

Course Syllabus : Health, Culture and Society

Instructor's Name:	
Date:	
Place:	
Contact Information:	
Office Hours:	

I. Course Description

What is the course about?

This course provides an overview of the health care system and the way in which health priorities are identified and addressed. Models of health and illness are presented together with social and cultural perspectives on the experience of health and illness. The way in which individuals and communities experience and adapt to health transitions is explored with an emphasis on opportunities for health professionals to contribute positively to health and wellbeing throughout the lifespan. As an underpinning, theoretical perspectives on lifespan development will also be explored.

What is the aim of the course?

This course introduces master students to important social theories in global health, delves into close-up case studies, and highlight the importance of how society and culture influence health and illness.

Student Performance Objectives

What is the knowledge and are the skills that a student should be able to demonstrate as a result of the completion of this course?

At the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Describe sociocultural characteristics of the society
2. Identify the most common health related issues for a community and analyse in relation to cultural and socio-political influences



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3. Apply different models of illness, health and culture to specific communities or target populations
4. Analyse the impact of cultural values on public health management
5. Analyse health promotion interventions in relation to theories and models of health and wellbeing

II. Evaluation and Requirements:

Attendance Policy:

Class preparation:

Course assignments are created in this program to facilitate learning opportunities and experiences and thus your participation is vital. As a learning culture, each one of us will influence the learning environment. Please take responsibility for your role in this environment and come to class prepared and ready to engage with others in a positive and thought-provoking manner. Exact deadlines for assignments will be confirmed in class.

Grade Determination:

Presentaion = 30%
Essay = 20%
Final Exam = 50%
TOTAL = 100%

Instructional Materials:

List any required computer applications, books, films, tapes, handouts, etc. that you plan to use.

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III. Weekly Class Schedule:

Indicate below on a daily basis the topical areas to be covered in the course. Include scheduled assignments, quizzes, tests, final exam date, etc.

WEEKS	KEY TOPICS
1	Introduction to the course -Definition and historical development of culture and society
2	Beliefs in health, disease and illness
3	Beliefs in health, disease and illness
4	Symbolic Healing and Harming
5	The Cultural Construction of Disease and Illness
6	Health promotion theories and models
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7	Chronic illness and contagious disease
8	Stigma, Responsibility, and Blame
9	Medical Technologies health
10	Student Presentations
11	Student Presentations



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IV. Final Exam

Here you can list all the relevant information about the final exam.

V. Further Readings (Recommended Literature)

Radermacher, H. and S. Feldman (2017). **Cultural Diversity, Health and Ageing.**

Ageing in Australia, Springer: 83-101.

Purnell, L. D. (2014). **Guide to culturally competent health care**, FA Davis.

Edberg, M., & Edberg, M. C. (2013). **Essentials of health, culture, and diversity: Understanding people, reducing disparities.** Jones & Bartlett Publishers. 1 Helman



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