

Graduate Program in Sociology

Comprehensive Exam Reading List

Health Studies

March 1, 2023

Pedagogical Objectives

To help prepare students to teach in the area of the sociology of health and illness

To provide students an opportunity to read across key substantive areas of research within the sociology of health and related disciplines, from a range of theoretical and methodological perspectives.

The five sections of this reading list cover:

- Research on experiences of illness, including work on identity formation, biographical disruption and its critiques, illness as work and narrative, as well as research on illness and suffering and illness and embodiment.
- A range of work addressing key features of biomedicine, biomedical knowledge, and biotechnology from a range of theoretical perspectives including political economy, feminist STS, and new materialisms.
- Scholarship addressing a range of issues related to the health care system and health care policy.
- Established and emerging work on the social, political and economic determinants of health.
- Critical scholarship on public health and public health issues.

Instructions to students

This reading list has been designed to balance required readings with readings chosen by the student. Your final list must include:

1. At least six readings from each main section of the comprehensive reading list. The six readings should come from at least two subsections from each main section.
2. Additional readings from this list identified by the student in consultation with their comprehensive exam committee.
3. Reading chosen by the student that do not appear on this list (up to a maximum of 25% of your final reading list).

In total you should create a reading list consisting of the equivalent of 25 medium-sized books (5 journal articles or chapters = 1 medium-sized book). Students may choose individual chapters from any of the edited collections included in this reading list.

Reading List

1. Bodies, Minds, Identities, Experiences

(a) Chronic illness, disability, self-hood, biographical disruption, and critiques

Bury, Michael. 1982. Chronic illness as biographical disruption. *Sociology of health & illness*, 4(2), 167-182.

Charmaz, Kathy. 1983. Loss of self: a fundamental form of suffering in the chronically ill. *Sociology of health & illness*, 5(2), 168-195

Tan, C. D. 2018. "I'm a normal autistic person, not an abnormal neurotypical": Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis as biographical illumination. *Social Science & Medicine*, 197, 161-167.

Sinding, C., & Wiernikowski, J. 2008. Disruption foreclosed: older women's cancer narratives. *Health*, 12(3), 389-411.

Moss, P. and Teghtsoonian, K. eds. (2008), *Contesting Illness Processes and Practices*. Toronto:University of Toronto Press.

Clare, E. *Brilliant Imperfection: Grappling with cure*. Duke University Press.

(b) Illness as work

Corbin, Juliet., & Strauss, Anselm. 1985. Managing chronic illness at home: three lines of work. *Qualitative sociology*, 8(3), 224-247.

Pritloves, C, Safai, P., Angus, J.E. et al. 2019 "'It's Hard Work': A Feminist Political Economy Approach to Reconceptualizing 'Work' in the Cancer Context" *Qualitative Health Research* 29(5)-758-771, 2019.

Seear, K. 2009. The third shift: Health, work and expertise among women with endometriosis. *Health Sociology Review*. 18(2): 194-206.

(c) Illness as narrative

Hydén, L. C. 1997. Illness and narrative. *Sociology of Health & Illness*, 19(1), 48-69.

Frank, A. W. (2013). *The wounded storyteller: Body, illness, and ethics*. University of Chicago Press.

Woods, A. (2014). Beyond the wounded storyteller: rethinking narrativity, illness and embodied self-experience. In *Health, illness and disease* (pp. 125-140). Routledge

(d) Illness and Suffering

Karp, D.A. 1996. *Speaking of sadness: Depression, disconnection and the meanings of illness*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Kleinman, A. 1988. *The illness narratives: Suffering, healing, and the human condition*. New York: Basic Books.

(e) Bodies

Caspar, M.J. and Moore, L.J. 2009. *Missing bodies: The politics of visibility*. New York: New York University Press.

Ettorre, E. (Ed.). 2010. *Culture, bodies and the sociology of health*. London, UK: Ashgate.

Williams, S. J. 2006. Medical sociology and the biological body: where are we now and where do we go from here?. *Health*. 10(1), 5-30.

Wheatley, E. E. 2016. *Bodies at risk: an ethnography of heart disease*. Routledge

Messing, K. 2021. *Bent out of shape: Shame, solidarity and women's bodies at work*. Toronto: Between the Lines Press.

