

Sociology of Mental Health and Illness (920:631)

Spring 2014

Professors Allan V. Horwitz and Sarah Rosenfield
avhorw@rci.rutgers.edu; slrosen@rci.rutgers.edu

This course serves as a general introduction to the sociology of mental health and illness. The first part of the course, presented by Professor Horwitz, focuses on the basic theoretical assumptions of social constructionist approaches to the study of mental illness and their differences with other approaches to this topic. The second part, presented by Professor Rosenfield, focuses on current theoretical approaches in the sociology of mental health and the social inequalities and stigma associated with mental health problems.

Most of the reading will be posted on the course's sakai site. Discussion questions should also be posted to this site.

Course grades are based on three requirements: 1) leading two discussion sections (one in each part of the course) over the course of the semester (10%); 2) class participation (20%); and 3) a research paper on a course-related topic of the student's choosing that the instructor has approved (70%). Students will discuss their ideas for this paper in class on March 11 and present an oral summary of the paper on April 29.

Learning Goals:

- **Acquire a broad understanding of the most important theoretical and empirical approaches taken regarding the connections between mental health and illness and social factors**
- **Learn to critique the major assumptions of each major approach and understand their strengths and weaknesses**
- **Understand the development of the current diagnostic system in psychiatry and related mental health professions, its connection to social factors, and its usefulness for various social interests**
- **Critically analyze the conceptual and empirical underpinnings of at least one major psychiatric diagnosis**
- **Identify at least one significant new research questions related to the study of the sociology of mental health and illness**

Several methods will be used in this class to measure achievement of these objectives:

- **Participating in in-depth weekly discussions of assigned readings**
- **Leading the discussion for two seminars**
- **Writing a final research paper or research proposal**

The outline of topics and dates is:

1-21 Overview of the course and discussion of student and instructor interests. No readings.

1-28 Four Basic Approaches to the Sociology of Mental Illness

Allan V. Horwitz. 2012. "The Sociological Study of Mental Illness: A Critique and Synthesis of Four Perspectives." Pp. 95 – 114 in C.S. Aneshensel, J.C. Phelan, A. Bierman (Eds.), *Handbook of the Sociology of Mental Health* (2nd ed). New York: Springer.

Peter Conrad and Kristin Barker. 2010. "The Social Construction of Illness." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 51, S67-S81.

Thomas Szasz. 1960. "The Myth of Mental Illness." *American Psychologist* 15: 113-118.

Jerome C. Wakefield. 1992. "The Concept of Mental Disorder: On the Boundary Between Biological Facts and Social Values." *American Psychologist* 47:373-388.

Recommended

Ruth Benedict, "Anthropology and the Abnormal," *Journal of General Psychology* 10: 59-80.

Michel Foucault. 1965. *Birth of the Clinic*. Vintage.

Michel Foucault. 1988. *Madness and Civilization*. Vintage.

Walter Gove. 1970. "Societal reaction as an explanation of mental illness: An evaluation." *American Sociological Review*, 35, 873-884.

Ian Hacking. 1999. "Madness: Biological or Constructed?" pp. 100-124 in *The Social Construction of What?* Harvard University Press.

Allan Horwitz. 1979. "Models, muddles, and mental illness labeling." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 20, 296-300.

Elizabeth Lunbeck. *The Psychiatric Persuasion: Knowledge, Gender, and Power in Modern America*, Ch. 3, pp. 46-80.

David Mechanic. Some Factors in Identifying and Defining Mental Illness. *Mental Hygiene* 1962, pp. 66-74.

Jane M. Murphy. 1976. "Psychiatric Labeling in Cross-Cultural Perspective." *Science* 191: 1019-1028.

Thomas Scheff. 1963. "The Role of the Mentally Ill and the Dynamics of Mental Disorder." *Sociometry* 26: 436-453.

Bruce Link et al. 1989. "A modified labeling theory approach to mental disorders." *American Sociological Review*, 54, 400-423.

Thomas Scheff. 1966. *Being Mentally Ill* (first edition). Chicago: Aldine. Pp. 7 – 104.

Peggy Thoits, "Sociological Approaches to Mental Illness" Pp. 121-138 in Horwitz and Scheid.

2-4 Creating Mental Illness: The Case of the DSM

Ronald Bayer and Robert Spitzer, 1985, "Neurosis, Psychodynamics, and DSM-III." *Archives of General Psychiatry* 42: 187-196.

