

Rutgers University
Spring 2016 Syllabus
Sociology of Mental Illness
920: 307

Day/Time: Monday and Wednesday 5-6:20 PM

Instructor: Dr. Eleanor LaPointe (email: elan40@juno.com)

Office: 049 Davison Hall (DGLS) Sociology Department

Time: Monday and Wednesday 12:00-1:00 PM

Phone: 732-278-9576 (my cell)

Main sakai portal: <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

Required textbooks:

1. A Short History of Psychiatry by Tom Burns (ISBN: 978-0-19-280727-4) Oxford University Press.
2. Worried Sick by Deborah Carr. (ISBN: 978-0-8135-6537-8) Rutgers University Press
3. An Unquiet Mind by Kay Redfield Jamison. (ISBN: 978-0-679-76330-7) Vintage Books

Other readings are in our course Sakai site.

Grading

Participation (including in-class assignments or quizzes).....	30%
Test 1.....	35%
Final Exam.....	35%

It is your responsibility to keep up with the material. Please be prepared for each session by having completed and reviewed the assigned readings for that day/week. From time to time (usually weekly), an in-class quiz or other group-based assignment will be given to allow those who do the readings and pay attention in class to prove it. These quizzes/assignments may be announced or unannounced, and they cannot be made up.

Constructive and thoughtful participation in class can benefit your final grade, especially if your average is border line.

Classroom environment

The Department of Sociology encourages the free exchange of ideas in a productive, courteous environment. To facilitate such an environment, we all must act with mutual respect and common interests. Please be mindful that distracting behaviors will not be

tolerated. These include: cell phone use, internet surfing, checking email or other activities that divert attention from our brief time together. You may use laptop computers in the classroom, but **USE OF THE INTERNET IS PROHIBITED UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY THE PROFESSOR.**

Testing

There will be two take-home tests in essay format. These take the place of a major in-class mid-term and final exam. There will also be periodic in-class activities and quizzes. These activities or quizzes cannot be made up. The lowest score will be dropped. (This means that you can miss one.)

Academic Integrity

Wondering about academic dishonesty? Please see the following RU site for guidelines on academic integrity expected at RU: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>

Grading Scale:

90-100 = A	78-79 = C +
88-89 = B +	70-77=C
80-87=B	60-69 = D 59 or below = F

Students are expected to write complete, grammatically correct, sentences during ALL correspondence, including emails sent to me, the instructor. Minor typing errors are acceptable, but the abbreviated words and run-on sentences sometimes used in casual chats with friends online are NOT acceptable.

Grading Criteria for written essays:

Points:

Clear and logical statements; explanation and/or examples provided to support ideas; shows insight; provides complete bibliography; submitted on time	100
Clear statements with appropriate explanations or examples	90
Clear statements with some explanation or examples	80
Some unclear statements or incorrect explanations or examples	70
Confusing, lacks explanation or reasoning. Has not been proofed for wording, punctuation and other grammatical errors.	60 or lower

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1

1/20 Introduction: What is mental health and illness?

Week 2 *History and Controversy*

1/25 and 1/27

Burns, Psychiatry pp.1-50.

Carr, Worried Sick chapter 1 (pp.1-19)

Week 3

2/1 and 2/3

Burns, Psychiatry pp. 51-67

Goffman "Asylums" (Available through our Sakai course site.)

Film: Tropic of Cancer (to be shown in class)

Week 4 *A Diagnosis for Everything? Social Construction, Medicalisation, and Pharmaceuticalization*

2/8 and 2/10

Burns, Psychiatry pp.84-133

Allan, Frances "DSM 5 in Distress" Psychology Today Blog:

Hyperlink: (Also posted in our Sakai site)

<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/dsm5-in-distress/201212/dsm-5-is-guide-not-bible-ignore-its-ten-worst-changes>

Conrad and Schneider "Medical Model of Madness: The Emergence of Mental Illness" (Posted in Sakai.)

Week 5

2/15 and 2/17

Horwitz and Wakefield "The Epidemic of Mental Illness" --

hyperlink (Also posted in our Sakai site.):

http://www.spusa.org/pubs/health_med/mental_health/epidemic%20in%20mental%20illness-%20clinical%20fact%20or%20survey%20artifact%20horowitz.pdf

Required: Pieters and Snelders "Psychotropic Drug Use: Between Healing and Enhancing the Mind" (Posted in Sakai.)

Week 6 *Issues Pertaining to Gender, Age, Race, and Social Class*

2/22 and 2/24

Thomas "Medicalizing Racism" (Posted in Sakai.)

Week 7

2/29 and 3/2

Carr, *Worried Sick* chapters 2 and 3 (pp.20-71)

Rosenfield and Mouzon "Gender and Mental Health" (Posted in our Sakai site.)

Week 8

3/7 and 3/9

Carr, *Worried Sick* chapter 4 and 5 (pp.72-109)

Conrad and Potter "From Hyperactive Children to ADHD Adults: Observations on the Expansion of Medical Categories" (Posted in our Sakai site).

Film: *The Medicated Child* (to be shown in class)

Test 1 Due March 9. Hand-deliver a copy in class AND upload to the dropbox in our Sakai site.

Week 9

SPRING BREAK!

Week 10

3/21 and 3/23

Redfield-Jamison, *An Unquiet Mind*

Week 11

3/28 and 3/30

Redfield-Jamison, *An Unquiet Mind* continued.

Williams, "This is Your Brain on Nature"

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2016/01/call-to-wild-text>

Week 12 *Issues Pertaining to Societal and Global Responses*

4/4 and 4/6

Chambliss "The Patient as Object" (Sakai)

New York Times article "A Madman in Our Midst" --

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9402E0DE1138F937A15755C0A9649D8B63&pagewanted=1>

New York Times article "Broken Home"--

<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/04/18/nyregion/broken-home-a-special-report-for-mentally-ill-chaos-in-an-intended-refuge.html?src=pm&pagewanted=1>

Week 13

4/11 and 4/13

Teplin and Pruett "Police as Streetcorner Psychiatrist: Managing the Mentally Ill" (Sakai)

Diary of a Mad Law Professor article in the Nation--

hyperlink (Also posted in our Sakai site.):

<http://www.thenation.com/article/193761/unsound-minds-and-bodies>

Film: The New Asylums (to be shown in class)

Week 14

4/18 and 4/20

New York Times article: "The Americanization of Mental Illness"

Hyperlink (Also posted in our Sakai site):

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/10/magazine/10psyche-t.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0

New York Times article: "Group Cites Grim State of India's Mentally Ill"

Hyperlink (Also posted in our Sakai site):

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/04/world/asia/india-mental-health-facilities-human-rights-watch.html?module=Search&mabReward=relbias%3As>

New York Times article "Where Asylums Live On"

Hyperlink (Also posted in our Sakai site):

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/03/opinion/sunday/where-mental-asylums-live-on.html?pagewanted=all&module=Search&mabReward=relbias%3As>

Week 15

4/25 and 4/27 TBA

Week 16

5/2

Final exam due date to be announced.

For RU's official Spring 2016 Final Exam Schedule see: <https://finalexams.rutgers.edu/>