Nettleton, S. (2001) The sociology of the body. In W. Cockerham (ed.) *Blackwell Companion to Medical Sociology* (pp. 43-63). Blackwell.

Fausto-Sterling, A. (2008). The bare bones of race. *Social Studies of Science*, 38(5), 657-694.

Fausto-Sterling, A. (2005). The bare bones of sex: part 1—sex and gender. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 30(2), 1491-1527.

Titchkosky, T. 2003. Governing embodiment: Technologies of constituting citizens with disabilities. *Canadian Journal of Sociology*. 28(4):517-42.

Weir, L. (2006). *Pregnancy, risk and biopolitics: On the threshold of the living subject*. Routledge.

2. Biomedicine, Biotechnology, and Their Critiques

(a) Early Sociological analyses of biomedicine and medicalization

Conrad, P. 1992. Medicalization and social control. *Annual review of Sociology*, 18, 209-232.

Riessman, C.K. 1983. Women and medicalization: a new perspective. *Social policy*, 14(1): 3-18.

Zola, I. (1972). Medicine as an institution of social control. *Sociological Review*. 20(4): 487-504.

Parsons, T. (1951). *The Social System*. Glencoe: Free Press. [Selection: pp. 428-479, on the sick role.]

Ehrenreich, B., & English, D. 1979. *For her own good. 150 years of experts' advice to women*. New York: Anchor Books.

(b) Biomedicalization and responses

Clarke, A. Mamo, L., Fosket, J.R., Fishman, J., and Shim, K. (eds.) 2010. *Biomedicalization: Technoscience, health, and illness in the U.S.* Durham and London: Duke University Press.

Conrad, P. 2005. The shifting engines of medicalisation. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 46(1): 3-14.

Busfield J. 2017. The concept of medicalization reassessed. *Sociology of Health & Illness*. 39(5):759-774.

(c) Pharmaceuticalization

Abraham, J. (2010) Pharmaceuticalization of society in context: theoretical, empirical and health dimensions. *Sociology*. 44(4):603–22.

Dumit, J. (2002) 'Drugs for Life', *Molecular Interventions* 2(3): 124–7.

Williams, S. J., Martin, P., & Gabe, J. (2011). The pharmaceuticalisation of society? A framework for analysis. *Sociology of health & illness*, 33(5), 710-725.

Douglas, C. M., Aith, F., Boon, W., de Neiva Borba, M., Doganova, L., Grunebaum, S., ... & Kleinhout-Vliek, T. (2022). Social pharmaceutical innovation and alternative forms of research, development and deployment for drugs for rare diseases. *Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases*, 17(1), 1-13.

(d) Perspectives on biomedicine, biotechnologies and biomedical knowledge

Foucault, M. 1977. *Birth of the clinic*. Routledge.

Epstein, S. 2008. *Inclusion: The politics of difference in medical research*. University of Chicago Press.

Fox, N. J. (2017). Personal health technologies, micropolitics and resistance: A new materialist analysis. *Health*., 21(2), 136-153.

Mol, A. (2002). *The body multiple: Ontology in medical practice*. Duke University Press

Waldby, C., & Mitchell, R. (2006). *Tissue economies: Blood, organs, and cell lines in late capitalism*. Duke University Press.

Cooper, M. E. (2011). *Life as surplus: Biotechnology and capitalism in the neoliberal era*. University of Washington Press.

Stephens, N. Brown, N. and Douglas, C.M.W. (2018) Biobanks as sites of Bio-objectification. *Life Sciences, Society and Policy*. 14:6 (special issue).

Petryna, A., Lakoff, A., and Kleinman, A. 2006. *Global pharmaceuticals: ethics, markets, practices*. Durham: Duke University Press.

(e) Madness and the critique of psychiatry

Goffman, E. 1961. *Asylums: Essays on the social situation of mental patients and other inmates*. Doubleday: Garden City, NY.

Daley, A., Costa, L. and Beresford, P. (eds.) 2019. *Madness, violence and power: A critical collection*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

LeFrançois, B. A., Menzies, R., & Reaume, G. (Eds.). (2013). *Mad matters: A critical reader in Canadian mad studies*. Canadian Scholars' Press.

Foucault, M. 2003. *Madness and civilization: A history of insanity in the age of reason*. Routledge.

