

## SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL Health and ILLNESS

Dr. Linda Carelli

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Office hours: Thursday after class or by appt.

920:307:01

Fall 2017, 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 goals of this course will be to analyze mental health data applying sociological theories as well as integrating information from multiple sources. We will study various social aspects of 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
B+	85 - 89
B	80 - 84
C+	75 - 79
C	70 - 74
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](mailto: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***

- Sept. 5      Orientation: Overview and course requirements and class rules
- Sept. 7      Scheid and Wright, “ Introduction to Part 1”, pp. 1 - 5
- Sept. 12, 14   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
- Sept. 19, 21   Epidemiology  
Wakefield and Schmitz "The Measurement of Mental Disorder”, pp.20-44  
  
Sakai/Resource #2: Epidemiology

Sept. 26 Biological Perspectives  
Schwartz and Corcoran, "Biological Theories of Psychiatric Disorders: A Sociological Approach", pp. 98- 125

Sept. 28 Psychodynamic Perspectives  
TBA

Oct. 3, 5 Sociological Perspectives  
Thoits, "Social Sociological Approaches to Mental Illness"pp.126 – 144

## **Oct. 10 FIRST EXAM**

Oct. 12, Continue Sociological Perspective

Oct. 17, Brown and Scheid, "The Social Context of Mental Health and Illness, pp.173-179

Oct. 19

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***

Oct. 24 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

Oct. 26 Social Class  
Eaton, and Muntaner, , "Socioeconomic Stratification and Mental Disorder, pp. 226 -255

Oct. 31 Gender

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

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

Nov. 2 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

**Nov. 7    Marital Status**

**William, Frech, and Carlson, "Marital Status and Mental Health",  
pp. 322 - 337**

**Nov. 9    To Be Announced**

**Nov.14   Life Course**

**Mirowsky and Ross, "Well-Being Across the Life Course", pp. 338 -356**

**Nov. 16   SECOND EXAM**

***Part Three: THE SOCIAL RESPONSE TO MENTAL ILLNESS***

**Nov. 21    Labeling Theory**

**Link & Phelan, " Labeling and Stigma", pp. 393 – 408**

**Nov. 28    From Mental Hospitals to Deinstitutionalization**

**Movie: "One Flew Over The Cuckoo Nest" (On your own)**

**Sheehan, Is There No Place On Earth For Me?**

**Nov. 30    Mental Health Services**

**Cuddeback and Morrissey, "Integrating Service Delivery Systems for Persons  
with Severe mental Illness", pp. 447 - 466**

**Dec. 5    Legal Protections**

**Americans with Disability Act**

**Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008**

**Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010**

**Resource # 6**

**Dec. 7    Legal System's Response to Mental Illness**

**Hiday and Burns, "Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System",  
pp. 478 – 498**

**Dec. 12   Consumers**

**McLean, "The Mental Health Consumers/Survivors Movement in the  
United States", pp. 529 - 549**

**Speaker TBA**

**Dec. 15   THIRD EXAM**