

| Course Type | Course Code | Name of Course | L | T | P | Credit |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|---|---|---|--------|
| OE | HSO 404 | Sociology of Health | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 |

Prerequisite:

Fundamental courses on Sociology and knowledge of sociological concepts

Course Objective

This course aims to place human well-being in social context. It is designed to introduce students to multiple facets of health, illness and healing from sociological lenses. Meanwhile it intends to engage students with social theories in order to further their understanding of socio-cultural determinants of health and sickness.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand sociological theories and concepts related to health and healthcare
- Compare and analyse health profiles of varied categories of population
- Develop sociologically-informed insights to understand health and healthcare practices

| Unit No. | Assigned Topic | Lecture hours | Learning Outcome |
|----------|---|---------------|---|
| 1. | Introduction Theoretical perspectives Social and Biomedical model Holistic approach | 5 | Explaining the basic concepts and the theoretical underpinning of the concerned subject |
| 2. | Healthcare Inequalities Socio-economic and Education Race and Ethnicity Age, Gender and Sexuality Spatial, Environmental and Political Social stigma | 7 | Introducing the students to the fundamental factors affecting healthcare and the existing socio-cultural reasons behind healthcare inequalities |
| 3. | Healthcare Settings Home and Institutionalised care Hospices and End-of-Life Care (EoLC) Healthcare infrastructure | 5 | Making the students aware of different healthcare settings meant for different sections of population and also the health infrastructures |
| 4. | Body, Mind and Society Social sources of modern illness Medicalization of health The government of Body Rationalisation of diet and lifestyle Social stress | 6 | Relating the human body and mind with the modern society and situating mental & physical well-being within the social settings |
| 5. | Technoscience and Healthcare Biomedicalization and Genetization Devising healthcare Governance of Tissue Engineering The Cyborg | 7 | Exploring multi-facet transformations of healthcare facilities due to the advent of technology |

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| 6. | Healthcare and Healing The placebo effect Alternative treatments Indigenous healthcare Music and Animal therapy Self-care | 7 | Identifying the alternative healthcare practices available among different sections of society with specific focus on indigenous population |
| 7. | Healthcare in India Maternal, neo-natal and post-natal care Geriatric care Terminal care Caring for the third gender | 5 | Informing and creating awareness among students about the national healthcare policies for different sections of population |
| Total lecture hours | | 42 | |

Textbooks:

1. Pescosolido, B. A., Martin, J. K., McLeod, J. D., & Rogers, A. (Eds.). (2010). Handbook of the sociology of health, illness, and healing: a blueprint for the 21st century. Springer Science & Business Media.
2. Weiss, G. L. (2015). Sociology of health, healing, and illness. Routledge.
3. Weitz, R. (2016). The sociology of health, illness, and health care: A critical approach. 8th edition, Cengage learning.

References:

1. Bloom, S. W., & Bloom, S. W. (2002). The word as scalpel: a history of medical sociology. Oxford University Press, USA.
2. Faulkner, A. (2008). Medical technology into healthcare and society: A Sociology of devices, innovation and governance. Springer.
3. Turner, B. S. (1992). Regulating bodies: Essays in medical sociology. Psychology Press.