

Mortality and Population Health
Sociology 570
Fall 2014
Mondays 1:00-3:40 pm

Professor: Julie Phillips
Office: B039 Davison Hall, Douglass / Office 452, Health Institute, 112 Paterson Street
Email: jphillips@sociology.rutgers.edu
Phone: 848-932-1824 (IHHCPAR office)
Office Hours: Thursdays, 1:00pm to 2:00pm or by appointment
Website: <http://sakai.rutgers.edu>

Course Description

This course will introduce students to a major branch within the field of demography, namely mortality and health. The class will focus primarily on substantive theories and debates within the area and less so on methodological issues, although we will spend the first meeting discussing some key tools used by demographers in the study of mortality and health. Throughout the semester, we'll consider whether and how various social processes are associated with health and mortality differentials. We'll begin by discussing the scope and nature of mortality transitions in both developed and developing countries and the key explanations for these transitions. We'll then consider future prospects for improved life expectancy (the demography of longevity) and the related consequences. The middle part of the course will be devoted to understanding gaps or disparities in mortality and health across different groups – social class, sex, race and ethnicity, and the life course. How do various inequalities in life become manifest in health and mortality outcomes? We'll conclude the semester with two sessions that consider policy and health systems approaches to improving overall population health. The course will focus on health and mortality issues more closely in developed countries, particularly the United States, than in developing countries.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students should have a good foundation in research on:

- (1) Major trends and patterns in population health and mortality
- (2) Primary tools and methods used by demographers to study health and mortality
- (3) Key issues, hypotheses and debates in the field of mortality and population health
- (4) Social inequalities and disparities in health and mortality

Prerequisites

Graduate standing or permission of the instructor is required. Some familiarity with quantitative research methods is recommended. A handout distributed on the first day of class provides a basic overview of statistical methodologies; students with limited backgrounds in statistics should familiarize themselves with this information.

Course Requirements

This class will be taught as a seminar, with a combination of lectures and discussions. All readings are available on the course website and are listed below. I have assigned one book (*The Healing of America*) and recommend that you purchase that one book from Amazon. I have tried my best to limit the number of required readings. Less can be more, and I'd prefer that you read the required pieces in depth and carefully rather than skim a large number of pieces. However, you will see that I have included additional articles that you will find to be useful references and I recommend that you read them at some point, either during the course of the semester or down the road. I will draw on these during class as well.

Your grade in this course will be based on the following criteria:

- (1) Memos and Op-Eds (15%): Over the course of the semester, you must prepare three short (1-2 pages single-spaced) memos or op-ed pieces (not more than 800 words) on the assigned readings. You can choose which format you would like to use for a particular lecture, but you must do at least one of each format during the course of the semester. These assignments should help you to come prepared for class and to offer insightful questions and comments. Due by 5pm the day before class (send by e-mail to jphillips@sociology.rutgers.edu).
 - a. The memos should briefly summarize the main points of the readings, but also consider issues such as the strengths and weaknesses of the research, the theoretical and/or empirical connections between the readings, and key questions raised by the readings. These memos are intended to help you synthesize literature and identify links among the different pieces.
 - b. The op-ed pieces will allow you to focus on one area of particular interest in the reading and help you to develop the ability to take a point of view and argue it effectively. For guidelines on writing an effective op-ed piece, please refer to the following website: http://newsoffice.duke.edu/duke_resources/oped. The op-ed pieces in the New York Times can also serve as a good guide.
- (2) Problem Set (5%): A problem set reviewing demographic methods for the study of mortality and health will be assigned after our second meeting and will be worth 5% of your final grade.
- (3) Class presentation (20%): Each week, a student or pair of students will be responsible for giving a presentation and leading a discussion on the assigned readings. Essentially, the class presentation is an oral memo. A successful class presentation will do the following:
 - a. Provide a summary of the assigned material, identifying the key insights made into the core questions for the topic of the day and highlighting the main points of each reading.
 - b. Identify the key strengths and weaknesses of the various research articles. Consider data sources and methods if relevant, breadth and depth, and logic/ consistency of core arguments/empirical tests.
 - c. Discuss relevant theoretical and/or empirical connections between the different readings.
 - d. Identify missing gaps in our knowledge and key areas for future research.
 - e. Identify the major questions raised by the readings for further discussion.

These presentations, which are excellent practice in giving lectures, conference presentations, and job talks, should last about half an hour or so. Visual aids are advised.

