University of Texas at Arlington  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Sociology  

COURSE SYLLABUS  
SOCI – 4320 Section 001  
Medical Sociology  
Regular Semester  

Instructor’s Name | Dr. Dorothy Kalanzi  
Instructor’s Office | University Hall – Room 438  
E-mail Address | Kalanzi@uta.edu  
Office Hours | TBA  
Meeting Location | Blackboard (On Line)  
Faculty Profile | http://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/edit/id/12848/category/1

E-MAIL
The best way to reach me is via E-mail. Please feel free to E-mail me if you have questions or concerns. I check my E-mail daily.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
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 the modern hospital as a bureaucratic organization. (3 credit hours)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

COURSE PREREQUISITES
Students who register for this course should possess basic computer and internet skills as well as knowledge utilizing word processing software packages, especially Microsoft word. If not, be ready to convert attachment files to the PDF format for instructor access.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Apply Medical Sociology epidemiological key concepts.
2. Demonstrate how social forces have historically affected the health of populations.
3. Describe the social epidemiology or health and disability.
5. Compare the medical and sociological models of illness, mental health and disability.
6. Illustrate a sociological description of the experience of living with illness or disability.
7. Explain the social construction of medical knowledge and disease, as well as the medicalization of society;
8. Compare the strengths and weaknesses of health care systems in most developed nations.
9. Identify special problems faced by health care systems in poor nations.
10. Discuss the history of hospitals, nursing homes, and hospices in the United States.
11. Analyze the nature and consequences of health care technologies.
12. Discuss the history of the medical profession and how it gained professional dominance.
13. Critique the consequences of the medical values for patients.
14. Discuss 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.
15. Discuss the institutionalization of bioethics.

**ASSESSMENT AND PROCEDURES**

**EXAMS:** There will be 2 examinations assessing all covered material from course readings, lectures, movies and related activities. Each examination will be worth 100 points. Maximum score for the 2 exams is 200.

**QUIZZES:** There will be 10 Quizzes assessing all covered material from course readings, lectures, movies and related activities. Each Quiz will be worth 10 points. The total points for all 10 quizzes will be 100.

**DISCUSSION FORUMS:** There will be 10 Discussion Forums. The maximum points for completing each forum will be worth 10 points.

**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/.

**MAKE UP POLICY:** All students are expected to complete all assessments as scheduled UNLESS one has a legitimate written excuse such as a written documentation of death or a serious illness, court appearance, or absence on a college sponsored function. These are the only legitimate excuses for failure to complete assessments as scheduled. **Make sure you understand these policies.** Remember that it is your responsibility to contact me if you must reschedule completing assessments for any reason.

**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, take good notes, complete all reaction papers and quizzes, and engage in class discussions forums. I will not remind you of missed assignments or any other matter. If you must miss a deadline for accessing class material, 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.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Class participation specifically in the form of discussion forums or other online activities is essential for success in this course and it will affect your final grade. Make sure you complete discussions as scheduled because your other students will depend on your input to post their work.

**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.

<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>2 Examinations</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>A = 100-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Quizzes</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>B = 89-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Discussion Forums</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>C = 79-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>400</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td><strong>D = 69-60</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>F = Below 60</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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://www.utata.edu/ao/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.utata.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.utata.edu/sfs.
EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES

If you happen to be on physically on campus, should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate any building, everyone should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting a 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 based on race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in the employment or the provision of services.

PROJECTED TOPICS AND READING SCHEDULE

WEEK 01 – Course Introduction – JAN 16th – 21
Discussion

WEEK 02 – The Sociology of Health and Health Care – JAN 22 - 28
Required Readings Chapter 01
Quiz 01 on Ch. 01
Discussion 01

EEK 03 – The Social Sources of Modern Illness – JAN 29 – FEB 04
Required Readings Chapter 02

WEEK 04 – The social distribution of illness in the US – FEB 05 – FEB 11
Required Readings Chapter 03
Quiz 2 on Ch. 2 & 3

WEEK 05 - Illness and death in developing countries – FEB 12 - FEB 18
Required Readings Chapter 04
Discussion 02

WEEK 06 – The social meaning of illness – FEB 19 - FEB 25
Required Readings Chapter 05
Quiz 03 on Ch. 4 & 5
Discussion 03

WEEK 07 – The experience of disability, chronic pain FEB 26 – MAR 04
Required Readings Chapter 06
Quiz 04 on Ch. 06
WEEK 08 – The sociology of mental illness MAR 05 - MAR 11
Required Readings Chapter 07
Quiz 05 on Ch. 07
EXAMINATION 01

SPRING BREAK – WEEK 09 - MARCH 12 – MARCH 18

WEEK 10 - The US health care & the need for reform – MAR 19 - MAR 25
Required Readings Chapter 08
Discussion 05

WEEK 11 – Health care around the globe – MAR 26 – APR 01
Required Readings Chapter 09
Quiz 06 on Ch. 08 & 09

WEEK 12 – Health care settings and technologies – APR 02 - APR 08
Required Readings Chapter 10
Quiz 07 on Ch. 10

WEEK 13 - The profession of Medicine – APR 09 - APR 15
Required Readings Chapter 11
Quiz 08 on Ch. 11

WEEK 14 – Other mainstream & alternative health providers – APR 16 - APR 22
Required Readings Chapter 12
Quiz 09 on Ch. 12

WEEK 15 - Issues in Bioethics – APR 23 - APR 29
Required Readings Chapter 13
Quiz 10 on Ch. 13
Discussion 10
FINAL EXAMINATION