

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS

SOCIOLOGY 321.01 WINTER TERM 2015

PLEASE, CAREFULLY READ THIS SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Bruce Arnold*
OFFICE: SS912
Email: drarnold@ucalgary.ca (only)
PHONE: 220-6508
OFFICE HRS: Tuesday & Thursday 3:30-4:30pm
CLASS: SB 103 Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00AM -12:15PM

*** Please note the instructor uses *limited email* for substantive or content related course issues because it is an inefficient means for assisting students. Instead, the instructor is available at various times weekly throughout the term to assist you and you are encouraged to use Dr. Arnold as a resource throughout the course. It is my pleasure to assist you with this course. Please use the email above to report an absence from class or to set up an appointment during office hours.**

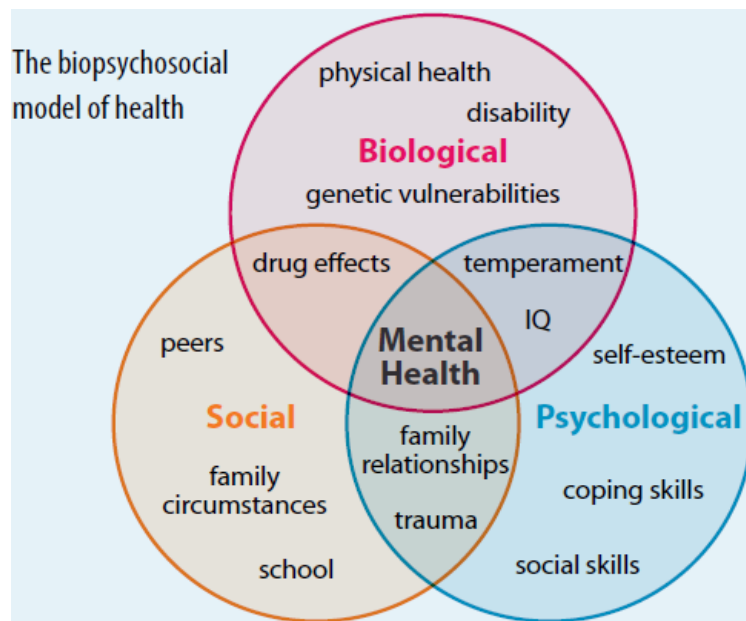
- Office hours can also be scheduled at mutually convenient times.
- For student study resources see <http://soci.ucalgary.ca/18/jfstud.htm> or the U of C's "Success Sessions"
- The instructor may make some changes to course deadlines, timing, format, and content during the term.
- Concerns about evaluations and grades must be first put in writing, including the grounds and rationale for said concerns, and submitted to the instructor in advance of a meeting being scheduled at a mutually convenient time. Grade related issues are not discussed by email.
- Make up exams (e.g., with official medical documentation) will be during Department of Sociology make-up scheduled dates and times.
- All audio recording in class must have prior written permission from the instructor. No video or photo recording of any kind is allowed at any time.

Health and illness are facts of life and change over the life course. Everyone experiences illness sooner or later and everyone must eventually cope with illness and death among close friends and relatives. To the ill person, illness can often seem a purely internal and personal experience, and to some degree it is. However, it is also a psychological, social, biological, and cultural phenomenon, both in its causes and consequences. We will use a multidisciplinary approach, with emphasis upon psychosocial issues, to introduce: (1) health and illness issues (2) different ways to think about them, (3) how they impact our and others' quality of life. The course goal is to gain an improved understanding of health and illness in a way that can be applied to our own lives - to contribute toward an overall quality of life for ourselves and others. As much as possible, this course attempts to link course issues to student lifestyles – to make this course more useful. This introductory course is designed for students from the social sciences, natural sciences, life sciences, and humanities. I look forward to this course with you. It is very important you carefully read the course outline (syllabus), course schedule, check regularly for updates on D2L.

Health & Illness Course Topics

- Sociological, cultural, & psychosocial factors: determinates & consequences
- Stress, mental health, & interpersonal dynamics
- Coping, adapting, social support, & resilience
- Smoking, alcohol, recreational drugs
- Living with cancer, chronic illness, and pain
- Seeking, receiving, & relationships with health care systems & (clinical) providers
- Cultural contexts and alternative approaches
- The life span & end-of-life (palliative care)
- Developing new ways of thinking about health, illness, & quality of life

Sociology of Health & Illness: A Multi-disciplinary Approach



The Nuts and Bolts of the Course

This course is designed to encourage students to actively engage the materials and issues (learning by doing) as much as possible in a large class. Please note lecture notes and PowerPoint slides are not available on D2L or distributed to students. Students are responsible for all the readings and lectures will: (1) while students are required to read the textbook chapters (see reading schedule on D2L) the lectures will cover only selected issues from the textbook, (2) establish links between the chapters, and (3) introduce supplemental materials in class to enhance understanding of course issues and materials. Students wishing to audio record lectures in any format will need written permission of the instructor in advance. You will need to further develop skills assessing, identifying, and hierarchically organizing key points in lectures and class media presentations for recording notes. Instructions will be given in class.

