Please Note: This is a hybrid course. While we will meet at the assigned time each week, most of the course assignments, exams, and course communications (messaging) will take place on Blackboard.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number: SYO 3400-U01 (85201)
Term: Fall 2016
Place/Time: Fridays, 10:00 am to 11:50 am
Instructor: Katherine Lineberger, PhD
Office Hours: by appointment
Email (PREFERRED): Please email me on the course website.

- I check my university email daily on weekdays throughout the semester and usually reply within 48 hours to email.
- Due to a high volume of emails, my general policy for email is to respond only to emails which relate to the course content (e.g. questions/comments related to medical sociology) and questions which cannot be answered by any other available course-related resource (e.g. the FIU Help Desk, the Course Syllabus, the Live & Recorded Discussions, emails, etc.).
- I utilize email as a means of keeping in regular contact with students, to inform about technical issues, to announce when grades have been posted, and so forth.
- Students are required to check their course-related email daily during the semester and to keep apprised (and respond appropriately and immediately, if necessary), especially, of information emailed by Dr. Lineberger.

Phone: 305-348-0352-I check voicemails daily on weekdays throughout the semester.

It is important to me to be available to you (within reason). When possible, I will stay after class to take questions.

REQUIRED READINGS


Additional required readings can be linked through the course website in each lesson.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are a number of activities within each lesson to assist you in building knowledge of Medical Sociology. Eight lessons are organized on a bi-weekly basis. All lessons are open to you once you have passed the SYLLABUS QUIZ with 100% accuracy.
1. **Syllabus, Blackboard, and Component Quiz**

   **REQUIRED BY AUGUST 30TH FOR EVERYONE! STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO PASS THE SYLLABUS QUIZ WITH 100% ACCURACY BY AUGUST 30, 2016 WILL BE ADMINISTRATIVELY DROPPED FROM THE COURSE.**

   You will take a quiz based on the course requirements and the use of course technology. The purpose is to ensure that you clearly understand the course requirements and how to use the course online tools. You will gain access to the remaining course materials once you have passed the quiz with 100% accuracy.

   *Total points = 25.*

2. **Study Mate Activities:**

   **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE STUDY MATE AND EXAM ASSIGNMENTS ARE DIRECTLY RELATED.**

   In each lesson, there is a Study Mate activity based on the course materials (e.g. readings, lectures, etc.). The Study Mate activities will help prepare you for the exams.

   This assignment has two parts:

   1. You will earn 1 point for practice with the existing multiple choice questions/quizzes.
   2. You will earn 4 points for creating 2 questions/terms (2 points per question/term) related to the readings and other course material in that lesson (you can create any type of question in Study Mate).
      - Higher quality questions may be used on exams.
      - You are welcome to utilize additional types of games within Study Mate for study purposes. You will not “submit” anything. The system tracks your participation and I will grade this.
      - *Total Points = 40*

3. **Exams:**

   **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE EXAM AND STUDY MATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE DIRECTLY RELATED**

   Within each lesson is an exam which covers the material in that lesson. Exams provide the opportunity for you to gauge your growing knowledge in Medical Sociology, including vocabulary, summarizing major areas of research, and application of theoretical perspectives. Exams are structured within the following parameters:

   - Exams can be found under “Assessments” on the course website.
   - Students may logon to an exam only once.
   - Each exam is comprised of 25 multiple choice and true/false questions. All exam questions relate to the course material reviewed for that section of the course (exams are not cumulative). *Questions are drawn from the question pool in Study Mate.*
   - One hour is allotted for each exam. *Exams exceeding the one hour deadline will be considered late and not accepted.*
   - You are required to download and utilize Respondus Lockdown Browser for taking exams online. The browser and
instructions for using it are provided on the course website, under “Assessments.”

- You can login to exams only once and may not navigate away from the exam once logged on (this will result in automatic submission of the exam and it will be graded “as is.”).
- You are encouraged to take your exams on a reliable computer and internet connection, to avoid crashes. If you question the reliability of your computer or internet connection, it is highly recommended that you take the exams on one of the computers in a campus computer lab.
- VERY IMPORTANT!!! If you encounter a technical problem with an exam, you must contact ETS Technical Support to seek technical assistance immediately and work with them to resolve the problem. Dr. Lineberger will work with them to resolve problems that may be encountered.
  - ETS Technical Support can be contacted:
    - on the ecampus website: [http://ecampus.fiu.edu/](http://ecampus.fiu.edu/)
    - At the MMC, Green Library, Room 150
      (phone: 305-348-2814)
    - At the BBC, Academic One Bldg., Room 148
      (phone: 305-919-5944)
    - And via email at: etshelp@fiu.edu
  - If problems are found to be systemic in nature (e.g. Blackboard is down or the FIU Online network is down, etc.), exams will be reset. If problems are found to be due to operator error, exams will not be reset.
- There are no makeup exams.
- You will receive your score upon submission of your exam. On the Monday following each exam (once all students have completed the exam) all students will be able to access feedback about the answers they submitted, the correct answers, and references to the course material from which each question fashioned.
- Each exam is worth 25 (times 8 lessons) points. Total possible points for this assignment = 200

4. Discussion: This assignment provides an opportunity for you to build confidence, skills, and strategies in applying medical sociology to your real world experience. If you have no real world experience to apply, get some!