The student(s) giving the class presentation will also be responsible for leading and facilitating the class discussion that day following the class presentation. To help the class presenter(s), **all** students should submit two discussion questions to all members of the class by 5pm on the day before the class meets.

- (4) Participation in class discussions (10%): This is a seminar, and class attendance and participation are vital to its success. All seminar participants are responsible for all of the required readings. Students should read carefully so that they come to class with useful comments and questions and submit consistently discussion questions on time. Students should feel free to offer specialized knowledge from readings not assigned or other experience that is relevant to the discussion. We will also open up each meeting with a "Minute for Media". Demography and population health are featured in the news every single day. Please bring in relevant stories you came across and be prepared to summarize briefly in class (you should do this a minimum of three times over the course of the semester).
- (5) Final research paper (50%): Students are expected to prepare a research paper (20 pages in length) by the end of the semester. Your grade on this paper will be based on both the final written product and an oral presentation of the paper. Oral presentations of the paper should be about 15-20 minutes in length using PowerPoint. We will have these oral presentations on December 8, and the final paper will be due at the end of that class. A one-page proposal describing your paper topic and identifying your primary literature sources is due on **October 27**. The final paper is due on the last day of class (**December 8**). Your final paper may take one of the following suggested formats:
 - a. An original empirical research paper on a topic relevant to population health. This might serve as the basis of a journal submission, a qualifying paper or a dissertation chapter.
 - b. A detailed research proposal on a health-related topic, including an extensive and critical review of the existing theoretical and empirical literature on your topic. This might serve as the basis for an actual grant proposal to support your dissertation or other work.
 - c. A thorough analysis of the literature in one of the broad topic areas covered in this class (e.g. gender or race inequality in health; socioeconomic differences in health; etc). This review should include the readings from the syllabus as well as other critical work in the area and should outline the key issues, primary arguments or perspectives. Importantly, the review should provide a critical assessment of these various contributions to the literature. This option should assist those Sociology graduate students who choose to take an exam in lieu of one qualifying paper.

Course Schedule and Assigned Readings

(subject to modification with advance notice)

September 8 Course introduction and core concepts

Required:

- Caldwell J.C. 2001. "Demographers and the study of mortality: Scope, perspectives, and theory." *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* 954: 19-34.
- Link, Bruce G. 2008. "Epidemiological sociology and the social shaping of population health." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 49(4): 367-84.
- Vaupel, James W. 2009. "Lively questions for demographers about death at older ages." *Population & Development Review* 35 (2):347-56.

Recommended:

- Kawachi, I. & S. Subramanian. 2005. "Health demography." Ch 26 (pp 787-808) in D. Poston & M. Micklin (eds.) *Handbook of Population*. NY: Kluwer.

September 15 Tools for measuring mortality and health

Required:

- Hinde, Andrew. 1998. *Demographic Methods*. Oxford University Press. Chapters 2-4.
- Vogel, Gretchen 2012. "How do you count the dead?" *Science* 336: 1372-1374.
- Gill and Feinstein. 1994. "A critical appraisal of the quality of quality-of-life measurements" *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 272:619-626.
- Idler, Ellen, Yael Benyamini. 1997. "Self-rated health and mortality: A review of twenty-seven community studies." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 38[1]: 21-37.

Recommended:

- Preston S, P. Heuveline and M. Guillot M. 2001. *Measuring and Modeling Population Processes*. Malden, MA: Blackwell. Selected portions of chapters 2-3.
- Salomon, J. A. Tandon, and C.J.L. Murray. 2004. "Comparability of self-rated health: Cross-sectional multi-country survey using anchoring vignettes." *British Medical Journal* 328. 13.
- Salomon, J.A. et al. 2009. "Are Americans feeling less healthy? The puzzle of trends in self-rated health." *American Journal of Epidemiology* 170(3):343-351.

September 22 Transitions: General patterns

Required:

- Wilmoth, J. "Mortality decline." In Demeny, P. and G. McNicoll (eds.) *The Encyclopedia of Population*, New York: Macmillan Reference vol. 2, pp. 676-679, 2003.
- McKeown, Robert E. 2009. "The epidemiologic transition: Changing patterns of mortality and population dynamics." *Am. J. Lifestyle Med* 3(1 Suppl): 19S-26S.
- Vallin, J. & F. Mesle. 2004. "Convergences and divergences: a new approach to health transition." *Demographic Research Special Collection* 2.

