SOC 340 THE SOCIOLOGY OF MEDICINE

FALL 2013 | 85085

	Dr. Redmond
Class time:	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 11:30am-12:20pm
Class location:	Faculty Hall 500
Office location:	Faculty Hall 501D
Office hours:	Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 and 2:30-5:00, or by appointment
Office phone:	270-809-4632
Email:	dredmond2@murraystate.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Sociology of Medicine is a survey course that applies sociological principles to medicine, health, illness, and health care. Topics include, but are not limited to, medical and sociological models of illness, history of medicine, the social stratification of illness, medicalization, the experience of illness, the medical profession, health care systems, and health care access and delivery. In this course, we will begin with the notion that one cannot understand the topics of health and illness simply by considering biological phenomena and medical knowledge; instead, we must consider a variety of social, political, economic, and cultural forces. This course is designed to provide a broad overview of the field of medical sociology, and, to this end, we will address the topics listed above and others.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Textbook

Cockerham, William C. 2012. *Medical Sociology*: Prentice Hall.

Articles to download

Throughout the semester, other readings will be posted on our Canvas page under the "files" tab.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exams (3 @ 100-points)

Each exam will test your knowledge of the prior weeks' readings, lectures, and discussions. Exams will typically include both short answer and essay questions.

Response Papers (2 @ 50-points)

There are two response papers due in this class. The first is due on October 7th and the second is due on November 11th. Details are attached to this syllabus and posted on our Canvas page.

Final paper (1 @ 100-points)

Your final paper is due on December 9th by 5:00pm. Details are attached to this syllabus and

posted on the course webpage.

Attendance

Class attendance is required and lateness is unacceptable. You may miss four (4) class periods (regardless of the excuse) without penalty. For every absence after the fourth (regardless of the excuse), I will reduce your final grade by 2% (i.e., 10 points). Exam and quiz questions will be based heavily on lecture content, as well as readings. If you are not present, your grade will inevitably suffer.

Observance of religious holidays is considered an excused absence, but **notification (in writing)** should be made to the instructor in **the first week** of the semester. If you miss class, for whatever reason, you are responsible for getting assigned materials, notes, and so forth from a classmate.

Classmate information:

Name	Email
Name	Email

GRADING

Course grades	%	Points	Letter grades	
Exam 1 (9/25)	20%	100	A 500-450	Exceptionally high quality; valued at four points for each credit.
Exam 2 (10/25)	20%	100		
Exam 3 (11/22)	20%	100	B 449-400	Good; valued at three points for each credit.
Response paper1 (10/7)	10%	50		
Response paper 2 (11/11)	10%	50	C 399-350	Satisfactory; valued at two points for each credit.
Final paper (12/11)	20%	100		
Total	**100**	**500**	D 349-300	Poor; valued at one point for each credit.
			E 299-0	Failure, no credit; valued at no points and no hours earned.

COURSE POLICIES

Make-up policy

There will be no opportunities to make-up missed exams or quizzes. If you absolutely must miss the exam or a quiz, you must **notify me in advance and provide proper documentation**. If (and only if) you provide proper documentation will you be allowed to take the quiz or exam on a different day. Keep in mind that you will only be allowed to take the missed assessment after the class has taken it (i.e., I will not administer early exams). The difficultly of the assessment will reflect the fact that you had more time to study.

Incompletes

I will not grant incompletes unless there are extremely unusual (and documented) circumstances. Please see http://www.murraystate.edu/Academics/RegistrarsOffice/Registration/Grades.aspx for more information on the university's grading policies.

Academic honesty

I have failed students for academic dishonesty in the past, and I will do it again. Students are expected to complete their work without the assistance of others. If you need assistance or are having trouble with the course, come see me. All students are expected to conform to the standards of academic honesty (i.e., no cheating, plagiarism, or supplying false information). The university's policy on academic integrity will be fully enforced. The use of sources (i.e., ideas, quotations, and paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented. Racer Writing Tutorial Services, which is located on the Main Floor of the Waterfield Library, is a free campus resource. If you have any questions concerning this or other issues of academic honesty, please talk to me.

You can find information about the school's policy here: http://www.murraystate.edu/Academics/ContinuingEducation/CorrespondenceCourses/PoliciesProcedures.aspx.

Murray State University's Academic Honesty Policy

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of academic honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Academic dishonesty will result in disciplinary action being taken. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

Students with disabilities

Students who feel they need accommodations based on the impact of a disability should see me to discuss these needs. You can obtain proper documentation and coordinate reasonable accommodations at the Office of Student Disability Services in 423 Wells Hall (or by calling 270-809-2018). Their policies and forms can be found here: http://www.murraystate.edu/HeaderMenu/Administration/StudentAffairs/departments/StudentDisabilityServices.aspx.