- There are four (4) Discussion assignments throughout the semester. Each discussion covers material currently being review in the course. You will choose from a variety of questions related to each lesson. In answering the questions you choose, you must utilize the course materials and write
about the ways in which the material is relevant to your own life.

- In completing a discussion assignment, you are required to both answer questions and to respond meaningfully to others’ posts, culminating in a minimum of 1,000 words.
- Please utilize the grading rubric which is provided on the discussion board to assist you with this assignment.
- Each discussion assignment is worth 40 points. Total points possible for this assignment = 160.

5. **Class Attendance & Participation**

Attendance and participation in class activities is an important part of the course. Students are expected to come to class having reviewed the course materials in the current lesson (e.g. readings, lectures). In addition to participating in class activities to the fullest extent possible, participation also includes asking questions and making comments which indicate the student’s engagement with course-related material. Attendance will be taken at each class session. 1 point is awarded for attendance and 4 points are awarded for participation (5 total points each week).

Total points = 80

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**GRADES**

Please note that the total points possible (505) exceed the total number of points required for an A grade (465). There are 40 points of “wiggle room” designed into the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>GRADES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus/Blackboard Quiz = 25</td>
<td>A= 442-505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Mate = 40</td>
<td>A- = 419-441</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams = 200</td>
<td>B+=405-418</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion=160</td>
<td>B = 386-404</td>
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<td>Attendance/Participation=80</td>
<td>B- = 372-385</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C = 339-357</td>
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<tr>
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<td>D = 293-311</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D- = 279-292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F=&lt;279</td>
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</table>

NOTE: Please utilize the above table to track your grade and utilize the Blackboard grade book ONLY for “points earned per assignment.” You may estimate your grade at any time during the semester using the following formula:

TOTAL POINTS Earned TO DATE/TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE TO DATE X 100
## TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| August 22-September 3 | **Introduction & Lesson 1**  
**Introduction to Medical Sociology**  
- Read: Weitz, Ch 1  
- Review Lecture 1  
- Explore the course and its components both in class and online.  
- Syllabus, Blackboard, and Component Quiz - REQUIRED BY AUGUST 30TH FOR EVERYONE! STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO PASS THE SYLLABUS QUIZ WITH 100% ACCURACY BY AUGUST 30TH, 2016 WILL BE ADMINISTRATIVELY DROPPED FROM THE COURSE.  
- NOTE: ALL REMAINING ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSON 1 ARE DUE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 3, 2016 AT 11:59 PM.  
- Attend/Participate in classes  
- Study Mate 1 Activities  
- Exam 1 |
| September 4-September 17 | **Lesson 2**  
**The Social Sources of Illness/The Distribution of Illness in the US**  
- Note: September 5th is Labor Day-University Closed.  
- Read: Weitz, Chs. 2 & 3; Weidman, Dennis "Native American Embodiment of the Chronicities of Modernity: Reservation Food, Diabetes, & the Metabolic Syndrome among the Kiowa, Comanche, & Apache"  
- Review Lectures 2 & 3  
- Films: “Fooling with Nature,” “Supersize Me,” |
|                             | **NOTE: ALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSON 2 ARE DUE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 AT 11:59 PM.**  
- Attend/Participate in classes  
- Discussion 1 posting  
- Study Mate 2 Activities  
- Exam 2 |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Read</th>
<th>Study Materials</th>
<th>Exam Dates</th>
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</table>
| September 18-October 1| Lesson 3 | Illness & Death in Less Developed Nations/The Social Meanings of Illness | *Read*: Weitz, Chs. 4 & 5; Weidman, Dennis “Globalizing the Chronicities of Modernity: Diabetes & the Metabolic Syndrome”  
*Review*: Lectures 4 & 5  
• **NOTE**: ALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSON 3 ARE DUE NO LATER THAN October 1, 2016 AT 11:59 PM.  
• Attend/Participate in classes  
• Study Mate 3 Activities  
• Exam 3 |  
| October 2- October 15 | Lesson 4 | The Experience of Disability, Chronic Pain, & Chronic Illness/ The Sociology of Mental Illness | *Read*: Weitz, Chs 6 & 7  
*Review*: Lectures 6 & 7  
*Films*: “Murderball,” “The New Asylums” |  
• **NOTE**: ALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSON 4 ARE DUE NO LATER THAN October 15, 2016 AT 11:59 PM.  
• Attend/Participate in classes  
• Discussion 2 posting  
• Study Mate 4 Activities  
• Exam 4 |  
| October 16-October 29 | Lesson 5 | Health Care in the US | *Read*: Weitz, Ch 8;  
*Review* Lecture 8  
*View films (optional)*: “Sicko” and “The High Price of Health” |  
• **NOTE**: ALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSON 5 ARE DUE NO LATER THAN October 29, 2016 AT 11:59 PM.  
• Attend/Participate in classes  
• Study Mate 5 Activities  
• Exam 5 |
| October 30-November 12 | Lesson 6 Health Care around the Globe/Health Care Settings & Technologies | Note: November 11th is Veteran’s Day-University closed.  
Read: Weitz Chs 9 & 10;  
Review Lectures 9 & 10  
Film: “Choosing Death” | NOTE: ALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSON 6 ARE DUE NO LATER THAN November 12, 2016 AT 11:59 PM.  
Attend/Participate in classes  
Discussion 3 posting  
Study Mate 6 Activities  
Exam 6 |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 13-November 26 | Lesson 7 The Profession of Medicine /Other Mainstream & Alternative Health Care Providers | Note: November 24 & 25 are Thanksgiving-University closed.  
Read: Weitz, Chs 11 & 12; Weidman, Dennis “Big and Little Moon Peyotism as Healthcare Delivery Systems”  
Review Lectures 11 & 12  
Attend/Participate in classes  
Study Mate 7 Activities  
Exam 7 |
| November 27-December 10 | Lesson 8 Bioethics | Read: Weitz, Ch 13;  
Review Lecture 13  
Films: “The Deadly Deception” and “A Death of One’s Own” | NOTE: ALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR LESSON 8 ARE DUE NO LATER THAN December 10, 2016.  
Attend/Participate in classes  
Discussion 4 posting  
Study Mate 8 Activities  
Exam 8 |

**Additional Issues**

1. **Early Alert**
   
   In an effort to help you succeed in your academic courses, FIU utilizes an Early Alert system. Instructors are now able to notify students’ academic advisors if there are concerns about class performance. If an alert is submitted, your academic advisor will send you a message via your Student Dashboard (accessed via your MYFIU page) to
discuss ways to improve your performance. Please respond to any communication you receive from your academic advisor about an early alert. Our goal with this program is to help you to be successful by identifying any issues as early on as possible and working to address them.

2. **Extra Credit:** *There are no extra credit assignments for this course.*

3. **Study Guides and Other Optional Course Materials:**
   a. Study questions related to the readings are available under “Study Guides” on the course website.
   b. In addition, there are 5 Study Groups available, into which students can self-enroll. The study groups provide members with a chat room, file exchange, discussion forums, and email so that students can collaborate to study for exams throughout the semester.
   c. Throughout the course, several films are recommended which enhance students’ learning experience. Many of these will be viewed in class. For students wishing to view them, these films can be found in the FIU library catalog and can easily be viewed online through Netflix and often for free. A Handout of the films is provided, so that students can access the films if they wish.
   d. Additionally, it is highly recommended that students take advantage of Study Mate (described above).
   e. A “Student Q & A Discussion” is available on the course website. Students may use this discussion to assist one another in completing the course requirements and troubleshooting issues with the course.

4. **Chat Room:** A chat room is available on the course website for students to use at anytime. Simply click on the “Chat” button in the left menu to enter the chat.

5. **Missed or Late Assignments:** *Excepting religious holidays and/or dire circumstances (which should be reported to the Disability Resource Center), under no circumstances will missed or late assignments (including exams) be accepted. On the bright side, you may work as far ahead as you can/wish!*

6. **Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities should contact me in the first two weeks of class to make arrangements for any accommodations they may need. Please contact the Disability Resource Center on campus to get started with this process. They can be reached at:

   11200 SW 8th Street Miami, FL 33199
   **Graham Center 190**
   Phone: (305) 348-3532 • Fax: (305) 348-3850
   Email: [drcupgl@fiu.edu](mailto:drcupgl@fiu.edu)

7. **Trouble Shooting Issues with the Course:** The tutorials and quizzes related to the syllabus and online learning environment are designed to enable students to answer most questions that might arise throughout the course of the semester.

   The professor works closely with ecampus technical support staff to trouble shoot problems and issues that may arise in the course. Students needing technical support (e.g. Blackboard, it’s components, problems you may be having with your own
computer interfacing with these, etc.) should immediately contact technical support if these problems relate to your ability to meet course requirements in any way. Depending upon the nature of the problem, this process can sometimes take several days before resolution. Students are expected to be patient and to continue working with technical support until the issue is resolved.

a. If there is a problem with your being able to meet any of the requirements of the course due to technical issues, Technical Support will contact Dr. Lineberger, inform Dr. Lineberger of the problem, and ask for further instruction.

b. Students who have technical problems which prevent them from meeting the course requirements and who fail to immediately seek and follow through with technical assistance will not be given special consideration for their problem.

8. A NOTE ABOUT NETIQUETTE: This is a hybrid course and many of the assignments and exams take place on the Blackboard website. Students are expected, at all times, to maintain the standards of conduct outlined in the Student Handbook in all relations and communications with the professor and with other students in the class. It is important, especially in online interactions, to be sensitive, patient, and respectful. Remember! A great deal of successful human communication is non-verbal and we can’t see you in cyberspace! 😊