Rose, N. (2018). *Our psychiatric future*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

3. The Health Care System and Policy

(a) Critical policy perspectives

Armstrong, P. and Armstrong, H. eds. (2020) *The Privatization of Care: The Case of Nursing* New York: Routledge (2020) 249 pp

Armstrong, P. and Armstrong, H. 2010. *Wasting away: The undermining of Canadian health care*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Fierlbeck, K. 2011. *Health care in Canada: A citizen's guide to policy and politics*.

Mintzberg, Henry (2017) *Managing the Myths of Health Care*. Oakland: Barrett-Koehler Publishers.

(b) Medicare

Naylor, D.N. 1992. *Canadian health care and the state: A century of evolution*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Martin, D. et al. 2018. Canada's universal health-care system: Achieving its potential. *Lancet*. 391:1718-35.

(c) Health care professions

Bourgeault, I. L. (2006). *Push!: the struggle for midwifery in Ontario*. McGill-Queen's Press-MQUP

Coburn, D. 1993. State authority, medical dominance, and trends in the regulation of the health professions: The Ontario case. *Social Science & Medicine*. 37(7): 841-50.

(d) Access to health services

Goodman, A., Fleming, K., Markwick, N., Morrison, T., Lagimodiere, L., Kerr, T., & Society, W. A. H. R. (2017). "They treated me like crap and I know it was because I was Native": The healthcare experiences of Aboriginal peoples living in Vancouver's inner city. *Social Science & Medicine*, 178, 87-94.

Baker, K., & Beagan, B. (2016). 'Unlike Vancouver... here there's nothing': imagined geographies of idealized health care for LGBTQ women. *Gender, Place & Culture*, 23(7), 927-940.

Tang, S. Y., & Browne, A. J. (2008). 'Race' matters: racialization and egalitarian discourses involving Aboriginal people in the Canadian health care context. *Ethnicity and Health*, 13(2), 109-127.

Husbands, W., Lawson, D. O., Etowa, E. B., Mbuagbaw, L., Baidooobonso, S., Tharao, W., ... & Etowa, J. (2022). Black Canadians' Exposure to Everyday Racism: Implications for Health System Access and Health Promotion among Urban Black Communities. *Journal of Urban Health*, 99,1-13.

(e) Evidence-based health care

Timmermans, S., & Berg, M. (2010). *The gold standard: the challenge of evidence-based medicine*. Temple University Press.

Mykhalovskiy, E., Choiniere, J., Armstrong, P., & Armstrong, H. (Eds.). 2020. *Health matters: Evidence, critical social science, and health care in Canada*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Mykhalovskiy, E., & Weir, L. (2004). The problem of evidence-based medicine: directions for social science. *Social science & medicine*, 59(5), 1059-1069.

(f) Health care institutions: Hospitals, long-term care, and the pharmaceutical industry

French, M., & Miller, F. A. (2012). Leveraging the "living laboratory": on the emergence of the entrepreneurial hospital. *Social science & medicine*, 75(4), 717-724.

Armstrong, P., & Braedley, S. (Eds.). 2013. *Troubling care: Critical perspectives on research and practices*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

Lexchin, J. 2016. *Private profits vs. public policy: The pharmaceutical industry and the Canadian state*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

(g) Provider patient relationships

Shim, Janet K. 2010. "Cultural Health Capital: A Theoretical Approach to Understanding Health Care Interactions and the Dynamics of Unequal Treatment." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51:1-15.

Fisher, S. and Todd, A. (eds.) 1983. *The social organization of doctor-patient interaction*. Washington: Center for Applied Linguistics.

Mol, A. (2008). *The logic of care: Health and the problem of patient choice*. Routledge.

Sherwin, S. (1992). *No longer patient: Feminist ethics and health care*. Temple University Press.

Ragins, A. I. (1995). Why self-care fails: implementing policy at a low-income sickle cell clinic. *Qualitative sociology*, 18(3), 331-356.

4. The Social, Political, and Environmental Determinants of Health

(a) Formative work on the social determinants of health, population health, and critiques

Coburn, D. 2004. Beyond the income inequality hypothesis: class, neo-liberalism, and health inequalities. *Social science & medicine*. 58(1): 41-56.

Evans, R. and Stoddart, G. 1990. Producing health, consuming health care. *Social Science and Medicine*. 31(12): 1347-1363

Link, B. and J. Phelan. 1995. Social conditions as fundamental causes of disease. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. Vol. 35 (Extra Issue). 80-94.

Marmot, M. 2005. Social determinants of health inequalities. *Lancet*. 365:1099-1104.

Rose, Geoffrey. 2001. Sick individuals and sick populations. *International journal of epidemiology*. 30(3): 427-432

Poland, B., Coburn, D., Robertson, A., & Eakin, J. 1998. Wealth, equity and health care: a critique of a "population health" perspective on the determinants of health. *Social science & medicine*. 46(7): 785-798.

Navarro, V. 1976. *Medicine Under Capitalism*. New York: Prodist.

(b) Austerity

Stuckler, D. and Basu, S. 2013. *The body economic: Why austerity kills. Recessions, budget battles and the politics of life and death.* Toronto: HarperCollins.

Carastathis, A. 2015. The politics of austerity and the affective economy of hostility: Racialised gendered violence and crises of belonging in Greece. *feminist review.* 109: 73-95.

(c) Intersectionality

Hankivsky, O. (Ed.). 2011. *Health inequities in Canada: Intersectional frameworks and practices.* Vancouver: UBC Press.

Shannon, K. et al. 2008. Social and structural violence and power relations in mitigating HIV risk of drug-using women in survival sex work. *Social Science & Medicine.* 66(4):911-921.

Calderón-Villarreal, A., Terry, B., Friedman, J., González-Olachea, S. A., Chavez, A., López, M. D., ... & Bourgois, P. 2022. Deported, homeless, and into the canal: Environmental structural violence in the binational Tijuana River. *Social Science & Medicine.* 305, 115044

Garland-Thomson, R. (2020). Integrating disability, transforming feminist theory. In C. R. McCann, S. Kim, & E. Ergun (Eds.), *Feminist theory reader: Local and global perspectives* (5th ed., pp. 181-191). Routledge.

Naples, N. A., Mauldin, L., & Dillaway, H. (2019). From the Guest Editors: Gender, Disability, and Intersectionality. *Gender & Society,* 33(1), 5–18.

(d) Indigenous Perspectives

Greenwood, M., De Leeuw, S., Lindsay, N. M., & Reading, C. (Eds.). 2018. *Determinants of Indigenous Peoples' Health. Beyond the social.* Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

Ray, Wylie, L., & Corrado, A. M. (2022). Shapeshifters, systems thinking and settler colonial logic: Expanding the framework of analysis of Indigenous health equity. *Social Science & Medicine* (1982), 300, 114422–114422.

Aldred, T. L., Alderfer-Mumma, C., de Leeuw, S., Farrales, M., Greenwood, M., Hoogeveen, D., ... & Sloan Morgan, V. (2021). Mining sick: Creatively unsettling normative narratives about industry, environment, extraction, and the health geographies of rural, remote, northern, and Indigenous communities in British Columbia. *The Canadian Geographer/Le Géographe canadien*, 65(1), 82-96.

(e) Race and Racism

Bailey, Z. D., Krieger, N., Agénor, M., Graves, J., Linos, N., & Bassett, M. T. 2017. Structural racism and health inequities in the USA: evidence and interventions. *The Lancet*. 389(10077): 1453-1463.

Etowa, J. and Hyman, I. 2021. Unpacking the health and social consequences of COVID-19 through a race, migration, and gender lens. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*. 112:8-11.

Krieger, N. (2020). ENOUGH: COVID-19, structural racism, police brutality, plutocracy, climate change—and time for health justice, democratic governance, and an equitable, sustainable future. *American Journal of Public Health*, 110(11), 1620-1623.

Maynard, R. (2017). Policing Black lives: State violence in Canada from slavery to the present. Fernwood Publishing.

Williams, D. R., Lawrence, J. A., Davis, B. A., & Vu, C. (2019). Understanding how discrimination can affect health. *Health services research*, 54, 1374-1388.

(f) Health and the environment

Sellers, S., Ebi, K. L., & Hess, J. (2019). Climate change, human health, and social stability: addressing interlinkages. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 127(04), 045002-1 -045002-10.

Craddock, S. and Hinchliffe, S. 2015. One world, one health? Social science engagement with the one health agenda. *Social Science & Medicine*. 129: 1-4.

