University of Texas at Arlington  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Sociology  

COURSE SYLLABUS  

SOCI – 4320 Section 001  
Medical Sociology  
Fall 2014  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor’s Name</th>
<th>Dr. Dorothy Kalanzi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor’s Office</td>
<td>University Hall – Room 438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail Address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kalanzi@uta.edu">Kalanzi@uta.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>Tue 11:00 to 12:00 p.m. and by Appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Days and Times</td>
<td>Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Location</td>
<td>University Hall -104</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Profile</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/edit/id/12848/category/1">http://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/edit/id/12848/category/1</a></td>
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COURSE DISCRIPION  

The relationships between different societies and social groups and their incidence of disease and mortality. Also examines culture-related causes of disease and treatment approaches, medicine as an occupation, healer-patient relationships, and modern hospitals as a bureaucratic organizations (3 cr. Hrs).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK  


COURSE OBJECTIVES  

Upon completion of this course, students should be:  

1. fluent in the language of medical sociology, including standard vocabulary in social epidemiology and health service research.  
2. familiar with standard reference materials in the field  
3. able to describe basic patterns of disease distribution, how that distribution has changed in various societies over time, and why;  
4. aware of the impact of social factors on physical and mental health, such as social stressors, social relations, social control, social-economic status, etc., and be able to present evidence from research literature to support their arguments;  
5. familiar with arguments regarding the social construction of medical knowledge and disease, as well as the medicalization of society;
6. able to describe typical help seeking behaviors in the U.S., how that behavior differs from other
societies, and why;

7. knowledge about the historical evolution of medicine in the U.S. and the related changes in the
status and power of physicians and other health service workers;

8. able to identify the various means of organizing and paying for health delivery;

9. aware of the principle issues involved in current U.S. health care reform legislation and how this
legislation fits into the historical evolution of health and social service delivery.

ASSESSMENT AND PROCEDURES

EXAMS: There will be 3 examinations assessing all covered material from course readings,
lectures, movies and related activities. Each examination will be worth 100 points. Students must
complete all three exams to pass this course. The format for each exam will be discussed in advance.
Examination dates are clearly listed in the course outline.

FINAL REVIEW WEEK

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations is designated as Final
Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow you sufficient time to prepare for your finals. During
this week, classes are held as scheduled.

MAKE UP POLICY: All students are expected to take the 3 exams as scheduled. No early or
late exams will be given UNLESS you have a legitimate written excuse such as a written documentation
depth of death or a serious illness, court appearance, or absence on a college sponsored function. These are the
only legitimate excuses for failure to show up for any examination. Make sure you understand these
policies. Remember that it is your responsibility to contact me if you must miss an exam for any reason

REACTION PAPERS: Each student is expected to present 8, one-page, 12-point font size,
double spaced, typewritten, reaction papers on 8 various topics covered in class. The University of Texas
at Arlington provides computer labs for your convenience. Each reaction paper will be worth 10 points.
The 8 reaction papers will be worth a total of 80 points. Completed reaction papers should be submitted
on line via Black Board. There will be weekly discussions based on covered material; therefore reaction
papers are due as scheduled. The score for any reaction paper that is late will possess a 3 point deduction.

Writing Center: The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40 minute sessions
to review assignments, Quick Hits (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar
and specific writing projects. Visit https://uta.mywconline.com/ to register and make appointments. For
hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions
of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website
at www.uta.edu/owl/.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance to all class meetings is required for success in this class, it will be recorded, and it
will affect your final grade. This is because a significant amount of information will be disseminated
through in class lectures, movies, and group work activities. It is your responsibility to contact me after
class to sign you up for attendance if you are 20 or less minutes late for class.
CLASS PARTICIPATION

Attendance to all class meetings is required for success in this class, it will be recorded, and it will affect your final grade. This is because a significant amount of information will be disseminated through in class lectures, movies, and group work activities. It is your responsibility to contact me after class to sign you up for attendance if you are 20 or less minutes late for class.

