

# SOCI423

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

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## Course Summary

**Course :** SOCI423 **Title :** Sociology of Health and Illness

**Length of Course :** 8

**Prerequisites :** N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

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## Description

**Course Description:** This course examines the social contexts of health, illness and organized medical care. It focuses on the theories, research and debates of medical sociology. Topics covered will include the social, environmental and occupational factors in health and illness; the meaning of health and illness from the patient's perspective; the historical transformation of the health professions and the health work force; the social and cultural factors surrounding the creation and labeling of diseases; disparities in health, access to healthcare, and the quality of healthcare received; organizational and ethical issues in medicine including rising costs and medical technology; and health care reform.

### Course Scope:

This 8-week course is a critical analysis of the health and illness in society. The course examines the history, dynamics, and structural factors associated with health and illness. This course will help students develop an understanding of how health and illness are defined; when/where/how and why interventions are developed for the purpose of social change; and provide some tools for evaluating the efficacy of those interventions. Throughout this course we will challenge familiar understandings about health and illness in society by critically assessing it and the relationship between the individual and society, culture and structure.

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## Objectives

**At the conclusion of the course, students should be able to:**

CO1: Discuss the social contexts of wellness and illness

CO2: Explain the patient's perspective on the experience of illness including meaning making and interaction with care providers

CO3: Examine the social-historical transformation of the medical system in the U.S., including the changing role of physicians and other health care providers

CO4: Interpret visual and written depictions of indicators and trends in population health over time

CO5: Identify the socio-cultural aspects of health and illness, particularly as relating to the definitions of health, illness behavior and social epidemiology

CO6: Investigate the social causes of disease and illness related to disparities due to social stratification and unequal access

CO7: Describe the historical role of women in the medical system as patients, practitioners and health care providers

CO8: Differentiate the current ethical issues and debates about new medical technologies and their impact on doctor-patient relationships and on access to health care

CO9: Investigate a subtopic in medical sociology through research using peer-reviewed sources from the APUS

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## Outline

### Week 1:

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Course Objectives

1, 3, 5

Materials

Week 1 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 1, 2, 5

Assignment(s)

Introduction Forum

Week 1 Forum

Week 1 Quiz

### Week 2:

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Course Objectives

2, 3, 6, 7

Materials

Week 2 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 11, 12

Assignment(s)

Week 2 Forum

Week 2 Quiz

Assignment 1

### **Week 3:**

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Course Objectives

1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7

Materials

Week 3 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 3

Armelagos et al., (2005) article

Scrambler & Paoli (2008) article

Assignment(s)

Week 3 Forum

Week 3 Quiz

### **Week 4:**

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Course Objectives

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9

Materials

Week 4 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 4

Anderson (2000) article

Cave (1978) article

Gorman et al. (2010) article

MacLean and Edwards (2010) article

Salant & Lauderdale (2003) article

Assignment(s)

Week 4 Forum

Week 4 Quiz

Assignment 2

### **Week 5:**

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Course Objectives

1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9

Materials

Week 5 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 6

Reed et al. (2011) article

Karnilowicz (2011) article

Assignment(s)

Week 5 Forum

Week 5 Quiz

Assignment 3

**Week 6:**

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Course Objectives

1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9

Materials

Week 6 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 7

Caddick et al. (2015) article

Feinstein (2015) article

Pescosolido (2013) article

Assignment(s)

Week 6 Forum

Week 6 Quiz

**Week 7:**

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Course Objectives

2, 3, 6, 7, 9

Materials

Week 7 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 10

Davis (2006) article

Young & Schwartz (2014) article

Assignment(s)

Week 7 Forum

Week 7 Quiz

Assignment 4

**Week 8:**

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Course Objectives

3, 6, 8

Materials

Week 8 Lesson

Weitz, Ch 13

Casper & Morrison (2010) article

Glass & Schoch-Spana (2002) article

Munck et al. (2011) article

Skloot (2010) article

Snead (2009) article

Assignment(s)

Week 8 Forum

Week 8 Quiz

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## Evaluation

### Quizzes:

This course includes Quizzes, located under the Tests & Quizzes tab in the classroom. Quizzes are designed to facilitate engagement with the course textbook.

### Forums:

Participation in classroom dialogue on threaded Forums is required. Forums are scheduled weekly and found in the Forums tab in the classroom. Initial Forum posts are due Thursdays, peer responses are due Sundays. Specific instructions and the grading rubric are located on each Forum.

### Assignments

This course includes Assignments. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Assignments tab in our classroom.

### Grading:

Name	Grade %
Quizzes	20.00 %
Week 1 Quiz	2.50 %
Week 2 Quiz	2.50 %

Week 3 Quiz	2.50 %
Week 4 Quiz	2.50 %
Week 5 Quiz	2.50 %
Week 6 Quiz	2.50 %
Week 7 Quiz	2.50 %
Week 8 Quiz	2.50 %
<b>Assignments</b>	<b>40.00 %</b>
Assignment 1: Health and the media	10.00 %
Assignment 2: Sociological application	10.00 %
Assignment 3: Medicalization	10.00 %
Assignment 4: Social variables and health outcomes	10.00 %
<b>Forums</b>	<b>40.00 %</b>
Week 1 Forum	4.71 %
Week 2 Forum	4.71 %
Week 3 Forum	4.71 %
Introduction Forum	2.35 %
Week 4 Forum	4.71 %
Week 5 Forum	4.71 %
Week 6 Forum	4.71 %
Week 7 Forum	4.71 %
Week 8 Forum	4.71 %

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## Materials

**Book Title:** Sociology of Health, Illness and Health Care, 6th - The VitalSource e-book is provided via the APUS Bookstore; hard copy not available from the APUS Bookstore, please try other sources.

**Author:** Weitz

**Publication Info:** Cengage

**ISBN:** 9781111828790

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**Book Title:** You must validate your cart to get access to your VitalSource e-book(s). If needed, instructions are available here - <http://apus.libguides.com/bookstore/undergraduate>

**Author:** N/A

**Publication Info:** N/A

**ISBN:** N/A

### Required text:

Weitz, R. (2010). *The Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healthcare*, 6th edition. Boston, MA: Cengage.

In this course we are using an electronic textbook through VitalSource Visual Bookshelf. The VitalSource e-book is provided via the APUS Bookstore. Please visit for more information. **Students are responsible for accessing their textbook during Week 1.** Prior to the beginning of the course all students received VitalSource login credentials from EdMap. This information was sent to the student's email address of

record. If you have trouble accessing your textbook, contact the Book Office at [ecm@apus.edu](mailto:ecm@apus.edu) or contact EdMap directly at [APUS\\_Customer\\_Service@edmap.com](mailto:APUS_Customer_Service@edmap.com) or call toll-free at 800-274-9104. You may also use the campus guide set up in the library for the new bookstore that might give you a run down on EdMap and VitalSource <http://apus.campusguides.com/bookstore>.

### Required articles:

Each week there will be readings in addition to those from the Weitz text. All of these can be found in the e-Reserve for our course located in the Library. Here is the direct link: [http://apus.libguides.com/er.php?course\\_id=15702](http://apus.libguides.com/er.php?course_id=15702)

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## Course Guidelines

### Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on Forums in the School of Arts & Humanities.

### Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](http://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

### Late Assignments

#### School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments. ***Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.***

### Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

### Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt,

do not copy/paste, and always cite.

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## University Policies

### [Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

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