

Course Title	:	Health, Illness and Behaviour
Course Code	:	SOC333
Recommended Study Year	:	1, 2 and 3
No. of Credits/ Term	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Lecture-Tutorial and Service Learning
Class Contact Hours	:	Three hours per week
Category in Major Prog	:	Elective
Discipline	:	Sociology
Prerequisite(s)	:	None
Co-requisite(s)	:	None
Exclusion(s)	:	None
Exemption Requirements(s)	:	None

Aims:

The aim of the course is, within a social science/sociological framework, to equip students with basic understanding of the concepts of health and illnesses, environments(s) and health/illness, Hong Kong and some Western health care systems, doctor-patient relationships and measures which have been adopted to improve health and quality of life.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will be expected to appreciate the basic principles of health and illness and socio-cultural and health care systems, and factors influencing health behaviour. They will also acquire a sound understanding of the principles underpinning the relationships between the environment (social and physical) and infectious diseases (such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, SARS and dengue fever) and non-communicable diseases such as cancers and heart disease.

Indicative Content:

1. Introduction- defining health, illness etc

Defining health and illness: physical, psychological and sociological perspectives

- a. concepts of health and illness: examples of pregnancy & depression
- b. historical development of Western and Chinese medicine

2. Social epidemiology

- a. epidemiological triad: diseases and environment
- b. illustrations: various conditions and diseases with environmental associations

- 3. Organization of community healthcare and hospital services**
 - a. healthcare provision at the community levels (primary health care)
 - b. hospital services (secondary, tertiary health care)
 - c. Community care, hospital care or what combinations?

- 4. Health beliefs and practices: cultural differences?**
 - a. Concepts of health and illness: examples of pregnancy & depression
 - b. The healthcare system: policy and service delivery
 - c. Setting priorities at a time of limited resources
 - d. Reasons for the importance of family care givers in community care; the working relationships between family and formal care givers
 - e. Controversies: creating lives to save lives – PGD and tissue typing

- 5. Behaviour as diagnostic indicators and the medical model**
 - a. The curative process: diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation
 - b. Primary, secondary and tertiary preventions in healthcare

- 6. Health & illness behaviour: the sick role**
 - a. doctor-patients relationships
 - b. empowering the patients through health promotion

- 7. Consumer behaviour in healthcare services**
 - a. Consumption and utilization of health services; accessibility and utilization
 - b. What do consumers want? quality, choice, affordable price, access

Teaching Method:

Weekly lectures, tutorials, seminar presentation/discussions, or service learning.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

Assessed by tests, term paper, presentations, participation (in tutorials or in services) and examination

Assessment:

Continuous assessment (50%): TUTORIAL MODE STUDENTS: 25% for a project presentation (small groups of 3-4 students) and tutorial participation plus 25% for an individual written term paper/ essay 2,000 to 3,000 words are expected for the paper.

Continuous assessment for SERVICE LEARNING MODE STUDENTS: 15% for

individual reflective essay, 15% for group report, 10% for Report – back seminar presentation plus 10% for Performance ratings/Agency Evaluation Score.

Last week EXAMINATION (50%) [Scheduled for 21 Apr, 2010, Venue TBC]

Academic Integrity:

With regard to your coursework in particular, you are reminded: *You must note the sources of quotations, data and general information in the coursework.* These sources/references should appear in alphabetical order in your list of references/bibliography.

Students are advised to consult the University Calendar and the regulations, which are available at the Registry website, for information regarding academic offences. Note that the University imposes severe penalties for academic dishonesty, especially cheating and plagiarism. According to Lingnan University and Social Sciences Programme policy, plagiarism is "the presentation of another person's work without proper acknowledgment of the source". Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty. *Plagiarism as well as cheating will be heavily penalized, and may result in a zero mark and disciplinary action.* Examples of plagiarism can be found at <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>.

Required/ Essential Readings:

Freund, P. E. S., McGuire, M. B. & Podhurst, L. S, Health, illness, and the social body: a critical sociology. 4th ed., NJ: Prentice Hall, 2002.

Cockerham W.C., Medical sociology. Prentice Hall: Englewood Cliffs, 1998, 2001.

Hay J.W., Health care in Hong Kong. Hong Kong: Hong Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, 1991.

方玉輝、陳兆儀、黃周少芳、吳梓江：《家庭醫學》，香港：中文大學出版社，2000。

Recommended/ Supplementary Readings:

Berkman, L. F, & Kawachi, I. (eds), Social epidemiology. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Chan, Cecilia Lai-wan, Social work intervention in health care: the Hong Kong scene. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 1997.

Close, Diana, Bereavement support in oncology social work: group intervention with relatives and friends. Melbourne: Medical Social Work Dept., Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute, St. Andrews Place East Melbourne, 1995.

Dept. of Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong, Therapeutic groups in medical settings. Department of Social Work and Social Administration, Resource Paper series no. 25., University of Hong Kong, 1996.

Gray, A. (ed), World health and disease. Pa.: Open University Press, 2001.

Guyton, Arthur C., Human physiology and mechanisms of disease. Philadelphia : W.B. Saunders. 5th ed, 1992.

Hutcheon, Robin, Beside manner, hospital and health care in Hong Kong. Hong Kong: Chinese University Press, 1999.

Lee, K (ed), Health impacts of globalization: Towards global governance. N.Y.: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

Leung, G. M. & Bacon-Shone, J (eds), Hong Kong's health system: Reflections, perspectives and visions. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2006.

McCracken, Kevin and Phillips, David R., International demographic transitions. In G.J. Andrews and D.R. Phillips (eds) Ageing and Place. London: Routledge, 2005, pp. 36-60.

McFalls, Joseph A., Population: a lively introduction. 4th edition or earlier. Population Bulletin, 58, 1, December. Washington, DC: Population Reference Bureau, 2003.

Northen, Helen, Clinical social work: knowledge and skills. New York: Columbia University Press, 1995.

Nettleton, S., The Sociology of health and illness. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2006.

Phillips, D.R. and Verhasselt, Y. (eds.), Health and development. London: Routledge, 1994.

Turner, B., *The New Medical Sociology: Social Forms of Health and Illness*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2004.

Turner, Francis J., *Differential diagnosis and treatment in social work*. New York: Free Press, 1995.

Vander, Arthur J., *Human physiology: the mechanisms of body function*. New York: McGraw-Hill. 6th ed., 1994.

Wang, Cho-ch'i., *The role of medical social workers and their relationship with doctors and nurses in Hong Kong hospitals*. Occasional paper: Hong Kong: Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 1998.

Whiteside, A. (2008) *HIV/AIDS: a very short introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Selected Websites of HK Government, other international health services and the WHO, etc, will be provided in lectures. For background and for examples you could look at sites such as:

HK Centre for Health Protection:

<http://www.chp.gov.hk/index.asp?lang=en>

HK Hospital Authority:

http://www.ha.org.hk/visitor/ha_index.asp

HK Department of Health

<http://www.dh.gov.hk/>

UK National Health Service on primary and secondary health care:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/DH_074339

USA Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCs):

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

Australia Department of Health and Ageing:

<http://www.health.gov.au/>