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COURSE OUTLINE - SOCIAL AND MENTAL DISORDERS - SOC 407  
CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU  
Winter 1998 Accelerated Semester

INSTRUCTOR: David B. Johnson, Ph.D.

TIME AND LOCATION: Tuesday, 4:45-8:55 PM  
Pearl Harbor, Sub base

PREREQUISITES: Introduction to sociology, or one other sociology course or instructor's permission

COURSE TEXT: THE SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL ILLNESS, 3rd Ed. By Gallagher

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Sociology 407 surveys the field of the sociology of mental health and illness introducing the student to the study with a discussion on social epidemiology and sociological methods and concepts used in mental health and sociological research. The student will become familiar with social processes in mental health and illness including social perceptions of mental illness and expectations and roles of those who are mentally ill, plus roles, beliefs and socialization of health practitioners and social interaction processes between those who are well and those who are ill. There will be consideration of the social system of mental health care organizations and facilities and their place in society showing how they relate to various social institutions such as the family, governmental, economic, educational and religious. Mental health care occupations will be discussed in terms of social interaction on the job with other health care occupations and with patients and their families and the larger community. There will be consideration of social changes in mental health and illness, future trends and issues which must be confronted.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to read the assigned text chapters. The reading should be completed in advance of each class meeting to allow students to participate in classroom discussions of the assigned topics.

There will be a mid-term examination on the first half of the course material (see schedule), and there will be a final examination emphasizing the second half of the course material. Exam questions will include the sociological and psychological terms defined in the text and will also include some of the special readings questions from the text. In addition, there will be some questions about sociological and mental health and illness concepts discussed in the classroom and text. The exams will be take-home with essay type questions. They will be evaluated on: completeness, clarity, accuracy, creativity and appropriateness.

Students will be expected to complete a course project. This project is for the purpose of exposing the student to a topic of interest in the area of the sociology of mental health and illness



permitting the student to gain an in-depth understanding, not possible from the reading assignments and class discussion alone. The student will select an appropriate topic, receiving guidance from the instructor if needed. The course project will begin at the start of the course and the final report is due to be handed to the instructor on the last day of class (see schedule). The student is encouraged to consult with the instructor on various phases of the project. They will be evaluated on: appropriateness, organization, scholarship, creativity and completeness.

Each student will be expected to present an oral report on the class project to the class. The course project material in draft or final form will be used in the presentation. In addition, the student may use audio-or video materials or a guest speaker as part of the presentation. The student will be responsible to make arrangements for the audio or visual materials. This will permit the student to share the knowledge gained from the project with other members of the class. The oral reports will be scheduled for presentation in consultation with the instructor.

Each unit of the course will utilize a variety of learning techniques to maximize the student's participation and involvement. There will be lecture-discussion on the assigned text chapters, which will include a discussion of the sociological terms and concepts. Also, the class will be asked questions.

An attendance role will be kept to enable the instructor to evaluate student attendance and participation in the group sessions, and to help determine the final grade in the event the student grade lies equally between two grades.

#### GRADING:

The course grade will be assigned as follows:

Course Project Written Report	40%
Mid-term Examination	25%
Final Examination	25%
Oral Report on Course Project	10%
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Total	100%

A class attendance roll will be kept. This will be used to help decide course grades when student grades lie equally between two grades.

#### POLICY ON MAKE-UPS, ATTENDANCE, LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

A one-grade penalty will be assessed for late exams or course projects. The dates for exams and the due date for the class project are on the class schedule and these will be evaluated as indicated above. Students who have difficulty in meeting with the class or taking exams should discuss this with the instructor in advance if at all possible, so that it doesn't interfere with the student's progress in the course. Students are responsible for handing in their assignments and taking the exams, and if for any reason they are late they are responsible to make arrangements for make-ups or for handing the assignments in to the instructor.



SCHEDULE OF COURSE MEETINGS AND SYLLABUS:

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT	TEXT READ- ING ASSIGN:
1	Jan 13	<p><b>INTRODUCTION:</b> This unit introduces the student to the sociology of mental health and illness, including the sociological and cultural factors involved in mental illness, societal views of mental illness and current theories of mental illness. It discusses sociological factors affecting mental illness.</p>	Chap 1
		<p><b>GENERAL CONCEPTS OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ILLNESS:</b> This unit will cover the problems associated with defining and measuring mental health and illness concepts and will cover current nomenclature and theories. It will also cover patterns of mental illness in other countries.</p>	Chap 2
2	Jan 20	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL THEORIES OF MENTAL ILLNESS:</b> This unit presents a discussion of different environmental theories such as psychological and sociological theories.</p>	Chap 3
		<p><b>SCHIZOPHRENIC, DELUSIONAL AND MOOD DISORDERS</b> This unit describes various psychotic manifestations such as schizophrenia, paranoia and affective/mood disorders. These psychoses will be discussed in terms of their symptoms, etiology as well as various theoretical explanations and recommendations for treatment.</p>	Chap 4
3	Jan 27	<p><b>ANXIETY DISORDERS</b> This unit describes various neurotic reactions such as: panic disorder, phobic disorders, generalized anxiety disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder and post traumatic stress disorder in terms of their symptoms prevalence and theoretical views regarding their cause and treatment.</p>	Chap 5
		<p><b>PERSONALITY DISORDERS:</b> This unit covers various types of personality disorders such as: anti-social personality and other personality disorders such as narcissistic, histrionic, borderline avoidant, dependent, and obsessive-compulsive. These are discussed in terms of symptoms, diagnosis, prevalence, causes and treatment.</p>	Chap 6
4	Feb 3	<p><b>SOMATOFORM, DISSOCIATIVE AND EATING DISORDERS:</b> Various types of disorders will be discussed: somatoform disorder, hypochondriasis, disassociative disorders, multiple personality, and eating disorders in terms of their symptoms, and causes.</p>	Chap 7



SCHEDULE OF COURSE MEETINGS AND SYLLABUS:

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT	TEXT READING ASSIGN:
4 (cont)		SEXUAL AND GENDER IDENTITY DISORDERS: This section will define what is a sexual disorder and various forms, such as: homosexuality, fetishism, pedophilia, incest, exhibitionism, voyeurism, sado-masochism, rape, transvestitism, trans-sexualism, and hypersexuality. These will be discussed in terms of symptoms, etiology, prevalence, social and life-style implications.	Chap 8
5	Feb 10	SUBSTANCE USE AND ABUSE DISORDERS The use and types of drugs available and how they contribute to and reflect social problems. Patterns of use of alcohol, marijuana, opiates, cocaine, crack, amphetamines, barbiturates, hallucinogens, tobacco, steroids and their social and psychological effects. REVIEW OF CHAPTERS 1-9 and CLASS LECTURES HAND OUT MID-TERM EXAM	Chap 9
6	Feb 17	EPIDEMIOLOGY OF MENTAL ILLNESS: This unit covers the definition of epidemiology, and methodological problems with epidemiological studies. It also discusses how non-hospitalized persons are studied and how changes in prevalence occur over time. There is also consideration of cultural differences in mental illness. MID-TERM EXAMS DUE	Chap 10
		SOCIAL CLASS AND SOCIAL MOBILITY: This unit considers patterns of mental illness and health in terms of social class, as well as processes of stratification, and social mobility in their contribution to and meaning of mental illness and health as well as patterns of mental illness.	Chap 11
7	Feb 24	GENDER, MARITAL STATUS AND FAMILY: This section focuses on gender differences marital status and family relationships and how these contribute to or prevent mental illness. Patterns of mental illness by these factors will be discussed, along with current theories or explanations.	Chap 12
		RELIGION, ETHNICITY AND RACE: Patterns of mental illness by religion, ethnicity and race will be discussed. There will be consideration of the meaning of race and ethnicity, in terms of how they are defined and how they contribute to or prevent mental illness.	Chap 13
8	Mar 3	MIGRATION, PLACE OF RESIDENCE AND AGE: The contribution of geographic mobility, place of residence and age will be considered regarding mental illness.	Chap 14



SCHEDULE OF COURSE MEETINGS AND SYLLABUS:

WEEK DATE SUBJECT TEXT READ-  
ING ASSIGN:

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8 (cont) THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A MENTAL PATIENT: Chap 15  
This unit describes the sociological/interaction process whereby a person becomes a mental patient. It is discussed in terms of onset, social support, personality, life events, family crises, and community response.

9 Mar 10 CORRECTION/TREATMENT: Chap 16  
This unit presents a description of the mental hospital, including the physical and social organization. It describes the mentally ill person's role in an institutionalized setting. It considers the underlying assumptions of treatment and alternative treatments and outcomes. It also discusses the community health clinic.

AFTER THE MENTAL HOSPITAL: Chap 17  
This unit considers post treatment experience in terms of the criteria of a cure, problems in follow-up, stigma, recurrence of illness and social supports such as the family, friends, employment and community readjustment.

HAND OUT FINAL EXAMINATIONS

10 Mar 17 STUDENT PRESENTATIONS OF COURSE PROJECTS  
Students will be scheduled to deliver an oral report to the class on their class projects.

CLASS PROJECT REPORTS DUE

FINAL EXAMS DUE