COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number: SYO 3400-RVC (84159)
Term: Fall 2013
Place: Online
Instructor: Katherine Lineberger, PhD
Email (PREFERRED): Please email me on the course website.

- I check my university email once 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.
Office Hours: I hold office hours by appointment only.

REQUIRED READINGS


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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

| 1. Syllabus, Blackboard, and Component Quiz | Students will take a quiz based on the course requirements and the use of course technology. The purpose is to ensure that students clearly understand the course requirements and how to use the course online tools. Students will gain access to the remaining course materials once they have passed the quiz with 100% accuracy. Total points = 25. |
| 2. Weekly Information Sessions (and Live Office Hours): | Each week, the instructor will conduct 1 one-hour online discussion related to the current topic. The objective of these meetings is to provide opportunities for us to more fully unpack the concepts, issues, and research covered in the course, as well as to maintain a “Course Housekeeping” dialogue throughout the semester. The meetings also provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate |
the knowledge they’ve gained and to ask questions related to the course material. Online discussions provide time each week for students and the instructor to have direct, live contact. Each discussion is recorded and the recordings are posted on the course website immediately after each meeting. Students have 2 options in this assignment:

- Students may attend and participate in the meetings, or
- Students may watch the meeting recordings and write a 500 word summary of each meeting (due each week by Saturday at 11:59 PM).
  - This option may be done using the “Meeting Summaries” journal tool on the course website. Please date each entry.
- Each meeting/summary is worth 12 points toward students’ final grade. Total points for this assignment = 168

3. Exams:

Students are required to complete three (3) exams for the course. Exams provide the opportunity for students to gauge their 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.
- Each exam is comprised of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions. All exam questions relate to the readings and lectures reviewed for that section of the course (exams are not cumulative). Questions are drawn from the question pool in Study Mate.
- Exams will be made available from Friday at 1 AM through Saturday at 11:59 PM of the weeks that they are scheduled.
- One hour and fifteen minutes is allotted for each exam. Exams exceeding the one hour and fifteen minute deadline will be considered late and not accepted.
- Students 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.”
- Students 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.”).
- Students are encouraged to take their exams on a reliable computer and internet connection, to avoid crashes. If anyone questions the reliability of their computer or internet connection, it is highly recommended that they take the exams on one of the computers in a campus computer lab.
• If a student encounters a technical problem with an exam, the student must contact the FIU Online Help Desk (available by phone, email, and online chat Mon.-Fri. and by email and chat on Sat-Sun.) to seek technical assistance immediately and work with them to resolve the problem. Dr. Lineberger will work with the Help Desk to resolve problems that may be encountered by students.
  o 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 for students. If problems are found to be due to operator error, exams will not be reset.
• There are no makeup exams.
• Individual students will receive their score upon submission of their 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 100 points. Total possible points for this assignment = 300

4. Medical Sociology in My Life Discussion:

This assignment provides an opportunity for students to build confidence, skills, and strategies in applying medical sociology to their real world experience.

• Each week, students may choose from a variety of topics related to the readings for that week and write about the ways in which the material is relevant to their own life.
• Discussion questions will be posted each week on Sunday at 12:00 AM. The assignment is due the following Saturday at 11:59 PM.
• Students are required to answer a minimum of one question and to respond meaningfully to others’ posts.
• Students are required to write a minimum of 1,000 words for each Lesson.
• A grading rubric is provided on the discussion board.
• Each posting is worth 16 points, for a total of 214 points toward the student’s final grade.

5. Study Mate:

In each lesson, you will participate in the Study Mate quiz activity based on the course materials (e.g. readings, lectures, etc.). The quizzes will help prepare you for the exams. You will earn 1 point for visiting Study Mate in each lesson (by Saturday at 11:59 PM of the week they are assigned). 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.

Total Points = 13
GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>GRADES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus/Blackboard Quiz = 25</td>
<td>A= 684-720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Sessions (Attendance/Summary) = 168</td>
<td>A-=648-683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Sociology in My Life Discussion=214</td>
<td>B+=626-647</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams = 300</td>
<td>B=598-625</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Mate = 13</td>
<td>B-=576-597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Possible Points = 720</td>
<td>C+=554-575</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C=526-553</td>
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<td></td>
<td>C-=504-525</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D+=482-503</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D=454-481</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D-=432-453</td>
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<td>F&lt;=432</td>
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TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>What's Due?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 26 Introduction</td>
<td>• Information Session: 8/27; 10:30 AM</td>
<td>• Explore the course and its components&lt;br&gt;• Syllabus, Blackboard, and Component Quiz&lt;br&gt;• Attend Information Session or Write Summary of Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2 Lesson 1</td>
<td>• Monday-Labor Day-University Closed&lt;br&gt;• Read: Weitz, Ch 1&lt;br&gt;• Review: Lecture 1&lt;br&gt;• Information Session: 9/3; 12 PM</td>
<td>• Explore the course and its components Syllabus, Blackboard, and Component Quiz&lt;br&gt;• Attend Information Session or Write Summary of Discussion&lt;br&gt;• My Life Discussion posting&lt;br&gt;• Visit Study Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 9 Lesson 2</td>
<td>• Read: Weitz, Ch 2; Weidman, Dennis &quot;Native American Embodiment of the Chronicities of Modernity: Reservation Food, Diabetes, &amp; the</td>
<td>• Attend Information Session or Write Summary of Discussion&lt;br&gt;• My Life Discussion posting&lt;br&gt;• Visit Study Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Lesson</td>
<td>Read:</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>Lesson 3</td>
<td>Weitz, Ch 3;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>Lesson 4</td>
<td>Weitz, Ch 4, Weidman, Dennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>Lesson 5</td>
<td>Weitz, Ch 5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Exam 1 will be available on Friday at 1 AM through Saturday at 11:59 PM. Students can logon to take the exam at any time during this period.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Read:</th>
<th>Review Lecture</th>
<th>Information Session:</th>
<th>Optional: View film:</th>
<th>Attend Information Session or Write Summary of Discussion</th>
<th>My Life Discussion posting</th>
<th>Visit Study Mate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>Lesson 6</td>
<td>Weitz, Ch 6</td>
<td>Lecture 6</td>
<td>10/10; 2 PM</td>
<td>“Murderball”</td>
<td>10/10; 2 PM</td>
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<td>October 14</td>
<td>Lesson 7</td>
<td>Weitz, Ch 7; Waters, Ethan “The Americanization of Mental Illness”</td>
<td>Lecture 7</td>
<td>10/17; 5:30 PM</td>
<td>“The New Asylums”</td>
<td>10/17; 5:30 PM</td>
<td>10/17; 5:30 PM</td>
<td>Visit Study Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>Lesson 8</td>
<td>Weitz, Ch 8</td>
<td>Lecture 8</td>
<td>10/22; 10:30 AM</td>
<td>“Sicko” and “The High Price of Health”</td>
<td>10/22; 10:30 AM</td>
<td>10/22; 10:30 AM</td>
<td>Visit Study Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>Lesson 9</td>
<td>Weitz Ch 9</td>
<td>Lecture 9</td>
<td>10/31; 12 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 4</td>
<td>Lesson 10</td>
<td>Weitz, Ch 10</td>
<td>Lecture 10</td>
<td>11/5; 2 PM</td>
<td>“Choosing Death”</td>
<td>11/5; 2 PM</td>
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Exam 2 will be available on Friday at 1 AM through Saturday at 11:59 PM. Students can logon to take the exam at any time during this period.
### November 11
**Lesson 11**
- *Monday-Veteran’s Day*
- **University Closed**
- **Read**: Weitz, Ch 11;
- **Review** Lecture 11
- **Information Session**: 11/14; 5:30 PM
- **Optional**: **View films**: “The Code of Silence” and “The Magic Bullet”
- **Attend Information Session or Write Summary of Discussion**
- **My Life Discussion posting**
- **Visit Study Mate**

### November 18
**Lesson 12**
- **Read**: Weitz, Ch 12; Weidman, Dennis “Big and Little Moon Peyotism as Healthcare Delivery Systems”
- **Review** Lecture 12
- **Information Session**: 11/19; 10:30 AM
- **Optional**: **View film**: “The Knowledge of Healing”
- **Attend Information Session or Write Summary of Discussion**
- **My Life Discussion posting**
- **Visit Study Mate**

### November 25
- **Thanksgiving Week-No Class**
- **No Assignments due this week**

### December 2
**Lesson 13**
- **Read**: Weitz, Ch 13;
- **Review** Lecture 13
- **Information Session**: 12/3; 12 PM
- **Optional**: **View films**: “The Deadly Deception” and “A Death of One’s Own”
- **Attend Information Session or Write Summary of Discussion**
- **My Life Discussion posting**
- **Visit Study Mate**

### December 9
- **FINAL EXAM WEEK**
- **Exam 3 will be available on Friday at 1 AM through Saturday at 11:59 PM. Students can logon to take the exam at any time during this period.**

### Additional Issues
1. **Extra Credit:** *Individual extra credit assignments are not offered in this course.* However, students can take advantage of extra credit opportunities offered through Study Mate. *Extra credit is optional and points for questions are awarded each week on the Study Mate Assignment due date.*
   a. **Study Mate:** Students can earn 2 points each lesson for creating 2 quiz questions related to the readings or lectures in Study Mate (1 point per question; up to 26 points by the end of the semester). The instructor will review students’ questions and some of the best questions may be utilized on exams. This is a great way for students to study for exams...and make extra credit!

2. **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. 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).

3. **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.

4. **Missed or Late Assignments:** *Under no circumstances will missed or late assignments (including exams) be accepted.*

5. **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**

6. **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 FIU Online 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 FIU Online 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.

i. The FIU Online Help Desk can be accessed through the help menu at the top of the course home page. The Help Desk can also be contacted by phone at 305-348-3630. Once contacted, the Help Desk will issue a ticket number related to your inquiry. Please make note of this ticket number and the names of anyone you contact and work with the Help Desk to resolve your problem.

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

    iii. **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 from the FIU Online Help Desk will not be given special consideration for their problem.**

7. **A NOTE ABOUT NETIQUETTE:** 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!* 😊