

# Sociology of Health & Illness

CH: 03 Prerequisite: NA

## Course objectives:

After completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the social contexts of wellness and illness;
2. explain the patient's perspective on the experience of illness including meaning making and interaction with care providers;
3. examine the social-historical transformation of the medical system, including the changing role of physicians and other health care providers;
4. interpret visual and written depictions of indicators and trends in population health over time;
5. identify the socio-cultural aspects of health and illness, particularly as relating to the definitions of health, illness behavior and social epidemiology;
6. investigate the social causes of disease and illness related to disparities due to social stratification and unequal access; and
7. describe the historical role of women in the medical system as patients, practitioners and health care providers.

## Content:

### 2. Introduction: The social construction of health and illness

- 1.1.Key concepts: Health, Disease, Illness, stigma, chronic illness, and physical disability

### 3. Sociological Perspectives on Health

- 2.1.The functionalist Perspectives on Health: The Sick Role
- 2.2.Symbolic Interactionist Theory: the Social Construction of Illness
- 2.3.Conflict Theory: Inequalities in Health and Health Care

### 4. Social Factors in Health and Illness

- 1.1.Age
- 1.2.Sex
- 1.3.Social Class
- 1.4.Race and Ethnicity

### 5. Disability

- 1.1.Disability in Historical Perspective
- 1.2.Disability in Contemporary Society

### 2. Social Development and Health

- 2.1.Health Care in Pakistan
- 2.2.Universal Health care

3. **Approaches to healthcare**
  - 3.1.The Medical Model of Illness
  - 3.2.Alternative Approaches
  - 3.3.Doctor-Patient relationship
  - 3.4.Health Insurance

### **Teaching-Learning Strategies:**

Teaching will be a combination of class lectures, class discussions, and group work. Short videos/films will be shown on occasion.

### **Sessional Work:**

The sessional work will be a combination of written assignments, class quizzes, presentations, and class participation/attendance.

### **Assessments and Examination:**

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
2.	Midterm Assessment	35%	It is a written examination that takes place at the mid-point of the semester.
3.	Formative Assessment	25%	It is a continuous assessment. It includes variety of activities mentioned above.
4.	Final Assessment	40%	It is a written examination that takes place at the end of the semester.

### **Suggested Readings:**

1. Weiss, G. L., & Lonnquist, L. E. (2017). The sociology of health, healing, and illness. Routledge
2. Cockerham, W. C. (Ed.). (2016). The new Blackwell companion to medical sociology. John Wiley & Sons.
3. Annandale, Ellen. (1998). The Sociology of Health and Medicine: A Critical Introduction. New York: Polity Press.
4. Hancock, Philip. (2001). The Body, Culture and Society: An Introduction. Buckingham: Open University Press.
5. Lincoln, Chen et al. (2003) Global Health Challenges for Human Security. UK: Global Equity