

## **SYO4400 Medical Sociology Spring 2023**

**Location:** Pugh Hall 0120

**Time:** MWF Period 8 (3:00 PM - 3:50 PM)

**Course website:** <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/472775>

**Instructor:** Won-tak Joo (3333 Turlington Hall / [wjoo@ufl.edu](mailto:wjoo@ufl.edu))

**Office hours:** Fridays 12:50 - 2:50 PM

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is to introduce you to the field of medical sociology. You are going to 1) learn major sociological theories and analytic tools to understand health and diseases, 2) explain historical and current trends in health in the United States, and 3) discuss why and how these trends occur and will change in the future from the perspective of sociologist and social scientist.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

There is no textbook for this class. One or two required readings will be uploaded to the course website each week.

### **COMMUNICATION**

All inquiries concerning the course should be sent to [wjoo@ufl.edu](mailto:wjoo@ufl.edu). Emails must include SYO4400 in the subject line. Please allow at least 24 hours during regular business hours (M-F, 9 AM – 5 PM) to respond to your email inquiries.

### **GRADING POLICY**

- **Midterm & final exams (40%):** 30 multiple choice questions for each / based on lectures + lecture slides + weekly readings / not cumulative / (higher score)  $\times 0.6$  + (lower score)  $\times 0.4$
- **Critical essay (15%):** before the midterm / three social problems about health and diseases will be given / select one and explain the causes and consequences of that problem using two theories you learned in the first half of the semester / <800 words
- **News article review (15%):** before the final / three news articles will be given / select one and explain the causes and consequences of the problem raised in the article using two theories you learned throughout the semester / <800 words
- **Weekly quiz (20%):** 3 yes or no questions & 3 multiple choice questions about weekly readings / will be open every Monday 8 AM - 2 PM on the course website / 15 minutes to answer the questions / 10 highest scores out of 13 will be considered
- **Participation (10%):** class participation / online discussion (upload your questions & thoughts about weekly discussion topics by noon of the day before the lecture) / lectures will be revised based on your online discussions / attendance (3 absences without penalty, -1 afterwards, 0 participation score when absent total 13 times)

### **COURSE POLICIES**

- Students are expected to read the required readings and lecture slides before the lecture. Weekly readings will be uploaded one week ahead of the lecture day. Lecture slides will be uploaded before midnight of the lecture day.
- Electronic devices are welcome but can be used only for academic purposes.
- Print out or download lecture slides on your electronic devices and be ready to take notes or communicate based on the lecture materials in the classroom.

- Any missed exams, assignments, or quizzes will receive a score of 0 (zero). The only exception is for quizzes: remember that you can drop the 3 lowest quiz scores. No other provisions will be available for make-up work unless discussed in advance with the instructor.

### **EVALUATION POLICY**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### **UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

### **UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

### **GRADING SCALE**

A	≥94
A-	≥90 & <94
B+	≥86 & <90
B	≥83 & <86
B-	≥80 & <83
C+	≥76 & <80
C	≥73 & <76
C-	≥70 & <73
D+	≥66 & <70
D	≥63 & <66
D-	≥60 & <63
E	<60

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEEK	TOPIC	READING
Week 1 1/8-1/14	Introduction (1/13 Quiz)	Diez-Roux, A. V. (1998). Bringing context back into epidemiology: variables and fallacies in multilevel analysis. <i>American journal of public health</i> , 88(2), 216-222.
Week 2 1/15-1/22	Micro-mechanisms of health (1/16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day) (1/18 Quiz)	Thoits, P. A. (2010). Stress and health: Major findings and policy implications. <i>Journal of health and social behavior</i> , 51(S), S41-S53.
Week 3 1/22-1/28	Mezzo-mechanisms of health 1	Berkman, L. F., Glass, T., Brissette, I., & Seeman, T. E. (2000). From social integration to health: Durkheim in the new millennium. <i>Social science &amp; medicine</i> , 51(6), 843-857.
Week 4 1/29-2/4	Mezzo-mechanisms of health 2	Centola, D., & Macy, M. (2007). Complex contagions and the weakness of long ties. <i>American journal of Sociology</i> , 113(3), 702-734.
Week 5 2/5-2/11	Macro-mechanisms of health	Conrad, P. (2005). The shifting engines of medicalization. <i>Journal of health and social behavior</i> , 46(1), 3-14.
Week 6 2/12-2/18	Population Health 1 (2/12 Critical essay: problems are given)	Hummer, R. A., & Hamilton, E. R. (2019). Chapter 1: What is population health and why study it in the twenty-first-century United States? In <i>Population health in America</i> . University of California Press.
Week 7 2/19-2/25	Population Health 2 (2/19 Critical essay: due date)	Omran, A. R. (2001). The epidemiologic transition: a theory of the epidemiology of population change. <i>Bulletin of the World Health Organization</i> , 79(2), 161-170.
Week 8 2/26-3/4	Socioeconomic status and Health (No quiz) (2/27 Midterm exam)	Mirowsky, J., & Ross, C. E. (2005). Education, learned effectiveness and health. <i>London Review of Education</i> , 3(3), 205-220.
Week 9 3/5-3/11	Race, Ethnicity and Health	Feagin, J., & Bennefield, Z. (2014). Systemic racism and US health care. <i>Social science &amp; medicine</i> , 103, 7-14.
Week 10 3/12-3/18	(Spring break)	
Week 11 3/19-3/25	Gender and Health	Gamson, J., & Moon, D. (2004). The sociology of sexualities: Queer and beyond. <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> , 30, 47-64. Pudrovska, T., & Karraker, A. (2014). Gender, job authority, and depression. <i>Journal of health and social behavior</i> , 55(4), 424-441.
Week 12 3/26-4/1	Family and Health	Musick, K., Meier, A., & Flood, S. (2016). How parents fare: Mothers' and fathers' subjective well-being in time with children. <i>American Sociological Review</i> , 81(5), 1069-1095.
Week 13	Gene	Mills, M. C., & Tropf, F. C. (2020). Sociology,

4/2-4/8	(4/2 News article review: articles are given)	genetics, and the coming of age of sociogenomics. <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> , 46, 553-581.
Week 14 4/9-4/15	Brain (4/9 News article review: due date)	Falk, E. B., Hyde, L. W., Mitchell, C., Faul, J., Gonzalez, R., Heitzeg, M. M., ... & Schulenberg, J. (2013). What is a representative brain? Neuroscience meets population science. <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i> , 110(44), 17615-17622.
Week 15 4/16-4/22	Pandemic and natural disaster 1	Wolfe, R., Harknett, K., & Schneider, D. (2021). Inequalities at work and the toll of COVID-19. <i>Health Affairs Health Policy Brief</i> , 4.
Week 16 4/23-4/29	Pandemic and natural disaster 2 (No quiz) (4/26 Final exam)	