

**Central Washington University**  
**Sociology of Health, SOC 327**  
**Wednesdays, 5:40 p.m. – 7:50 p.m. and online**  
**Des Moines ITV/Pierce ITV**  
**Spring 2017 Syllabus - DRAFT**

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<b>Phone:</b> Personal/private phone number to be used only in emergencies, please!! (I prefer texts if possible.) (208) 664-7322
<b>Office Hours:</b> By appointment

### **Course Objectives**

This course will critically examine the social causes of disease and illness behavior, organization of medical care and comparative health systems. Through understanding the social factors affecting illness and medical care, we will explore how race, gender, age, and socioeconomic status impact physical and mental health. We will critically examine illness and healthcare systems within the United States and throughout the world.

### **Reading Materials to Buy/Rent/Download**

1. *The Sociology of Health, Illness, & Health Care: A Critical Approach, 7th Ed.* by Rose Weitz.
2. Additional required readings may also be posted on Canvas throughout the quarter.

### **Course Format and Evaluation**

This course will be a combination of lectures with PowerPoint, in class small group discussions/activities, and documentary/movie clips, as time permits. I plan to be at each campus every other Wednesday. The alternate campuses will access the classroom through ITV. This is a split on-campus and web-based course, thus 50% of the class will be web-based.

The web-based portion will include additional readings, possible video viewings, and discussions. **I expect that you to spend a minimum of 2.5 hours per week attending to this portion of the coursework, in lieu of classroom time.** Responses to discussion questions are due by **Saturday night** (midnight). Comments on **2** other students' posts are due by the following Monday at midnight.

Because this is half web-based, you **NEED** to have access to a computer with reliable internet access. If you do not personally have access to a computer, plan to schedule time at your local college or community library. You will need to log into the classroom at least once or twice per week.

ALSO – I tend to send Announcements about any changes or issues that I need you to know. You are notified about announcements through your CWU email – please check that email address at least once per week, preferably twice.

**Assignments/Grading:**

- 1 **Reflection Paper, 5% of grade.** Paper format: (1 inch margins on all sides, Times New Roman, 12 point font, double-spaced.) Paper length: 2 pages. More information will be provided at the first class, and will be posted on Canvas. **Due Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.**
- 2 **Final Paper, 20% of grade.** Paper format: APA. (1 inch margins on all sides, Times New Roman, 12 point font, double-spaced.) Length: 5 to 7 pages (content of paper). More information will be provided at the first class, and will be posted on Canvas. **Due Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>.**
- 3 **5 Quizzes – Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10; 25% of grade.** There will be 5 quizzes. The majority of questions will be multiple-choice format. All questions will be based on the textbook.
- 4 **Classroom component; 20% of grade.** The in-class component will be measured with attendance and small group in-class discussions. Please note that this includes paying attention during class, **respectful** discussion of class topics, and participation in small group activities.

**NOTE:** You can miss one class (excused – must email or text) without affecting your grade. Any additional missed classes must be made up with additional assignment. Watch any video(s) included in the PowerPoints for that week and write up a brief summary and your thoughts. Email this summary to me.

- 5 **Online coursework participation;** 30% of grade. This will include posting weekly responses to the discussion question(s), as well as a minimum of responses to 2 other classmates every week. The responses **MUST** be well-written – with full sentences and minimal grammatical errors.
  - Discussion posts (your post to answer the original question) are due by **Saturday** night **every** week.
  - Responses to **two** other students are due by the **following Monday** night, **every** week.

Rubric for Online Discussion Post Grading:

Criteria	Assessment
Original Post	3 points - Demonstrates High Level Critical Thinking
	2 points - Demonstrates Mid Level Critical Thinking
	1 point - Demonstrates Low Level Critical Thinking
	0 point - Does Not Meet Minimum

	Requirement
Substantive Replies	2 points - Two Replies to One or More Other Students 1 point - One Reply or Low Level Responses 0 point - Does Not Meet Minimum Requirement
Total Points: out of 5	

### Classroom Etiquette

- Be on time and turn off cell phones.
- Please use computers only for courseroom relevant work during classtime (e.g., taking notes or looking up information). Using your computer for other purposes is disrespectful to me and other students in the class, and can be distracting for those sitting near you.
- Be respectful when making a comment or responding to others' comments.

### Academic Honesty

Academic Honesty is expected from all students. This means that you need to complete your own original work, and take exams on your own. On papers, include references for any idea that is not your own. If you need help with this, please ask for assistance.

### Other

- Please see me before the end of the second week of classes if you need accommodation for a qualified disability. All information is confidential.
- All papers that do not meet minimum standards for English spelling and grammar will fail. If you have concerns about your writing ability, please contact me.
- Attendance to class is expected. I would like you to notify me by email prior to class if you will not be able to make it to class.
- Paper and exam grades will be posted on Blackboard (Course Information), as soon as available, under your posting ID numbers.
- I will accept late papers only in **exceptional** circumstances. I am most likely to accept a late paper if you explain to me *before* the assignment is due why it will be late, *and* you attend and participate in class regularly. Late papers will be penalized. *Back up your files regularly.*

**Course Schedule** (subject to change)

<b>WEEK</b>	<b>DATES</b>	<b>READINGS</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS, ETC.</b>
Week 1	3/26-4/1	Introduction to the course, review of syllabus including assignments and expectations.  Discussion of the ACA and current legislative/political debates  Weitz (2017), Chapter 1: The Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online discussion post – introduction (not graded)</li> </ul>
Week 2	4/2 – 4/8	Weitz (2017), Chapter 8: Health Care in the United States  AND Chapter 10: Health Care Settings and Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online discussion post – graded</li> </ul>
Week 3	4/9 – 4/15	Weitz (2017), Chapter 11: The Profession of Medicine  AND Chapter 12: Other Mainstream and Alternative Health Care Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>REFLECTION PAPER Due Sunday, 4/24</b></li> <li>• Online discussion post – graded</li> <li>• <b>Quiz - online</b></li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Week 4	4/16 - 4/22	Chapter 9: Health Care Around the Globe  Weitz (2017),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online discussion post – graded</li> </ul>
Week 5	4/23 - 4/29	Weitz (2017), AND Chapter 2: The Social Sources of Modern Illness  Chapter 3: The Social Distribution of Illness in the United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online discussion post - graded</li> </ul>
Week 6	4/30-5/6	Weitz (2017), Chapter 4: Illness and Death in the Less Developed Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CHOOSE PAPER TOPIC – email</b></li> <li>• Online discussion post – graded</li> <li>• <b>Quiz - online</b></li> </ul>
Week 7	5/7 - 5/13	Weitz (2017), Chapter 5: The Social Meaning of Illness AND  Chapter 6: The Experience of Disability, Chronic Pain, and Chronic Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online discussion post - graded</li> </ul>

Week 8	5/14 - 5/20	Weitz (2017), Chapter 7: The Sociology of Mental Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online discussion post – graded</li> </ul>
Week 9	5/21 - 5/27	Wietz (2017), Chapter 13, Issues in Bioethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PAPER DUE on Sunday 5/29</b></li> <li>• Online discussion post – graded</li> </ul>
Week 10	5/28 - 6/3		<b>Quiz - online</b>