

## **CODE BSPH-308 SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH & DISEASES**

### **Course Objective:**

After studying this course, you should be able to:

- i. Discuss the social contexts of wellness and illness
- ii. Explain the patient's perspective on the experience of illness including meaning making and interaction with care providers
- iii. Examine the social-historical transformation of the medical system in the U.S., including the changing role of physicians and other health care providers
- iv. Interpret visual and written depictions of indicators and trends in population health over time
- v. Identify the socio-cultural aspects of health and illness, particularly as relating to the definitions of health, illness behavior and social epidemiology
- vi. Investigate the social causes of disease and illness related to disparities due to social stratification and unequal access
- vii. Describe the historical role of women in the medical system as patients, practitioners and health care providers
- viii. Differentiate the current ethical issues and debates about new medical technologies and their impact on doctor-patient relationships and on access to health care

### **Course Contents:**

- i. Evolution of Health & Healing,
- ii. Body, Mind, Illness and Environment
- iii. Theories, research and debates of medical sociology.
- iv. Social, environmental and occupational factors in health and illness;
- v. The meaning of health and illness from the patient's perspective;
- vi. The historical transformation of the health professions and the health work force;
- vii. The social and cultural factors surrounding the creation and labeling of diseases;
- viii. Disparities in health, access to healthcare, and the quality of healthcare received;

ix. Organizational and ethical issues in medicine including rising costs and medical technology; and health care reform.

**Recommended Books:**

1. Dania, K., Rachel, C., Rebecca, H., Marcus, R., & Ben-Shlomo, Y. (2014). A life course approach to healthy ageing edited by Oxford press.
2. Link, B., & Jo, P. (2010). "Social Conditions as Fundamental Causes of Health Inequalities." Pp. 3-17 in Handbook of Medical Sociology, Sixth Edition, edited by C. E. Bird, P. Conrad, A. M. Fremont and S. Timmermans. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.
3. Shim, J. (2005). "Constructing „Race“ Across the Science-Lay Divide: Racial Formation in the Epidemiology and Experience of Cardiovascular Disease." Social Studies of Science 35: 405-436.
4. Bird, C. E., Peter, C., & Allen, E. F. (2000). "Medical Sociology at the Millennium." Pp. 1-10 in Handbook of Medical Sociology, Fifth Edition, edited by C.E. Bird, P. Conrad, and A. Fremont. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
5. Prof. Saadat Farooq: Medical Sociology. Azeem Academy Karachi