Non-discrimination policy statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

Class conduct

To promote a positive learning environment, we will follow guidelines for class participation. Appropriate attention and respect should be given to all participants in the class at all times. You show respect by not chatting, passing notes, sleeping or "resting your eyes," making fun of others, leaving early, listening to an MP3 player, or text messaging during class. Cell phones must be turned-off and put away during the entire class session. For every instance (over the course of the entire semester) that I see a cell phone, I will add one question to the final exam. **Please be on time. You are not to use a laptop or iPad during class, except under special circumstances.**

Communication
The best way to contact me is via email (dredmond2@murraystate.edu). Please write "S340" in the subject line. I will check my email twice per day, once in the morning and once in the evening. If you email me later than 5:00pm, I will not receive your email until the next morning. I will try to respond to your email within 24 hours, but do not expect that I can respond immediately. I will check email until 5:00pm on Fridays, but will not reach my email again until Monday morning. I expect that you will check your university email and Canvas at least once per business day.

Email etiquette
Here are guidelines on how to compose your emails:

1. Be sure to include a meaningful subject line; this helps to clarify what your message is about. Your email subject should begin with the course information (i.e., S340). This should be followed by a colon; then, provide a glimpse of what your email is about.
2. Just like in a written letter, your email must open with a greeting. This means that I expect your email will address me by name, "Professor Redmond." There is nothing more annoying than an email that begins, "Hey!"
3. Use standard spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. THERE'S NOTHING WORSE THAN AN EMAIL SCREAMING A MESSAGE IN ALL CAPS. Multiple instances of "!!!" or "???" are perceived as rude or condescending.
4. Read your email out loud before sending it to ensure the tone is that which you desire.
5. When we are engaging in a conversation that continues for several emails—which means that we have volleyed emails back-and-forth –it is okay to remove the formal greeting and closing, but do not become careless by losing your professional tone.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS*

Date	Topic	Reading (All readings must be read before class)
W 08/21	Orientation	
F 08/23	The sociological perspective	C. Wright Mills_The promise
M 08/26	History of medicine and medical sociology	Cockerham Chapter 1, pages 1-22.

UNIT 1: THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH AND ILLNESS

W 08/28	Epidemiology	Cockerham Chapter 2, pages 23-45
F 08/30	Epidemiology	
M 09/02	No class	

W 09/04	Social stress	Cockerham_Chapter 5, pages 97-118
F 09/06	Social stress	
M 09/09	Social class	Marmot_Health Inequalities
W 09/11	Social class	Cockerham_Chapter 3, pages 48-67
F 09/13	Social class	
M 09/16	Race/ethnicity	
W 09/18	Race/ethnicity	Cockerham_Chatper 4, pages 83-95
F 09/20	Immigration	Tavernese_Health Toll
M 09/23	Immigration	
W 09/25	**Exam 1**	**Exam 1**
F 09/27	No class	
M 09/30	Gender	Cockerham Chapter 4, pages 69-80
W 10//02	Gender	
F 10/04	Gender	
M 10/07	Neighborhoods	Epstein_Enough to Make You Sick? (paper 1 due)
W 10/09	Neighborhoods	
F 10/11	The sick role	Cockerham Chapter 7, pages 166-191

UNIT 2: HEALTH AND ILLNESS BEHAVIOR

M 10/14	Health behavior	Cockerham Chapter 6, pages 120-141
W 10/16	Health behavior	
F 10/18	Health behavior	
M 10/21	Illness experience	Moore_People Like That Are the Only People Here

W 10/23	Illness experience	
F 10/25	**Exam 2**	**Exam 2**

UNIT 3: HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS

M 10/28	Seeking health care	Cockerham Chapter 7, pages 142-164
W 10/30	Seeking health care	
F 11/01	Social support	
M 11/04	Social networks	Christakas_The Spread
W 11/06	Physicians	Cockerham Chapter 11, pages 238-257
F11/08	Becoming a doctor	Hafferty_Cadaver stories
M 11/11	Nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants	Cockerham Chapter 13, pages 277-294 (paper 2 due)
W 11/13	Doctor-patient interaction	Cockerham Chapter 9, pages 193-217
F 11/15	Doctor-patient interaction	
M 11/18	US health care system	Cockerham Chapter 15, pages 319-342 Starr_Sick and Out of Luck
W 11/20	US health care system	
F 11/22	**Exam 3**	**Exam 3**

UNIT 4: THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

M 11/25	Healthcare systems	Video_Sick around the world
W 11/27- F 11/29		No class
M 12/02	Healthcare systems	Cockerham Chapter 16, pages 344-377
W 12/04	Solutions to health care problems	White_Competing Solutions

F 12/06	Final paper meetings	Final paper meetings
F 12/11	**Final paper due**	**Final paper due**

*This is a tentative outline for the course. I reserve the right to make changes.