Allan V. Horwitz. 2002. *Creating Mental Illness*. Ch. 2, 3, 4.

Rick Mayes and Allan V. Horwitz. 2005. "DSM-III and the Revolution in the Classification of Mental Illness" *Journal of the History of Behavioral Sciences* (Vol. 41): 249-267.

Jerome C. Wakefield. 2013. *DSM-5: An Overview of Major Changes and Controversies*. On Sakai.

Owen Wholley. 2013. *Nosological Reflections: The Failures of the DSM-5, the Emergence of RDoC, and the Decontextualization of Mental Distress*. *Society and Mental Health*, in press.

Owen Wholley and Allan V. Horwitz. (2013). "The Paradox of Professional Success: Grand Ambition, Furious Resistance, and the Derailment of the DSM-5 Revision." Pp. 75-94 in *Making the DSM-5: Concepts and Controversies*, edited by Joel Paris and Jim Phillips. New York: Springer.

Recommended

Nancy Andreasen. 2007. "DSM and the Death of Phenomenology in America: An Example of Unintended Consequences." *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 33, 108-112.

J. P. Feighner et al. 1972. "Diagnostic criteria for use in psychiatric research." *Archives of General Psychiatry* 26: 57-63.

Stuart Kirk and Herb Kutchins. 1992. *The Selling of DSM: The Rhetoric of Science in Psychiatry*. New York: Aldine.

Mitchell Wilson. 1993. "DSM-III and the transformation of American psychiatry: A history," *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 150, 400.

2-11 Creating Depression and Anxiety

Allan V. Horwitz. 2011. "Creating an Age of Depression: The Social Construction and Consequences of the Major Depression Diagnosis." *Society & Mental Health* 1: 41-54.

Allan V. Horwitz. 2010. "How an Age of Anxiety Became an Age of Depression." *Milbank Quarterly*, 88 (1), pp. 112-138.

Allan V. Horwitz. 2013. *Anxiety: A Short History*. Johns Hopkins University Press, Chapter 8.

Allan Horwitz and Jerome Wakefield. 2007. *The Loss of Sadness: How Psychiatry Transformed Normal Misery into Depressive Disorder*. Oxford University Press. Ch. 4.

Recommended

Kessler, Ronald C., Patricia Begg, Olga Demler et al. 2003. "The Epidemiology of Major Depressive Disorder: Results from the National Comorbidity Survey Replication." *Journal of the American Medical Association* 289:3095-3105.

Peter Kramer. 1993. *Listening to Prozac: A Psychiatrist Explores Antidepressant Drugs and the Remaking of the Self*. Viking.

Christopher Lane. 2007. *Shyness: How Normal Behavior Became a Sickness*. Yale University Press.

Andrea Tone. 2005. "Listening to the Past: History, Psychiatry, and Anxiety," *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 50, 2005, 378.

2-18 Creating Other Categories of Mental Disorder

Allan V. Horwitz. 2009. *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*. In Gerald Grob and Allan V. Horwitz, *Conundrums in Modern American Medicine*. Rutgers University Press.

Edward O. Laumann, Anthony Paik, and Raymond C. Rosen. 1999. "Sexual Dysfunction in the United States: Prevalence and Predictors." *Journal of the American Medical Association* 281:537-544.

Scott, Wilbur J. 1990. "PTSD in DSM-III: A Case in the Politics of Diagnosis and Disease." *Social Problems* 37:294-310.

Recommended

Ronald Bayer. 1987. *Homosexuality and American Psychiatry: The Politics of Diagnosis*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Figert, Anne E. 1996. *Women and the Ownership of PMS: The Structuring of a Psychiatric Disorder*. New York: Walter de Gruyter.

Hacking, Ian. 1995. *Rewriting the Soul: Multiple Personality and the Sciences of Memory*. Princeton University Press.

Mark Micale. 1993. "On the disappearance of hysteria: A Study in the clinical deconstruction of a diagnosis." *Isis*, September, 496-526.

Alan Young. 1995. *The Harmony of Illusions: Inventing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

2-25 Creating Biological Psychiatry I: Psychotropic Drugs

Guest Lecturer – Amy LeClair

Henry Greely et al. 2008. "Towards responsible use of cognitive-enhancing drugs by the healthy." *Nature*, 456, 702-705.