Cohen, Jon. 2006. "The new world of global health." *Science* 311(5758): 162-167.
Garrett, Laure. 2007. "The challenge of global health." *Foreign Affairs* 86(1) Jan/Feb. 2007.
Worley, Heidi. 2006. "Chronic diseases beleaguer developing countries." *Population Bulletin*.
<http://www.prb.org/Articles/2006/ChronicDiseasesBeleaguerDevelopingCountries.aspx>

Recommended:

Coale, Ansley. 1974. "The history of the human population." *Scientific American* 231: 41-51.
Omran, Abdel R. 1971. "The epidemiologic transition: A theory of the epidemiology of population change." *Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly* 49(4): 509-38.
Olshansky SJ, Ault AB. 1986. "The fourth stage of the epidemiologic transition: The age of delayed degenerative diseases." *Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly* 64(3): 355-391.
Riley, J. 2005. "The timing and pace of health transitions around the world." *Population & Development Review* 31(4): 741-764.
Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study 2013, *The Lancet*.
<http://www.thelancet.com/themed/global-burden-of-disease>

September 29 Transitions: Causes

Required:

Cutler, D., A. Deaton, and A. Lleras Muney. 2006. "The determinants of mortality" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20(3): 97-120.
Cutler, D. and G. Miller. 2005. "The role of public health improvements in health advances: The Twentieth-Century United States." *Demography* 42(1), 1-22.
Kuhn, R. 2010. "Routes to low mortality in poor countries revisited." *Population & Development Review* 36(4):655-692.
Murray, C and L. Chen, 1993. "In search of a contemporary theory for understanding mortality change." *Social Science and Medicine* 3(2):143-155.
Helmuth, Laura. "Two lives: Why we live so long?" *Slate*, September 5, 2013.
Kolata, Gina. 2006. "So big and healthy nowadays, Grandpa wouldn't know you." *The New York Times*, Sunday July 30.

Recommended:

McKeown, Thomas, R. G. Record, R. D. Turner. 1975. "An interpretation of the decline of mortality in England and Wales during the twentieth century." *Population Studies* 29(3):391-422.
Preston, S. H. 1975. The changing relation between mortality and level of economic development. *Population Studies* 29(2), 231-248.
Caldwell, John C. 1986. "Routes to low mortality in poor countries." *Population & Development Review* 12(2): 171-220.
Soares, R. 2007. "On the determinants of mortality reductions in the developing world." *Population & Development Review* 33(2): 247-87.

October 6 Future prospects for life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Required:

- Couzin,-Frankel, J. 2011. "A pitched battle over life span." *Science* 333, 549-550 (Read this before Olshansky and Oppen/Vaupel pieces)
- Olshansky et al. 2001. "Prospects for human longevity" *Science* 291, 5508. P. 1491.
- Oppen, J. and Vaupel, J. 2002. "Broken limits to life expectancy." *Science* 296, 1029-31.
- Mor, V. 2005. "The compression of morbidity hypothesis: A review and prospects for the future." *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* 53(9): S308-S309. (Read this before Fries and Crimmins pieces)
- Fries, J et al. 2011. "Compression of morbidity 1980–2011: A focused review of paradigms and progress." *Journal of Aging*, pp. 1-10.
- Crimmins, E. and H. Beltran-Sanchez. 2011. "Trends in mortality and morbidity: Is there a compression of morbidity?" *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 66: 75-86.
- Angel, J and R Settersten. 2012. "The new realities of aging: Social and economic contexts." In *New Directions in the Sociology of Aging*, L Waite ed.

Recommended:

- "The new science of old age." *The Atlantic*, October 2014.
<http://www.theatlantic.com/features/archive/2014/09/what-happens-when-we-all-live-to-100/379338/>
<http://www.theatlantic.com/features/archive/2014/09/why-i-hope-to-die-at-75/379329/>
- Mann, Charles C. 2005. "The coming death shortage." *The Atlantic Monthly* 295(4), 92-4, 96, 98-100, 102.
<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2005/05/the-coming-death-shortage/4105/>
- Crimmins,EH,, SH Preston, and B. Cohen (Eds). Explaining Diverging Levels of Longevity in High-Income Countries. Panel on Understanding Divergent Trends in Longevity in High-Income Countries; National Research Council, 2011.
http://s3.amazonaws.com/zanran_storage/laboratoryequipment.com/ContentPages/926319261.pdf
- Wilmoth, John R. 2011. "Increase in human longevity: Past, present and future." *The Japanese Journal of Population* 9(1).
- Fries, James F. 1983. "The compression of morbidity." *The Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly*, 61(3): 397-419.

