for major extenuating circumstances. (75 pts each for a total of 300 pts).
• Exams will consist of multiple choice, true/false or short answer questions and may cover any material presented or available on the Laulima course site or any assigned readings or activities. You will have 1 hour to complete the exam once you start it and only one attempt.

Written Assignments (300 points):
• There will be 1 writing assignment (1500-1750 words, roughly equal to 6-7 pages)
• Papers must be typed and written at a college level. Those who have writing difficulties are encouraged to contact the Learning Resource Center. http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/skillscenter/.
• **Plagiarism is not tolerated.** If you plagiarize, you will fail the course. There is a short paragraph on plagiarism under the Student Conduct section of this syllabus and a short discussion on plagiarism posted in the Resource folder on the Laulima class site.
• **There may be shorter, ad hoc writing assignments assigned as needed.**
• You must submit your final paper and copies of all sources via the Laulima Assignment folder by 5 pm on due date. Late papers will be penalized 10% for 1 minute to 24 hours late, 20% for 24-48 hours late. No papers are accepted after 48 hours late.

Participation: (2 discussions, 90 pts each for a total of 180 pts)
Participation will be based on online discussions. Specific details will be posted on Laulima along with due dates. Late posts will not receive any credit.

Scoring Discussions: For each of the discussions, some of the students will be assigned to post a question demonstrating critical thinking based on the materials covered since the last discussion. The questions usually are several sentences long (intro topic and multi-pronged question) The question must be posted by noon on the assigned day.

In addition, each student will respond to a minimum of two classmates’ questions. Make sure that your responses show that you understand the topic (normally 4 to 6 sentences but some topics will need longer responses) or explain your confusion. These posts must be done by midnight on the deadline day. These discussions should be an ongoing, interactive exchange involving all students regarding the broad topic area.

You will receive between 0 and 3 points per post but if you do not post all three required posts or if one or more of them receives a score of zero, you will not receive points for the week.

**Any inappropriate, rude, hostile, or otherwise unacceptable posts will have consequences.**

Extra Credit: The only opportunity for extra credit is for 75% of the class to complete the course evaluation at the end of the semester. As the evaluation is completely anonymous, I can give, or not give, credit to the entire class.

Final grades will be calculated on the percentage of points earned:

- 97 -100% A+
- 93-96 A
- 89-92 A-
- 85-88 B+
- 82-84 B
- 79-81 B-
- 75-78 C+
- 72-74 C
- 69-71 C-
- 65-68 D+
- 62-64 D
- 59-61 D-
- <59 F
ADA statement
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.

Student Conduct
"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 Timeline Subject to changes as needed and with sufficient notice.

Section 1 Social Factors and Illness
Chapter 1 through 4 (and any other materials assigned)
Quizzes/tasks available June 10 – 24 (some will have specific dates)
Discussion 1 June 21 - 23

Section 2 The Meaning and Experience of Illness
Chapter 5 through 7 (and any other materials assigned)
Quizzes/tasks available June 27 – July 8 (some will have specific dates)
Exam available July 9 & 10

Section 3 Health Care Systems, Setting and Technologies
Chapter 8 through 10 (and any other materials assigned)
Quizzes/tasks available July 11 – July 29 (some will have specific dates)
Discussion 2 July 26-28
Exam available July 30 & 31
Paper Due July 30, 5 pm (early papers are encouraged)

Section 4 Health Care Providers and Bioethics
Chapters 11 through 13 (and any other materials assigned)
Quizzes/tasks available Aug 2 – 12 (some will have specific dates)
Exam available Aug 13 & 14