Student responsibilities:

- Come prepared for each class. Students are expected to do the readings by the required class lecture dates noted in the Class Reading Schedule posted on D2L. See the Course Reading Schedule posted on D2L posted before the first class & updated throughout the term.
- Please check D2L regularly for updated information and instructions (e.g., twice each week)
- Read this syllabus carefully before or just after the first class to know in advance information about this course.
- Make use of on-line study resources arranged for this class by Nelson Publications – they are very helpful. Our Nelson representative will attend the first class (only) to provide access information.
- Important – please, do not engage in any class activities that might disturb or distract other students. This is a very large class, so please respect all persons in our class. It is ok to (quietly) leave class if you need or wish to attend to any personal or other non-course related issue.
- Copyright Law -all or photos taken during class must first have the signed consent of the instructor. Please obtain and sign the required form from Dr. Arnold. All audio recordings are the property of Dr. Arnold, can be used for individual course use only, and must be destroyed by the last day of class this term. No video or photo recording of any kind is allowed at any time.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY: Large classes offer specific challenges (more on this in class) but this class is a “learning community” and all members need to come prepared to class to participate and contribute to the learning process and objectives of this course. **To ensure a supportive learning environment, students are not to engage in any behaviour that distracts or disturbs others in this class (thanks in advance).** All students are to have equal opportunity to in-class information. If you have any specific challenges with this please feel free to see me for assistance during office hours. I am very pleased to assist you during office hours and before and after classes as time permits – scheduling an appointment in advance works best.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY: Please see other Department of Sociology and university rules and regulations at the end of this syllabus. All students must be registered in this course to attend class must and adhere to the conditions within this syllabus. Registering in this class indicates full agreement with course conditions in this syllabus and University of Calgary’s Examination, Academic Misconduct, and Ethics rules and regulations.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY: It is important that all students will have equal opportunities for course information and evaluation and no special arrangements will be made for any student without proper professional documentation (e.g. medical documentation clearly stating an illness has prevented a student from attending to their specific academic responsibilities). Scheduled vacations are not recognized as a valid reason for adjusting course deadlines or responsibilities.

Students registering with DRC for writing exams please contact the instructor as soon as possible. If you do experience an unfortunate illness or something similar, please let me know as soon as possible so I can see what alternative arrangements might be available to assist you. I will be pleased to assist you.

Make up exams are schedule by the Department of Sociology (only). Please give me time to write a make-up for you should this be required. All exams must be completed to receive a passing grade. Students are encouraged to inquire into the U of C's Success Sessions (3rd floor TFDL – free) which improve technical skills for improved grades (e.g. time management, note taking, studying & writing multiple-choice exams). Students report these (free 2 hour) class as VERY helpful.

Examinations:

- 1st Exam = 45% - Thursday, Feb. 26th
- 2nd Exam = 45% - Thursday, March 26th
- 3rd Final Quiz – 10% Tuesday, April 14th (in class)

Grading Scheme

A+	96-100
A	85-95
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	74-76
B-	70-73
C+	67-69
C	64-66
C-	60-63
D+	55-59
D	50-54
F	49-0

No individual exam grades, nor final course grades, will be “rounded up” to the next percentage (e.g., 85.8 is 85, not 86). No information right of the decimal point is used for calculating grades. Each exam or assignment grade is entered using this criteria, as is the final course grade. This information is to provide a clear and precise boundary for all students to ensure equal evaluation for all students.

Exams are not cumulative. Examinations will draw from all materials used, presented, discussed, and assigned in this course (except informal exercises), unless otherwise instructed. Please note, about **15-20 %** of questions for each exam will draw from course-based supplemental materials presented in class (only) that are not available from other sources. It is therefore recommended to arrange a “study-buddy” in case you have to miss a class. Students are expected to keep up-to-date with all course information and developments in class and on D2L. Again, please be reminded to check D2L regularly (e.g., a couple times a week).

Students wanting to make an audio recording (no video or photos allowed) for personal study purposes in class must first receive written permission of the instructor for privacy, confidentiality, copyright, and ethical reasons. All recordings are for individual course related study purposes only, are the property of Dr. Arnold, and must be destroyed by the last day of this term.

REQUIRED READING (see D2L re course reading schedule – and D2L updates)

Sociology of Health and Illness: A Multidisciplinary Approach (Soci 321).*

Nelson Custom Text (Dr. Bruce Arnold, University of Calgary). 2014.

ISBN-13: 9780176484194 ISBN-10: 0176484191

Available only at U of C bookstore

*** All pages numbers used in this course refer to the sequential page numbers, in bold font, at the bottom of each page in our custom textbook.**

*** Please note the Nelson textbook representative will be attending our first class (only) to provide instructions necessary for accessing custom textbook on-line resources. If you miss this lecture please ask another student in the class for these instructions.**

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1. [Optional] Grade Reappraisal: Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one’s mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a reconsidered mark may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.
2. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
3. Academic Misconduct: Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>
4. Protection of Privacy: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. “If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.” All recordings of any kind must first be approved by the instructor and a confidentiality, privacy, and copyright form needs to be signed.
5. Ethical Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects’ research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.
6. Deferrals: If possible, please provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the health issue rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student. If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the

instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology. Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp_Su_DFE_App.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

7. Student Representation: The 2014-15 Students’ Union VP Academic’s email is: Hana Kadri suypaca@ucalgary.ca. The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: arts1@ucalgary.ca, arts2@ucalgary.ca, arts3@ucalgary.ca, and arts4@ucalgary.ca. You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>
8. Emergency Evacuation: In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at [*location*]. Please check these assembly point locations for your other classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
9. Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.
10. Academic Accommodation: Students who require academic accommodation, must register with Student Accessibility Services (formerly the Disability Resource Centre) at MC 452 (or phone 403-220-8237). Please provide academic accommodation letters to the instructor as early in the semester as possible and no later than two weeks after the course begins.