Each student is encouraged to engage in class discussions pertaining to text/lecture materials, movies, and other topics relevant to the course. I value your input as well as your contributions, and I will do my best to encourage them by working with you to create a climate that is conducive for your participation. I am sure that all of you will have something to contribute at one time or another. Please do so. I will treat your contributions with respect, and I expect you to do the same for your classmates.

READINGS

The readings for this class are not easy. It is extremely important that you have enough time to devote to your readings. Therefore, if you are not able to read the text and review your notes regularly you will not be successful in this class. It is vital to your success that you do your readings on a timely basis, attend all class sessions, engage in class discussions, take good notes, and ask questions if you fail to understand. Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 4 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc. I will not remind you of missed assignments, notes, handouts, or any other matter. If you must miss a class meeting, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from fellow students. If your score falls below 70% on any of the given assignments, don’t hesitate to contact me about your performance for help.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

GRADING SCALE

Your course grade will be based on the number of points you earn. Your responsibility is to earn as many points as possible. The best way to achieve this is to do as well as possible on your exams, do a good job on your written assignments, attend all class sessions, and be active in class. To give you an idea of where you stand at any point during the semester, the following grading scale will be used:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>% Final Grade</th>
<th>Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Exams</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>1-14</td>
<td>A = 100-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Reaction Papers</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1-14</td>
<td>B = 89-80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1-14</td>
<td>C = 79-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>1-14</td>
<td>D = 69-60</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>F = Below 60</td>
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**DROP POLICY**

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

**ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which
remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

**STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY**

At the end of each term, you will be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. You are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

**EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES**

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, everyone should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, you should never take an elevator, use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist you in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

**EEOC STATEMENT**

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in the employment or the provision of services.

**E-MAIL**

I will be available to you by e-mail or office hours. Please feel free to E-mail me if you have questions or concerns. I check my E-mail daily. Try to be brief and on the point to accommodate other students who may wish to communicate with me at the same time.

**PROJECTED TOPICS AND READING SCHEDULE**

*(This schedule may change at the discretion of the instructor. “As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Dr. Dorothy J. N. Kalanzi”)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An overview of Medical Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Week 2  | Readings  | The social sources of illness  
Chapter 2  
**Reaction Paper 1** |
|---------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Week 3  | Readings  | The social distribution of illness in the US  
Chapter 3  |
| Week 4  | Readings  | Illness and death in developing countries  
Chapter 4  
**Reaction Paper 2** |
| Week 5  | Readings  | Illness and death in developing countries  
**EXAMINATION # 01** |
| Week 6  | Readings  | The social meaning of illness  
Chapter 5  
**Reaction Paper 3** |
| Week 7  | Readings  | The experience of disability, chronic pain, and chronic illness  
Chapter 6  
**Reaction Paper 4** |
| Week 8  | Readings  | The sociology of mental illness  
Chapter 7  
**Reaction Paper 5** |
| Week 9  | Readings  | The US health care system and the need for reform  
Chapter 8 |
| Week 10 | Readings  | Health care around the globe  
Chapter 9  
**Reaction Paper 6** |
| Week 11 | Readings  | Health Care Around the globe  
**EXAMINATION # 02** |
| Week 12 | Readings  | Health care settings and technologies  
Chapter 10  
**Reaction Paper 7** |
| Week 13 | Readings  | The profession of Medicine  
Chapter 11  
**Reaction Paper 8** |
| Week 14 | Readings  | Other mainstream and alternative health care providers  
Chapter 12 |
| Week 15 | Readings  | Issues in bioethics  
Chapter 13 |
| Week 16 | Readings  | Final Examination Review |
| DECEMBER 11 (TH) |  | **FINAL EXAM – 2:00 P. M. – 4:30 P. M.**  
**GOOD LUCK ON YOUR EXAMS!!!** |