David Healy. 1997. *The Antidepressant Era*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

T. M. Luhrmann. 2000. *Of Two Minds: The Growing Disorder in American Psychiatry*. New York: Knopf.

David Herzberg. 2009. *Happy Pills: From Miltown to Prozac*. Johns Hopkins University Press.

Allan V. Horwitz. 2010. "Pharmaceuticals and the Medicalization of Social Life." Pp. 94-118 In *Attending to the Risks as Well as the Benefits of Pharmaceuticals*, edited by Donald Light. New York: Columbia University Press.

Allan V. Horwitz and Jerome C. Wakefield. 2007. *The Loss of Sadness*, Ch. 9.

Recommended

Andrew Lakoff. 2005. *Pharmaceutical Reason: Knowledge and Value in Global Psychiatry*. Cambridge University Press.

Jonathan Metzl. 2003. *Prozac on the Couch: Prescribing Gender in the Era of Wonder Drugs*. Duke University Press.

Edward Shorter. 2008. *Before Prozac: The Troubled History of Mood Disorders in Psychiatry*. Oxford University Press.

Andrea Tone. 2009. *The Age of Anxiety: A History of America's Turbulent Affair with Tranquillizers*. Basic Books.

3-4 Creating Biological Psychiatry II: Genes

Peter Bearman. 2008. "Exploring Genetics and Social Structure." *American Journal of Sociology*, 114 (Suppl), v-x.

Abshalom Caspi, et al. 2003. "Influence of Life Stress on Depression: Moderation by a Polymorphism in the 5-HTT Gene." *Science*, 301, 386-389.

Peter Conrad. 2001. "Genetic Optimism: Framing Genes and Mental Illness in the News." *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 25, 225-247.

Allan V. Horwitz. 2005. "Media Portrayals and Health Inequalities: A Case Study of Characterizations of Gene X Environment Interactions." *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 60B: 48-52.

Allan V. Horwitz and Jerome C. Wakefield. 2007. *The Loss of Sadness*, Ch. 8.

Sara Shostak, Peter Conrad, and Allan V. Horwitz. 2008. Sequencing and its consequences: Path dependence and the relationships between genetics and medicalization. *American Journal of Sociology*, 114 (Suppl), S287-S316.

Recommended

Joseph Dumit. 2003. *Picturing Personhood: Brain Scans and Biomedical Identity*. Princeton University Press.

Nikolas Rose. 2007. *The Politics of Life Itself: Biomedicine, Power, and Subjectivity in the Twenty-First Century*. Princeton University Press.

3-11 Oral Student Presentations of Ideas for Papers

3-18 Spring Break

3-25 The Stress Theory of Mental Illness

Ronald C. Kessler, Patricia Berglund, Olga Demler, Robert Jin, Kathleen R. Merikangas, Ellen E. Walters. 2005. Lifetime Prevalence and Age-of-Onset Distributions of *DSM-IV* Disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication. *Archives of General Psychiatry* 62:593-602.

Pearlin, Leonard I; Menaghan, Elizabeth G; Lieberman, Morton A; Mullan, Joseph T. The Stress Process. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 22:337-356

Turner, R. Jay; Lloyd, Donald A. 1999. The Stress Process and the Social Distribution of Depression. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 40:374-404

R. Jay Turner; Blair Wheaton; Donald A. Lloyd. 1995. The Epidemiology of Social Stress *American Sociological Review* 60:104-125

Recommended

Ronald C. Kessler. Sex Differences in DSM-III-R Psychiatric Disorders in the United States: Results From the National Comorbidity Survey. *JAMWA* 53:148-158

Carles Muntaner, William W. Eaton, Richard Miech, and Patricia O'Campo. 2004. Socioeconomic Position and Major Mental Disorders. *Epidemiologic Reviews* Vol. 26

Pearlin, Leonard I. 1989. The Sociological Study of Stress. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 30:241-56

Reynolds, John R; Turner, R. Jay. Major life Events: Their personal meaning, resolution, and mental health significance. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. Vol 49(2) Jun 2008, 223-237

4-1 Social Psychological Approaches

Jane McLeod and Kathryn Lively. 2007. Social Psychology and Stress Research. pps. 275-306 in William S. Avison, Jane D. McLeod, Bernice A. Pescosolido, eds. *Mental Health, Social Mirror*. Springer