October 13 Gaps: Social class

Required:

- Elo, Irma T. 2009. "Social class differentials in health and mortality." *Annual Review of Sociology* 35: 553-72.
- Pampel, Fred C., et al. 2010. "Socioeconomic disparities in health behaviors." *Annual Review of Sociology* 36:349-70.
- Smith, J. 1999. "Healthy bodies and thick wallets: The dual relationship between health and economic status." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 13(2): 144-166.
- Lutfey, K, J Freese. 2005. "Toward some fundamentals of fundamental causality: Socioeconomic status and health in the routine clinic visit for diabetes." *American Journal of Sociology* 110: 1326-72.
- Miech, R., Pampel, F, Kim, J. and R.G. Rogers. 2012. "The role of emergent and growing health disparities: U.S. mortality disparities by education, 1989-2006." *American Sociological Review* 76(6): 913-934.

Recommended:

- Baker, DP, J Leon, EG Smith Greenaway, J Collins and M Movit. 2011. "The education effect on population health: A reassessment." *Population and Development Review* 37(2): 307-332.
- De Walque, Damien and Deon Filmer. 2013. "Trends and socioeconomic gradients in adult mortality around the developing world." *Population and Development Review* 39(1):1-29.
- Link, B. & J. Phelan, 1995 "Social conditions as fundamental causes of disease." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 36:80-94.
- Olshansky, S. Jay et al. 2012. "Differences in life expectancy due to race and educational differences are widening, and many may not catch up." *Health Affairs* 8: 1803-13.
- Thoits, P.A. 2010. Stress and health: Major findings and policy implications." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(S): S41-S53.

October 20 Gaps: Social relationships and psychosocial processes

Required:

- Umberson, D and JK Montez. 2010. "Social relationships and health: A flashpoint for health policy." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(5): S54-S66.
- Blanchard, T et al. 2008. "Faith, morality and mortality: The ecological impact of religion on population health." *Social Forces* 86(4): 1592-1620.
- Christakis, N.A. and J.H. Fowler. 2008. "The spread of obesity in a large social network over 32 years." *The New England Journal of Medicine* 357(4): 370-379.
- Reidl, J. 2013. "Statistics and the social causes of obesity."
<http://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2013/issue134b/>
- Liu, H. 2009. "Till death do us part: Marital status and U.S. mortality trends, 1986-2000." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 71(5): 1158-1173.
- Schnittker, J. et al. 2011. "Incarceration and the health of the African-American Community." *Du Bois Review* 8(1): 133-141.

Recommended:

- House, James S., Karl R. Landis, and Debra Umberson. 1988. "Social relationships and health." *Science* 241: 540-545.
- Idler, E. 2014. "Religion and physical health from childhood to old age." In *Religion as a Social Determinant of Health*, edited by E. Idler. Oxford University Press.
- Smith, K.P. and N.A. Christakis. 2008. "Social networks and health." *Annual Review of Sociology* 34: 405-429.
- Umberson, Debra, Williams, Kristi; Powers, Daniel A.; Liu, Hui; Needham, Belinda. 2006. "You Make Me Sick: Marital Quality and Health over the Life Course." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 47(1): 1-16.

October 27 Gaps: Race

***** One-page paper proposal is due today *****

Required:

- Williams, D.R. 2012. "Miles to go before we sleep: Racial inequalities in health." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 53(3): 279-295.
- Geronimus, A., et al. 2006. "Weathering and age patterns of allostatic load scores among Blacks and Whites in the United States." *American Journal of Public Health* 96(5):826-833.
- Feagin, Joe and Zinobia Bennefield. 2014. "Systemic racism and U.S. health care." *Social Science and Medicine* 103: 7-14.
- Jackson, J. et al. 2010. "Race and unhealthy behaviors: Chronic stress, the HPA axis, and physical and mental health disparities over the life course." *American Journal of Public Health* 100: 933-39.
- Chang, VW. 2006. "Racial residential segregation and weight status among US adults." *Social Science and Medicine* 63: 1289-1303.

Recommended:

- Geruso, M. 2012. "Black-white disparities in life expectancy: How much can the standard SES variables explain?" *Demography* 49: 553-574.
- Hummer, RA and JJ Chinn. 2011. "Race/ethnicity and U.S. adult mortality: Progress, prospects and new analyses." *Du Bois Review* 8(1): 5-24.
- Hummer, R. 1996. "Black-white differences in health and mortality: A review and conceptual model." *Sociological Quarterly* 37(1): 105-25.
- Masters, RK. 2012. "Uncrossing the U.S. black-white mortality crossover: The role of cohort forces in life course mortality risk." *Demography* 49(3): 773-96.

November 3 Gaps: Immigrant groups

Required:

- Acevedo-Garcia, D et al. 2012. "Integrating social epidemiology into immigrant health research: A cross-national framework." *Social Science and Medicine* 75(12): 2060-2068.
- Singh, GK, A Rodriguez-Lainz and MD Kogan. 2013. "Immigrant health inequalities in the United States: Use of eight major national data systems." *The Scientific World Journal* 1-21.
- Riosmena, F., R. Wong, and A. Palloni. 2013. "Migration selection, protection, and acculturation in health: A binational perspective on older adults." *Demography* 50: 1039-1064.
- Osypuk, T. et al. 2009. "Are immigrant enclaves healthy places to live? The multi-ethnic study of atherosclerosis." *Social Science and Medicine* 69(1): 110-20.
- Derose, KP, JJ Escarce and N Lurie. 2007. "Immigrants and health care: Sources of vulnerability." *Health Affairs* 26(5): 1258-1268.

Recommended:

- Cagney, Kathleen A., Christopher R. Browning, and Danielle Wallace. 2007. "The Latino Paradox in neighborhood context: The case of asthma and other respiratory conditions." *American Journal of Public Health* 97: 919-925.
- Hummer, R. et al. 2007. "Paradox found (again): Infant mortality among the Mexican-origin population in the United States." *Demography* 44(3): 441-457.
- Lee, S., AH O'Neill, E.S. Ihara, and DH Chae. 2013. "Change in self-reported health status among immigrants in the United States: Associations with measures of acculturation." *PLoS One* 8(10).

- John, DA et al. 2012. "Does an immigrant health paradox exist among Asian Americans? Associations of nativity and occupational class with self-rated health and mental disorders." *Social Science and Medicine* 75(12): 2085-2098.
- Palloni, A. & E. Arias. 2004. "Paradox lost: Explaining the Hispanic adult mortality advantage." *Demography* 41 (3):385-416.

November 10 Gaps: Sex

Required:

- Read, JG and B Gorman. 2010. "Gender and health inequality." *Annual Review of Sociology* 36: 371-386.
- Rogers, R. et al. 2010. "Social, behavioral, and biological factors and sex differences in mortality." *Demography* 47 (3):555-578.
- Ross, C., R. Masters and R. Hummer 2012. "Education and the gender gaps in health and mortality." *Demography* 49(4): 1157-1183.
- Mesle, F. & J. Vallin. 2006. "Diverging trends in female old-age mortality: The United States and Netherlands versus France and Japan." *Population & Development Review* 32(1): 123-145.
- Springer, K.W. and D.M Mouzon. 2011. "Macho men and preventive health care: Implications for older men in different social classes." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 53(3): 313-328.
- Schnittker, J. 2007. "Working more and feeling better: Women's health, employment and family life, 1974-2004." *American Sociological Review* 72(2): 221-238.

Recommended:

- Preston, S and H. Wang. 2006. "Sex mortality differences in the United States: The role of cohort smoking patterns." *Demography* 43(4):631-646.
- Case, A. & C. Paxson. 2005. "Sex differences in morbidity and mortality." *Demography* 42(2): 189-214.
- Courtenay, W.H. 2000. "Constructions of masculinity and their influence on well-being: A theory of gender and health." *Social Science and Medicine* 50: 1385-1401.
- Glei, D & S. Horiuchi. 2007. "The narrowing sex differential in life expectancy in high-income populations." *Population Studies* 61(2):141-159.
- Yang, Yang and Michael Kozloski. 2012. "Change of sex gaps in total and cause-specific mortality over the life span in the United States." *Annals of Epidemiology* 22(2): 94-103.
- "Gender and health: Relational, intersectional, and biosocial approaches." Special issue of *Social Science and Medicine*. Volume 74(11): Pages 1661-1842 (June 2012).

November 17 The life course and birth cohort

Required:

- Power, C., D. Kuh, & S. Morton. 2013. "From developmental origins of adult disease to life course research on adult disease and aging." *Annual Review of Public Health* 34:7-28.
- Conley, D. & N. Bennett. 2000. "Is biology destiny? Birth weight and life chances." *American Sociological Review* 65 (June): 458-67.
- Hayward, M. 2004. "The long arm of childhood: The influence of early-life social conditions on men's mortality." *Demography* 41(1): 87-107.
- Phillips, JA. 2014. "A changing epidemiology of suicide? The influence of birth cohorts on suicide rates in the United States." *Social Science and Medicine* 114: 151-160.

Reither, EN et al. 2009. "Do birth cohorts matter? Age-period-cohort analyses of the obesity epidemic in the United States." *Social Science and Medicine* 69(10): 1439-1448.

Recommended:

- Masters, Ryan K., Robert A. Hummer and Daniel A. Powers. 2012. "Educational differences in U.S. adult mortality: A cohort perspective." *American Sociological Review* 77(4):548-572.
- Palloni, A. 2006. "Reproducing inequalities: Luck, Wallets and the Enduring Effects of Health." *Demography* 43:587-615.
- Schafer, MH, LR Wilkinson, and KF Ferraro. 2013. "Childhood (mis)fortune, educational attainment, and adult health: Contingent benefits of a college degree?" *Social Forces*
- Umberson, D. et al. 2010. "Social relationships and health behavior across the life course." *Annual Review of Sociology* 36: 139-57.
- Warner, D.M. and MD Hayward. 2006. "Early-life origins of the race gap in men's mortality." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 47: 209-226.

November 24 Policy approaches to improve population health

Required:

- Braveman, P, S. Egerter and DR Williams. 2011. "The social determinants of health: Coming of age." *Annual Review of Public Health* 32: 381-398.
- Mechanic, D. 2002. "Disadvantage, inequality and social policy." *Health Affairs* 21(2): 48-59.
- Lynch, J et al. 2004. "Is income inequality a determinant of population health? Part 1: A systematic review." *Milbank Quarterly* 82(1): 5-96.
- Warner, K. "Tobacco policy in the United States: Lessons for the obesity epidemic." In *Policy Challenges in Modern Health Care*, eds Mechanic et al. Rutgers University Press, 2005.
- Bambra, C et al. 2010. "Tackling the wider social determinants of health and health inequalities: Evidence from systematic reviews." *J Epidemiol Community Health* 64: 284-291.

Recommended:

- Acevedo-Garcia et al. 2008. "Toward a policy-relevant analysis of geographic and racial/ethnic disparities in child health." *Health Affairs* 27(2): 321-33.
- Brownell, KD and KE Warner. 2009. "The perils of ignoring history: Big tobacco played dirty and millions died. How similar is big food?" *The Milbank Quarterly* 87(1): 259-294.
- Mechanic, D. 2007. "Population health: Challenges for science and society." *Milbank Quarterly* 85(3): 533-559.
- Shonkoff, J.P. 2012. "Leveraging the biology of adversity to address the roots of disparities in health and development." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*. 109(2): 17302-17307.
- Walker, RE, CR Keane and JG Burke. 2010. "Disparities and access to healthy food in the United States: A review of food deserts literature." *Health and Place* 16(5): 876-884.

December 1 Health care systems approaches to improving population health

Required:

- Reid, T. 2010. *The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper and Fairer Health Care.*

Everyone is strongly encouraged to read the entire book. At a minimum, you should read chapters 1-3 and 11-13. One additional chapter (discussing a particular country) will be assigned to each student to present in class.

Reinhardt, Uwe. "The illogic of employer-sponsored health insurance". *The New York Times*, July 1, 2014.

December 8 **Paper presentations**

Article Extract Form

Title:

Author(s):

Journal, date, pages:

Institution of primary author:

Project or data set:

Most important previous studies mentioned in literature review:

Research question:

Hypothesis:

Study design:

Sample size and selection procedures:

Dependent variable(s):

Primary independent variable(s):

Analytic or statistical technique used:

Primary findings:

Weakness of study:

Strength of study:

Other important issues: