University of Texas at Arlington
Department of Sociology

COURSE SYLLABUS
SOCI – 4320 Section 001
Medical Sociology
Fall 2019

<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/Thurs 10:00 – 11:00 or by Appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Location</td>
<td>Canvas (Online)</td>
</tr>
<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 DISCRIPTION**

The relationships between different societies and social groups and their incidence of disease and mortality. Also examines cultural-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 3 examinations assessing all covered material from course readings, lectures, movies and related activities. Each examination will be worth 100 points. Maximum score for the 3 exams is 300. Students must complete all two exams to pass this course. The final will not be compressive, it will only include material covered after Examination # 02. The format for each exam will be discussed in advance. All exams will be taken using lockdown browser and a webcam. Lockdown Browser is a system utilized by UTA to proctor students taking assessments online to promote academic integrity as per UTA policy expectation mentioned below.

**REACTION PAPERS:** There will be 10 required reaction papers. Each student is expected to present 10, typewritten, reaction papers on 10 various topics. Each reaction paper must be at least 300 words. The University of Texas at Arlington provides computer labs for your convenience. Each reaction paper will be worth 10 points. The 10 reaction papers will be worth a total of 100 points. Completed reaction papers should be submitted online via Canvas. 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.

**DISCUSSION FORUMS:** There will be 10 Discussion Forums. The maximum points for completing each forum will be worth 10 points. Students must complete all 10 Discussion Forums to pass this course. Discussion Forum Due dates are clearly listed in the course outline. Late discussion posts will carry a penalty of 3 points. This is necessary because to maximize discussion points, other students will depend on your original post just like your success may also depend on theirs. Failure to participate in discussions by the deadline will lead to a 0 score. Further instructions to complete discussions will follow at a later date.

To get full points for each discussion, each student must submit 2 posts. The first post must be your original post. The second post must be a response post to any of the other student’s posted insights about the issue in question. To get full points, the first or your original post must be at least 300 words in length. The response post must be at least 150 words. The “300 words” will give other readers a clearer and deeper understanding of your thoughts on a given issue. Also, for maximum points, you must submit a response post reacting on any of the other student’s original post. However, as you respond to other people’s posts, be open minded understanding that we all do not have to agree but can work together with unique perspectives on social issues. Respectful exchange of information enriches the learning process, and in real life may lead to better decision-making outcomes. Each student is encouraged to engage in discussion forums 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.

**Writing Center:** The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40-minute sessions to review assignments, Quick Hits (5-10 minutes 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 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. There may be additional online activities that could be awarded as extra credits based on the examinations’ overall performance of the 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.

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>Examinations</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>A = 100-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Papers</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>B = 89-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Discussion Forums</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>C = 79-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1-15</strong></td>
<td><strong>D = 69-60</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<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

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: Module 1 – August 21st – August 25th  
Course Introduction  
Discussion Forum – Extra Credit Opportunity

WEEK 02: Module 2 – August 26th – September 01st  
The Sociology of Health and Health Care  
Discussion Forum 01 - Assessed

WEEK 03: Module 3 – September 02nd – September 08th  
The Social Sources of Modern Illness  
Reaction Paper # 01

WEEK 04: Module 4 – September 09th – September 15th  
The social distribution of illness in the US  
Reaction Paper # 02

WEEK 05: Module 5 – September 16th – September 22nd  
Illness and death in developing countries  
Discussion Forum 02 – Assessed  
Reaction Paper # 03

WEEK 06: Module 6 – September 23rd – September 29th  
The social meaning of illness  
Discussion Forum 03 – Assessed  
Reaction Paper # 04  
EXAMINATION # 01 – Accessible October 02 – October 06th Midnight

WEEK 07: Module 7 – September 30th – October 06th  
The experience of disability, chronic pain  
Reaction Paper # 05

WEEK 08: Module 8 – October 07th – October 13th  
The sociology of mental illness  
Discussion Forum 04 – Assessed  
Reaction Paper # 06

WEEK 09: Module 9 – October 14th – October 20th  
The US health care & the need for reform  
Discussion Forum 05 – Assessed  
Reaction Paper # 07

WEEK 10: Module 10 – October 21st – October 27th  
Health care around the globe  
Discussion Forum 06 – Assessed  
EXAMINATION # 02 – Accessible October 24th – October 27th Midnight
WEEK 11:  **Module 11** – October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 03<sup>rd</sup>
Health care settings and technologies
Discussion Forum 07 – Assessed
Reaction Paper # 08

WEEK:  **Module 12** – November 04<sup>th</sup> – November 10<sup>th</sup>
The profession of Medicine
Discussion Forum 08 – Assessed
Reaction Paper # 09

WEEK 13:  **Module 13** – November 11<sup>th</sup> – November 17<sup>th</sup>
Other mainstream & alternative health providers
Discussion Forum 09 - Assessed

WEEK 14:  **Module 14** – November 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>
Issues in Bioethics
Discussion Forum 10
Reaction Paper # 10

WEEK 15<sup>TH</sup> – November 25<sup>th</sup> – December 01<sup>st</sup>
**HAPPY THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

**Week 16 – DECEMBER 04<sup>TH</sup> - LAST DAY OF CLASSES**

**FINAL Exam ACCESSIBLE** – December 09 – 12th
(Must be completed by midnight, Dec. 12th, 11:59 p.m.)

ALL THE BEST, GOOD LUCK ON ALL YOUR Finals