Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS6402			
Subject Title	Issues in Health Sociology			
Credit Value	3			
Level	6			
Pre-requisite/	Nil			
Co-requisite/				
Exclusion				
Assessment Methods				
	100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	
	Class participation/discussion	10%	0%	
	Presentation	30%	0%	
	Final paper	60%	0%	
	 The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned; The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject; and Student must pass the specific component(s) (standard of passing) if he/she is to pass the subject. 			
Objectives	The subject aims to deepen students' understanding of the relationship between health, culture, and society and how they impact each other. Special attention is given to the application of sociological concepts and theories to the critical analysis of current trends and issues of health beliefs, health practices, and health policies. This subject also facilitates students' development of a global outlook and a critical mind, helps students to understand and analyze health issues at macro-level from different aspects, and trains students for advancing analytical and communicative skills that are essential for understanding health issues critically.			

Intended Learning	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:	
Outcomes	a. understand the relationships between health, culture, and society	
(Note 1)	a. Understand the relationships between health, euture, and society	
(note 1)	b. critically analyze and evaluate current trends in health-related issues both locally and globally	
	c. apply sociological concepts and theories to analyse and reflect on various health-related conditions, beliefs, behaviours, and systems	
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	 Choice of remedies and medical systems Sick role 	
(Note 2)	 The social construction of health, medical knowledge, and illness Health inequality: health and disease in relation to social class and race Health and disease in relation to gender: the diseased body and regulation of bodies 	
	6. Disease-associated stigma and discrimination	
	 Mass media and health representation Health care provider-patient interaction and communication 	
	9. The social construction of health care as professionals	
	10. McDonaldization of health care	
Teaching/Learning Methodology (Note 3)	Lecture Lectures are used to provide students with the basic and necessary knowledge on topics listed in the syllabus. To overcome the didactical nature of traditional ways of lecturing, the lectures in this subject are conducted in a more dialogical and interactive manner, and students are encouraged to raise questions or initiate discussion during the lectures. Time will be allotted in each class for a class discussion, in which students should be prepared to analyze and critique course concepts, and relate the lecture materials and readings with their daily clinical practice. <u>Presentation</u> Presentations will be given by each student in the last two classes. Topics of presentation are based on the final paper of students. Students will be expected to participate in the discussion after each presentation. <u>Class participation/discussion</u> Students will be expected to participate in weekly discussions on course material.	

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)				
			a	b	c		
(Note 4)	1. Class participation	10%					
	2. Presentation	30%					
	3. Final paper	60%					
	Total	100 %					
	 Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes: Class participation and presentations are essential to developing students analytical ability, verbal communication, and presentation skills. The topic of presentation can be related to their final papers. In their final papers, students will be expected to choose a health-related topic and conduct a critical analysis by using sociological concepts that they have learnt in class. Students will need to elaborate their arguments in written form to deepen their analysis, to demonstrate their critical and analytical thinking and to organize different materials in a systematic and logical manner. 				udents' topic of ed topic ey have n form,		
Student Study	Class contact:						

Effort Required	• Lecture	33 Hrs.	
	Presentation	6 Hrs.	
	Other student study effort:		
	Pre-lecture reading	15 Hrs.	
	Post-lecture revision	20 Hrs.	
	Preparation for presentation	30 Hrs.	
	Preparation for final paper	45 Hrs.	
	Total student study effort	149 Hrs.	
Reading List and References	Essential Cockerham W.C. (2017). Medical Sociology, 14 th Edition. London: Routledge.		
	 <u>Additional</u> Albrecht, G.L., Fitzpatrick, R. and Scrimshaw, S.C. (eds.) (1999) The Handbook of Social Studies in Health & Medicine. London: Sage. Baer H.A. (2001). Biomedicine and alternative healing systems in America: Issues of class, race, ethnicity, & gender. Madison, WI: The Universiof Wisconsin Press. 		
	Baer H.A, Susser I., Merril S. (1997). Medical Anthropology and the World System: A Critical Perspective. Bergin and Garvey.		
	 Baum, F. (2002) The New Public Health, 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford Universit Press. Burton, R. Nettleton S., and Burrows, R. (eds.) (1995) The Sociology of He Promotion. London: Routledge. 		
	Chris, P. (1998) Reconstructing Old Age: New Agendas in Social Theory & Practice. London: Sage.		
	Dent, M. and Whitehead, S. (eds.) (2002) Managing Professional Identities: Knowledge, Performativity and the 'New' Professional. London: Routledge.		
	Drache, D. and Sullivan, T. (eds.) (1999) Health Reform: Public Success, Private Failure. London: Routledge.		
	Edberg, M. (2007). Essentials of Health Behavior: Social and Behavioral Theory in Public Health. Jones and Barlett Publishers.		
Last updated in June 2022	Exworthy, M. and Halford, S. (eds.) (1999) Professi Managerialism in the Public Sector. Bucking		

Press.
Fort, M., Mercer, M.A. and Gish, O. (eds.) (2004) Sickness and Wealth: The Corporate Assault on Health. Cambridge, Mass: South End Press.
Frey, R.S. (ed.) (2001) The Environment and Society Reader. Needham Heights, MA: Allyn & Bacon.
Gabe, J. (ed.) (1995) Medicine, Health and Risk. Oxford: Blackwell.
Guttman, N. (2000) Public Health Communication Interventions: Values and Ethical Dilemmas. London: Sage.
Harper, C.L. (2001) Environment and Society: Human Perspectives on Environmental Issues. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
Higginbotham, N., Albrecht, G. and Connor, L. (2001) Health Social Science: A Transdisciplinary and Complexity Perspective. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Katz, S. (2005) Cultural Aging: Life Course, Lifestyle, and Senior Worlds. Peterborough, Ont.: Broadview Press.
Kawachi, I. & Kennedy, B.P. (2006) The Health of Nations: Why Inequality is Harmful to Your Health. New York: The New Press.
Kleinman A. (1980). Patients and healers in the context of culture: An exploration of the borderland between Anthropology, Medicine, and Psychiatry. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
Kleinman A. (1988). The illness narratives: suffering, healing & the human condition. Basic Books.
Lemelle, A.L., Harrington, C. and LeBlanc, A.J. (eds.) (2000) Readings in the Sociology of AIDS. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
Moynihan, R. & Cassels, A. (2005) Selling Sickness: How the World's Biggest Pharmaceutical Companies are Turning Us All into Patients. NY: Nation Books.
Petryna, A., Lakoff, A. & Kleinman, A. (eds.) (2006) Global Pharmaceuticals: Ethics, Markets, Practices. Durham: Duke University Press.
Robbins, R.H. (2005) Global Problems and the Culture of Capitalism. 3rd ed. Boston: Pearson Education.
文思慧、梁美儀(合編)(2000)《專業交叉點》。香港:青文書屋。
呂宗學(譯)(1998)《馬克思主義看醫療保健》。台北:南方叢書出版社。第6、9課。

佘雲楚 (2017) 《醫學霸權與香港醫療制度》。香港:中華書局。
胡幼慧(2001)《新醫療社會學:批判與另類的視角》。台北:心理出版社。

Note 1: Intended Learning Outcomes

Intended learning outcomes should state what students should be able to do or attain upon completion of the subject. Subject outcomes are expected to contribute to the attainment of the overall programme outcomes.

Note 2: Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus

The syllabus should adequately address the intended learning outcomes. At the same time over-crowding of the syllabus should be avoided.

Note 3: Teaching/Learning Methodology

This section should include a brief description of the teaching and learning methods to be employed to facilitate learning, and a justification of how the methods are aligned with the intended learning outcomes of the subject.

Note 4: Assessment Method

This section should include the assessment method(s) to be used and its relative weighting, and indicate which of the subject intended learning outcomes that each method purports to assess. It should also provide a brief explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes.