

Midstate College  
411 West Northmoor Road  
Peoria, Illinois 61614  
(309) 692.4092 800.251.4299  
Spring Term 2014

**Course Number and Name:** SOC 205 – Health and Society

**Credit Hours:** 4 Quarter Credit Hours

**Method of Delivery:** eLearning

**Course Description:** This course examines the effects of the major social and cultural variables - including age, gender, social/economic class, and race/ethnicity - on the health of the population by exploring empirical research and theoretical methods of epidemiological research. This course will also analyze the historical development and contemporary issues of mainstream and alternative health professions and occupations, and the current crises in our health care system.

**Prerequisites:** SOC 100 – Introduction to Sociology or Permission from Department Director.

**Text:** Social Epidemiology  
(ISBN-13: 9780195083316)

**Authors:** Lisa F. Berkman, Ph.D., Harvard School of Medicine, and Ichiro Kawachi, M.D., Ph.D., Harvard School of Public Health

**Publisher:** Oxford University Press (2000)

**Other Readings:** Other readings as assigned and available on JOULE

**Materials needed for this course:** The minimum system requirements to complete an eLearning course at Midstate College

**Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

**Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how we can move beyond traditional medical or health care policy to further understand health and society.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.
4. Identify and discuss empirical research linking major social variables to population health.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary health-related social policies.

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**Midstate College Grading Scale:** 100 – 90 = A  
89 - 80 = B  
79 - 70 = C  
69 - 60 = D  
59 - 00 = F

\*All students must have a 70% or better to pass this course.

**Midstate Plagiarism Policy:** Plagiarism is using another person's words, either by paraphrase or direct quotation, without giving credit to the author(s). Plagiarism can also consist of cutting and pasting material from electronic sources by submitting all or a portion of work for assignment credit. This includes papers, computer programs, music, sculptures, paintings, photographs, etc. authored by another person without explicitly citing the original source(s). These actions violate the trust and honesty expected in academic work. Plagiarism is strictly against the academic policy of Midstate College. Its seriousness requires a measured, forceful response which includes consequences for inappropriate and/or no citation.

In courses containing writing assignments, the College promotes the use of an electronic resource which compares the student's writing against previously submitted papers, journals, periodicals, books, and web pages. Students and instructors can use this service to reduce the incidence of plagiarism. This electronic resource has been found to conform to legal requirements for fair use and student confidentiality. It is able to provide a report to the student indicating the parts of the assignment that match.

**Student Success:** The Office of Student Success is available to students seeking tutoring for individual classes or who need assistance with writing assignments. Information is also available on test taking techniques, how to take notes, developing good study skills, etc. Contact Chris Peck in Room 502 (in person); (309) 692-4092, extension 5023 (phone); [dcpeck@midstate.edu](mailto:dcpeck@midstate.edu) (email).

**Assessment Portfolio Reminder:** Students (depending on your program major) may be required to prepare an assessment portfolio for graduation. Keep a copy of this syllabus in the portfolio. Use the "Evidence for Success" list from your program portfolio (or consult your Program Director) and instructions from the instructor to determine the assignment(s) that should be placed in the assessment portfolio.

**Instructor Information:**

Instructor's Name: Rebecca Tuxhorn  
Midstate College Phone: (309) 692-4092  
Midstate College Fax: (309)-692-3893  
Instructor's email: [bjtuxhorn@midstate.edu](mailto:bjtuxhorn@midstate.edu)  
Office Hours: Online (JOULE) Office Hours: Mondays, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM.

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**Participation Requirements:** You are expected to participate at least two days a week in several conference discussions / homework assignments relating to the subject materials for the week. Discussions will take place in the class meeting as assigned by the faculty member in the course syllabus. You will read, analyze, and respond to questions and comments from the faculty member and fellow students.

**Examination Information:** There will be 2 examinations administered in this class.

1. **Midterm Examination (Week 6)** - will consist of 100 points and it will cover the chapters as indicated in the Course Outline. It will be available **Monday, December 16 at 8:00 AM** and it is due by **Saturday, December 21 at 11:59 PM**.
2. **Final Examination (Week 12)** - will consist of 100 points and it will cover the chapters as indicated in the Course Outline. It will be available **Monday, February 10 at 8:00 AM** and it is due by **Friday, February 14 at 11:59 PM**.