Thoits, Peggy A. 2006. Personal Agency in the Stress Process. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 47:309-323

Sarah Rosenfield, Mary Clare Lennon, Helene Raskin White. 2005. The Self and Mental Health: Self-Salience and the Emergence of Internalizing and Externalizing Problems. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 46:323–340

Jane McLeod and James M. Nonnemaker. 1999. Social Stratification and Inequality. Pp. 301-320 in *Handbook of Psychiatric Sociology*, edited by Carol Anaschensel and Jo Phelan. New York

Recommended

Thoits, Peggy. 1999. Self, Identity, and Mental Health, in *Handbook of Psychiatric Sociology* edited by Carol Anaschensel and Jo Phelan. New York: Plenum.

Jason Schnittke1 and Jane D. McLeod. The Social Psychology of Health Disparities. *Annual Review of Sociology* 2005. 31:75–103

Aaron T. Beck. The Current State of Cognitive Therapy. A 40-Year Retrospective. *Archives of General Psychiatry* Vol 62, Sep 2005

Hazel Markus. 1977. Self-Schemata and Processing Information about the Self. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 35:63-78

McLeod, Jane and James M. Nonnemaker. 1999. Social Stratification and Inequality. Pp. 301-320 in *Handbook of Psychiatric Sociology*, edited by Carol Anaschensel and Jo Phelan. New York

3-29 Social Inequalities and Mental Health: On Social Class

McLeod, Jane and James M. Nonnemaker. 1999. “Social Stratification and Inequality.” Pp. 301-320 in *Handbook of the sociology of mental health* edited by Carol Anaschensel and Jo Phelan. New York: Plenum.

Link, Bruce G. and Jo C. Phelan. 1995. “Social Conditions as Fundamental Causes of Distress.” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (extra issue): 80-94.

Muntaner, Carles, William Eaton, Richard Miech, and Patricia O’Campo. 2004. “Socioeconomic Position and Major Mental Disorders.” *Epidemiologic Reviews* 26:53-62.

Stephani L. Hatch and Bruce P. Dohrenwend. 2007. “Distribution of Traumatic and Other Stressful Life Events by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, SES and Age: A Review of the Research.” *American Journal of Community Psychology* 40:313–332

Recommended

Jane D McLeod and Michael Shanahan. 1996. “Trajectories of Poverty and Children's Mental Health.” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. Vol 37(3) Sep, 207-220.

Yan Yu and David R. Williams. 1999. “Socioeconomic Status and Mental Health.” Pp. 151-166 in Carol Aneshensel and Jo Phelan (eds) *Handbook of the Sociology of Mental Health*. New York: Plenum..

Singh-Manoux, Archana, Michael Marmot and Nancy Adler. (2005). "Does Subjective Social Status Predict Health and Change in Health Status Better Than Objective Status?" *Psychosomatic Medicine* 67:855-86.

Carter, P., S. Sellers, and C. Squires. (2002). "Reflections on Race/Ethnicity, Class and Genderinclusive Research." *African American Research Perspectives* 8:111-124.

4-5 Social Inequalities and Mental Health: On Gender and Race/Ethnicity

Kessler, R.C., K.A. McGonagle, M. Schwartz, D.G. Glazer, & C.B. Nelson. 1993. "Sex and depression in the National Comorbidity Survey I: Lifetime prevalence, chronicity, and recurrence." *Journal of Affective Disorders* 25:85-96.

Joshua Breslau, Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola, Kenneth S. Kendler, Maxwell Su1, David Williams and Ronald C. Kessler. "Specifying Race-Ethnic Differences In Risk For Psychiatric Disorder In A USA National Sample." *Psychological Medicine*, 2006, 36, 57–68.

Rosenfield, Sarah and Dawne Mouzon. 2013. "Gender and Mental Health." in *Handbook of the sociology of mental health* edited by Carol Anaschensel, Jo Phelan, and Alex Bierman. New York: Plenum.

Rosenfield, Sarah, Julie Phillips, and Helene Raskin White. 2006. "Gender, Race, and the Self in Mental Health and Crime." *Social Problems* 53:161-185.

Recommended

R. Jay Turner, John Taylor, Karen Van Gundy. "Resources and Depression In The Transition to Adulthood: Ethnic Comparisons. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 45:34-52.

