

SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL Health and ILLNESS

Dr. Linda Carelli

[E-mail: lincarelli@comcast.net](mailto:lincarelli@comcast.net)

Office hours: Thursday after class or by appt.

920:307:02

Spring 2018, TTh4

This course requires a prerequisite of Sociology 101. No exceptions will be made.

“There are times in life when the question of knowing if one can think differently than one thinks, and perceive differently than one sees, is absolutely necessary if one is going to go on looking and reflecting at all.” (Michael Foucault 1985)

The learning goal of this course is to study how social structure and social interaction shape mental illness. The first part of the course explores perspectives on mental health and illness, emphasizing the sociological approaches as well as views of the biological and psychological perspectives. We will examine the measurement of mental disorders. Next, we will consider how selected social factors, including social class, ethnicity, gender, marital status, and age influence the causes and responses to mental distress. The final part of the course concerns various aspects of mental health systems of care and mental health policies.

There will be an exam after each of the three parts of the course. Each exam counts for a third of the grade. There is no final comprehensive exam. All students must take the exams when they are scheduled. You will need a doctor's or otherwise official note to make up an exam. There will be one major extra-credit assignment given to the entire class and no individual extra-credit assignments. Final grades will apply Rutgers University's undergraduate standard grading scale:

A	90 – 100	C	70 - 74
B+	85 – 89	C+	75 – 79
B	80 – 84	D	60 - 69
		F	0 – 59

If you need accommodations for a disability or chronic illness please contact the Office of Disability Services at dsoffice@rce.rutgers.edu for an accommodation letter.

This course will apply the current academic integrity policy of Rutgers University. Cheating on exams is a violation of such academic integrity.

Diversity statement: The Rutgers Sociology Department strives to create an environment that supports and affirms diversity in all manifestations, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, social class, disability status, region/country of origin and political orientation. We also celebrate diversity of theoretical and methodological perspectives among our faculty and students and seek to create an atmosphere of respect and mutual dialogue. We have zero tolerance for violations of these principles and have

instituted clear and respectful procedures for responding to such grievances.

The following text are available at Barnes and Noble:

1. Teresa L. Scheid and Eric R. Wright, A Handbook for the Study of Mental 1. Teresa L. Scheid and Eric R. Wright, A Handbook for the Study of Mental Health: Social Contexts, Theories, and Systems, Third Edition, Cambridge Press, 2017 (ISBN 978-1-316-50096-5)
2. David Karp and Sisson, Gretchen, Voices from the Inside: Readings on the Experiences of Mental Illness, 2010 (ISBN978-0-19-537045-4)
3. Susan Sheehan, Is There No Place on Earth for Me?, Vintage Books, 1983 (ISBN 0-394-1378-8)
4. Resources: supplementary class material will be numbered and put on Sakai

Course Schedule and Assigned Readings:

Part One: Theoretical PERSPECTIVES ON MENTAL Health and ILLNESS

- Jan. 16 Orientation: Overview and course requirements and class rules
- Jan. 18 Scheid and Wright, “Introduction to Part 1”, pp. 1 - 5
- Jan. 23, 25 Definitions and Categories of Mental Illnesses
Horwitz, "An Overview of Sociological Perspectives on the Definitions, ...",
pp.6-19
Resource #1 and 1a Approaches and Definitions
- Karp and Sisson, “Introduction” pp. 3 - 16
- Karp,D, “The Unwelcome Career”, pp. 16 – 24
- Jamison, K, in Karp “Flights of the Mind”, pp 24 – 32
- Karp,C, “Denial and Addiction”, pp. 62 - 71
- Jan. 30, Epidemiology
Feb. 1 Wakefield and Schmitz "The Measurement of Mental Disorder",
pp.20-44
Sakai/Resource #2: Epidemiology
- Feb. 6 Biological Perspectives
Schwartz and Corcoran, “Biological Theories of Psychiatric Disorders: A
Sociological Approach”, pp. 98- 125
- Feb. 8 Psychodynamic Perspectives

TBA

Feb. 13, 15 Sociological Perspectives
Thoits, "Social Sociological Approaches to Mental Illness" pp.126 – 144

Feb. 20 FIRST EXAM

Feb. 22, 27 Continue Sociological Perspective
March 1 Brown and Scheid, "The Social Context of Mental Health and Illness,
pp.17 - 179

Wheaton and Montazer, "Studying Stress in the Twenty-First Century: An
Update of Stress Concepts and Research", pp. 180 - 206

Brown and Ciciurkaite, "Understanding the Connection between Social
Support and Mental Health" pp. 207 - 223

Part Two: SOCIAL CORRELATES OF MENTAL DISORDERS

March 1,6 Terrorism
Johnson and Hobfoll, "Mental Health and Terrorism", pp. 357 – 385

Sakai/Resource #3 and 3a: Terrorism

Work
Limonic and Lennon "Work and Unemployment as Stressors" pp. 224 – 238

RESOURCE #4 : Work and Unemployment as Contextual Stressors

March 8 Social Class
Eaton, and Muntaner, , "Socioeconomic Stratification and Mental Disorder,
pp. 226 -255

March 10 – 18 SPRING BREAK

March 20 Gender

Rosenfield, Kato, and Smith, "Gender and Mental Health", pp. 266 – 280

Resource #4: Male Depression and Resource #5: Transgender

March 22 Race
Williams , Costa, and Leavell, "Race and Mental Health", pp. 281 - 303

Keith and Brown, "African American Women and Mental Well-Being: The
Intersection of Race, Gender, and Socioeconomic Status", pp. 304 – 321

- March 27 **Marital Status**
William, Frech, and Carlson, "Marital Status and Mental Health",
pp. 322 - 337
- March 29 **Life Course**
Mirowsky and Ross, "Well-Being Across the Life Course", pp. 338 -356

April 3 SECOND EXAM

Part Three: THE SOCIAL RESPONSE TO MENTAL ILLNESS

- April 5 **Labeling Theory**
Link & Phelan, " Labeling and Stigma", pp. 393 – 408

Owen, Carol L., "To Tell or Not to Tell", pp. 169 - 179
- April 10 **From Mental Hospitals to Deinstitutionalization**
Movie: "One Flew Over The Cuckoo Nest" (On your own)

Sheehan, **Is There No Place On Earth For Me?**
- April 12 **Mental Health Services**
Cuddeback and Morrissey, "Integrating Service Delivery Systems for Persons
with Severe mental Illness", pp. 447 - 466
- April 17, 19 **Consumers, Recovering and Peer Support**
McLean, "The Mental Health Consumers/Survivors Movement in the
United States", pp. 529 – 549
Hornbacher, Marya, "Wasted", pp. 236 - 244
Speaker TBA
- April 42 **Laws/Legal Policies**
Americans with Disability Act 1990
Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010

Resource # 6
- April 26 **Legal Protections**
Hiday and Burns, "Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System",
pp. 478 – 498

May 4 THIRD EXAM