**Methods of evaluating student performance:** Please see “Instructor Final Grade Determination” below for more information.

**Attendance Policy:** eLearning students must login and participate at least once a week to be counted present for the week (participation is strongly recommended and essential for passing this course). You must post a gradable assignment each week to be counted as “Present” for the week.

**Instructors Grading Scale:** The following assignments and activities are outlines in a week-by-week format. All assignments (unless specified otherwise) are due by the date identified by the instructor and they need to be posted to the location specified by the faculty member in the syllabus. The following schedule indicates the days of the week to be followed in this module.

Day 1	Monday
Day 2	Tuesday
Day 3	Wednesday
Day 4	Thursday
Day 5	Friday
Day 6	Saturday
Day 7	Sunday

**Instructor Final Grade Determination:** Your final grade in this course will be based on 1100 points: Each week there will be an online quiz to take on JOULE to reinforce that week’s lecture and material. Each quiz will be made available on Monday at 12:00 noon of that week and will remain available until the following Monday until 8:00 a.m. This gives students one full week to complete the materials. For quiz availability dates, see dates in the Course Outline below. Each quiz will be worth 20 points. There will be four Application Assignments due during the semester as indicated on the class schedule. Individual projects will be assigned and due on an

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individual schedule to be announced the first week of class. Additionally, students will be required to complete a journal entry each week summarizing the material for that week. Guidelines and details for all writing assignments will be posted on JOULE as they become due. Students will be expected to participate in group discussions having demonstrated they have read the material assigned. Points will be deducted at my discretion if a student does not demonstrate knowledge of the assigned material and/or does not contribute during group discussions. We will be engaging in group discussions over our textbook material, special readings, and any documentaries that we view throughout the term. Additionally, there will be a midterm and final exam, both which will be administered online and will include essay, multiple choice, and true/false questions. Grading points are as follows:

1. Individual project:	100 points
2. Midterm exam	100 points
3. Final exam	100 points
4. Application assignments:	80 points (20 points each x 4)
5. Weekly Journals	200 points (20 points each x 10 journal entries)
6. Quizzes	180 points (20 points each x 9 quizzes)
7. Group participation	<u>100 points</u>
8. TOTAL POINTS	<b>880 points</b>

\*All students must have a 70% or better to pass this course.

### Course Policies and Procedures:

1. eLearning Sessions: In accordance with Midstate College policies, class material will be made available on Monday at 12:00 noon of that week (see dates in the Course Outline below) and will remain available until the following Monday until 8:00 a.m. This allows students one week to access the lecture and related material for that week's session, take the quiz, and participate in the mandatory discussion and summary boards.
2. Application assignments: These assignments will supplement the textbook and special readings, group discussions, and online lectures to further your understanding and application of social epidemiology. Application assignments will be turned in online via Turnitin links on Joule available the week they are due. Late submissions will not be accepted and will get a zero. Assignments vary and will be outlined and explained individually. (NOTE: While this is not a composition course, I will be counting off for grammar and spelling errors, run-on sentences, and other writing errors. I expect good quality assignments!)
3. Weekly Journals: Each week, students will be required to write a summary of the week's learning material which could include textbook readings, additional assigned readings, documentaries, and any other material assigned for that given week's lesson. The summary should be no less than one page in length (double-spaced) and no longer than three pages in length. The summary is to include your interpretation of what you have read and studied, and any observation and/or connection you can make with real-world scenarios or current events. You will apply your lived experience with the information

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we are reading for a more engaging and student-centered approach to learning the material we will be covering this term.

4. The Individual Project will require students to be the ‘teacher’ one week of the term to further engage all students for a more student-centered approach to learning. Each student will be assigned a week to develop and present information in a lecture format. Further information will be provided for this assignment in Joule.
5. All work must be completed by Saturday, May 17th, 2014 (8:00 AM).
6. Academic dishonesty (cheating / plagiarism) in any form will not be tolerated in this course and may result in the dismissal/suspension from the course/program/college. Do your own work!! Not knowing the rules of plagiarism is not a valid defense. Check with me if you are not clear on what constitutes plagiarism.
7. This is a tentative syllabus and outline and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will receive timely notice of all such changes via announcements made online in Joule and via email.

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**Course Outline**

This outline is a guideline that may change as necessary as the quarter/term progresses. However, exams WILL BE on the given dates and will include questions on all information covered to that point.

**Week 1 and Week 2:**

1. Pretest
2. Introduction to Health & Society
3. Syllabus Review/Course Goals
4. A Historical Framework for Social Epidemiology (Chapter 1)
5. **Application assignment #1 due**
6. *Quiz 1 available Online day 2 of week 1 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 3 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 1 and Week 2:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 1 and Week 2:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how we can move beyond traditional medical or health care policy to further understand health and society.

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3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.
4. Identify and discuss empirical research linking major social variables to population health.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary health-related social policies.

**Week 3:**

1. Socioeconomic Position (Chapter 2)
2. *Quiz 2 available Online day 1 of week 3 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 4 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 3:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 3:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.
3. Identify and discuss empirical research linking major social variables to population health.

**Week 4:**

1. Income Inequality and Health (Chapter 4) [Read pgs. 76-77 & 86-91]
2. **Application assignment #2 due**
3. *Quiz 3 available day 1 of week 4 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 5 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 4:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 4:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
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**Week 5:**

1. Discrimination & Health (Chapter 3)
2. *Quiz 4 available day 1 of week 5 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 6 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 5:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 5:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.
2. Identify and discuss empirical research linking major social variables to population health.
3. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary health-related social policies.

**Week 6:**

1. Midterm Examination (100 Points), Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4
2. *Exam available day 1 of week 6 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 7 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 6:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 6:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how we can move beyond traditional medical or health care policy to further understand health and society.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.
4. Identify and discuss empirical research linking major social variables to population health.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary health-related social policies.

**Week 7:**

1. Social Integration, Social Networks, Social Support, and Health (Chapter 7)
2. **Application assignment #3 due**
2. *Quiz 5 Available day 1 of week 7 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 8 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 7:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables

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2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes

Objectives Covered in Week 7:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how we can move beyond traditional medical or health care policy to further understand health and society.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.

**Week 8:**

1. Ecological Approaches: Rediscovering the Role of the Physical and Social Environment (Chapter 14)
2. *Quiz 6 available day 1 of week 8 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 9 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 8:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 8:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.
3. Identify and discuss empirical research linking major social variables to population health.

**Week 9:**

1. Social Cohesion, Social Capital, and Health (Chapter 8)
2. *Quiz 7 available day 1 of week 9 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 10 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 9:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 9:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.

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3. Identify and discuss empirical research linking major social variables to population health.

**Week 10:**

1. Working Conditions and Health (Chapter 5)
2. **Application assignment #4 due**
3. *Quiz 8 available day 1 of week 10 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 11 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 10:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 10:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how we can move beyond traditional medical or health care policy to further understand health and society.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.

**Week 11:**

1. Health and Social Policy (Chapter 16)
2. *Quiz 9 available day 1 of week 11 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 12 (at 8:00 AM)*

Topics Covered in Week 11:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 11:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how we can move beyond traditional medical or health care policy to further understand health and society.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major social variables and their impact on population health.
4. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary health-related social policies.

**Week 12:**

1. Final Examination (100 points), Chapters 5, 7, 8, 14, and 16
2. *Final Exam available day 1 of week 12 (at 12:00 PM) through day 5 of week 12 (at 8:00 AM).*

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Topics Covered in Week 12:

1. The relationships between population health and major social variables
2. Theories linking social constructs and health outcomes
3. The correlations between major social health policies and population health

Objectives Covered in Week 12:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the impact of social organization, social structure, and their related policies affect the health of the public.
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