Tony Brown. 2003. "A Critical Race Theory Speaks to the Sociology of Mental Health: Mental Health Problems Produced by Racial Stratification." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 44:292-321.

Rosenfield, Sarah, Mary Clare Lennon, and Helene White. 2005. "Mental Health and the Self: Self-salience and the Emergence of Internalizing and Externalizing Problems," *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 46:326-340.

McLeod, Jane D. and Timothy J. Owens. 2004. "Psychological Well-Being in the Early Life Course: Variations by Socioeconomic Status, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 67:257–278.

Simon, Robin W. 2002. "Revisiting the Relationships among Gender, Marital Status, and Mental Health." *American Journal of Sociology* 107:1065-1096

World Health Organization. 2006. *Gender Disparities in Mental Health*. Washington, D.C: Department of Mental Health and Substance Dependence.

Tamres, Lisa K., Denise Janicki, and Vicki S. Helgeson. 2002. "Sex Differences in Coping Behavior: A Meta-Analytic Review and an Examination of Relative Coping." *Personality and Social Psychology Review* 6:2-30.

4-12 Stigma and Labelling Theory

Thomas J. Scheff. 1963. "The Role of the Mentally Ill and the Dynamics of Mental Disorder: A Research Framework." *Sociometry* 26:436-453.

Bruce G. Link; Francis T. Cullen; Elmer Struening; Patrick E. Shrout; Bruce P. Dohrenwend. 1989. "A Modified Labeling Theory Approach to Mental Disorders: An Empirical Assessment." *American Sociological Review* 54:400-423.

Thomas J. Scheff. 1998. "Shame in the Labeling of Mental Illness." pp. 191-205 in Gilbert, Paul (Ed); Andrews, Bernice (Ed), *Shame: Interpersonal Behavior, Psychopathology, and Culture*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Takeuchi, David T; Cheung, Mang-King. "Coercive and voluntary referrals: How ethnic minority adults get into mental health treatment." *Ethnicity & Health*. 3:149-158.

Peggy A. Thoits. 2005. "Differential Labeling of Mental Illness by Social Status: A New Look at an Old Problem." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior*. 46:102-119.

Recommended

Phelan, Jo C; Link, Bruce G; Stueve, Ann; Pescosolido, Bernice A. 2000. "Public conceptions of mental illness in 1950 and 1996: What is Mental Illness and is it to be Feared?" *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 41:188-207.

Rosenfield, Sarah. 1984. "Race Differences in Involuntary Hospitalization: Psychiatric vs. Labeling Perspectives." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 25:14-23.

Rosenfield, Sarah. 1982. "Sex Roles and Societal Reactions to Mental Illness: The Labeling of 'Deviant' Deviance." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 23:18-24.

Patrick Corrigan, Fred Markowitz, and Amy Watson. 2004. "Structural Levels of Mental Illness Stigma and Discrimination." *Schizophrenia Bulletin*. 30:481-491.

Sue E. Estroff, David L. Perm, and Julie R. Toporek. 2004. "From Stigma To Discrimination: An Analysis of Community Efforts To Reduce the Negative Consequences of Having a Psychiatric Disorder and Label." *Schizophrenia Bulletin*. 30:493-509.

Amy C. Watson, Patrick Corrigan, Jonathon E. Larson, and Molly Sells. 2007. "Self-Stigma in People with Mental Illness." *Schizophrenia Bulletin* 33:1312-1

Rosenfield, Sarah. 1997. "Labeling Mental Illness: The Effects of Perceived Stigma vs. Received Services." *American Sociological Review*. 63:230-245.

Jo Phelan. 2005. "Geneticization of Deviant Behavior and Consequences for Stigma: The Case of Mental Illness." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 46:307-322.

Bruce G. Link and Jo C. Phelan. 2001. "Conceptualizing Stigma." *Annual Review of Sociology*. 27:363-385

Link, Bruce G, John Monahan, Ann Stueve and Francis T. Cullen, Francis T. (1999). "Real in their Consequences: A Sociological Approach to Understanding the Association between Psychotic Symptoms and Violence," *American Sociological Review* 64(2):316-332.

Bruce G. Link, Jerrold Mirotznik, Francis T. Cullen. "The Effectiveness of Stigma Coping Orientations." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, Vol. 32, No. 3 (Sep., 1991), pp. 302-320.

4-26 Student Reports of Final Papers