Noorgaard, K.M. and Fenelon, J. 2021. Towards an Indigenous Environmental Sociology. In Schaefer Caniglia, B., Jorgenson, A., Malin, S.A., Peek, L., Pellow, D.N., Huang, X. (eds) *Handbook of Environmental Sociology*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

Kroll-Smith, S.; Brown, P. and Gunter, J. (2000) *Illness and the Environment: A Reader in Contested Medicine*, N.Y.: New York University Press.

Brown, P. and Mikkelsen, E. (1992) *No Safe Place: Toxic Waste, Leukemia and Community Action*. Berkely: University of California Press.

Ali, S. Harris (2008) “Environmental Health and Society” In B. Singh Bolaria and Harley D. Dickinson (Eds) *Health, Illness, and Health Care in Canada 4th Edition*. Toronto: Nelson. Pages 370-387.

5. Interdisciplinary and Critical Perspectives on Public Health

(a) Public health and critical social science

Green, J. and Labonte, R. 2008. *Critical perspectives in public health*. London: Routledge.

Will, C. M. 2017. On difference and doubt as tools for critical engagement with public health. *Critical Public Health*, 27(3), 293-302

Bell, K., & Green, J. 2016. On the perils of invoking neoliberalism in public health critique. *Critical Public Health*, 26(3), 239-243.

Mykhalovskiy, E., Frohlich, K. L., Poland, B., Di Ruggiero, E., Rock, M. J., & Comer, L. (2019). Critical social science with public health: Agonism, critique and engagement. *Critical Public Health*, 29(5), 522-533.

(b) Risk, health promotion, and “healthy” citizenship

Armstrong, D. (1995). The rise of surveillance medicine. *Sociology of health & illness*, 17(3), 393-404.

Crawford, R. (1977). You are dangerous to your health: the ideology and politics of victim blaming. *International journal of health services*, 7(4), 663-680

Petersen A. and Lupton, D. 1996. The new public health: Health and self in the age of risk.

Rose, N. and Novas, C. Biological Citizenship. In A. Ong and S. Collier (eds.) *Global assemblages. Technology, politics and ethics as anthropological problems*

(c) Disease, racism, colonialism, and empire

Stern, A. M. 2005. Sterilized in the name of public health: race, immigration, and reproductive control in modern California. *American Journal of Public Health*. 95(7): 1128-1138.

- Arnold, D. 1993. *Colonizing the body: State medicine and epidemic disease in nineteenth-century India*. University of California Press.
- Kelm, M. 1998. *Colonizing bodies: Aboriginal health and healing in British Columbia, 1900-50*. Vancouver: UBC Press.
- Anderson, W. 1995. Excremental colonialism: Public health and the poetics of pollution. *Critical Inquiry*, 21(3): 640-669.
- Ali, S. Harris, & Rose, J.R. (2022). The Post-Colonialist Condition, Suspicion, and Social Resistance during the West African Ebola Epidemic: The Importance of Frantz Fanon for Global Health. *Social Science & Medicine*, 305.
- (d) Contemporary issues in public health: Drugs and drug use; vaccine hesitation; pandemics; the “obesity” epidemic**
- Bourgeois, P. and Schonberg, J. 2009. *Righteous dopefiend*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.
- Garcia, A. 2010. *The pastoral clinic: Addiction and dispossession along the Rio Grande*. University of California Press Chapter 2 The elegiac addict. Available online (York U library).
- Brusnon, E.K. and Sobo, E.J. 2017. Framing childhood vaccination in the United States: Getting past polarization in the public discourse. *Human Organization*, 76(1):38-47.
- Calnan, M., & Douglass, T. (2020). Hopes, hesitancy and the risky business of vaccine development. *Health, Risk & Society*, 22(5-6): 291-304
- Winson, A. (2004). Bringing political economy into the debate on the obesity epidemic. *Agriculture and Human Values*, 21(4), 299-312.
- LeBesco, K. (2011). Neoliberalism, public health, and the moral perils of fatness. *Critical Public Health*, 21(2), 153-64.
- Ali, S. H.; Connolly, C. and Keil, R. (2022) *Pandemic Urbanism: Infectious Disease on a Planet of Cities*. Cambridge: Polity Press.