**Discipline Specific Elective 05 Sociology of Health and Medicine**

Objectives: The course introduces students to the sociology of health, illness and medical practice by highlighting the significance of socio-cultural dimensions in the construction of illness and medical knowledge. Theoretical perspectives examine the dynamics shaping these constructions. Negotiations of health and illness are explored through ethnographies.

Outline:

**1. Introduction to the Sociology of Health and Medicine**

1.1 Origins and Development 1.2 Conceptualising Disease, Sickness and Illness 1.3 Social and Cultural Dimensions of Illness and Medicine

**2. Theoretical Orientations in Health and Illness**

2.1 Political Economy 2.2 Systems Approach 2.3 Discourse and Power 2.4 Feminist Approach

**3. Negotiating Health and Illness**

3.1 Medical Practices 3.2 Health Policy in India

 

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*COURSE CONTENTS AND ITINERARY*

**1. Introduction to the Sociology of Health and Medicine (Week 1-4)**

1.1 Turner, Bryan, S. (1995) *Medical Power and Social Knowledge.* London, Sage, Chapters 1 and 2 and 3. Pages (1-54).

1.2 Boorse, Christopher (1999) On the distinction between Disease and Illness. In (eds.) James Lindermann Nelson and Hilde Lindermann Nelson, *Meaning and Medicine: A Reader in the Philosophy of Healthcare,* New York: Routledge. (Pages 16-27)

1.3 Kleinman, Arthur (1988) The Illness Narratives: Suffering, Healing and the Human Condition. New York : Basic Books Inc. Publishers. Chapter 1. (Pages 3-30).

1.4 Fruend, Peter E.S., McGuire, Meredith B. and Podthurst, Linda S. (2003) *Health, Illness and the Social Body,* New Jersey: Prentice Hall. Chapter 9 (Pages 195-223)

**2. Theoretical Orientations in Health and Illness (Week 5-10)**

2.1 Morgan, Lynn. Morgan (1987) Dependency Theory and the Political Economy of Health: An Anthropological Critique. Medical Anthropology Quarterly, New Series, Vol.1, No.2 ( June, 1987) pp. 131-154.

2.2 Talcott Parsons (1951) The Social System, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul Ltd. Chapter 10, (Pages 428-479).

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2.3 Foucault, Michel (1994) The Birth of the Clinic: An Archaeology of Medical Perception, New York: Vintage Books. Chapter1 and Conclusion. (Pages 3-20 and 194-199).

2.4 Turner, Bryan, S. (1995) Medical Power and Social Knowledge, London: Sage. Chapter 5. (Pages.86-108).

2.5 Patel, Tulsi (2012) Global Standards in Childbirth Practices. In (eds.) V. Sujatha and Leena Abraham Medical Pluralism in Contemporary India. New Delhi: Orient BlackSwan. (Pages 232-254 ).

**3. Negotiating Health and Illness (Week 11-14)**

3.1 Evans- Pritchard, E.E. (2010) The Notion of Witchcraft Explains Unfortunate Events. In (eds.) Byron J.Good, Micheal M. J. Fischer, Sarah S. Willen and Mary-Jo Del Vecchio Good A Reader in Medical Anthropology: Theoretical Trajectories , Emergent Realities, Oxford: Wiley- Blackwell, Chapter2 (Pages 18-25).

3.2 Baer, Hans A., Singer, Merrill and Susser, Ida (1994) Medical Anthropology and the World System, Westport: Praeger. Chapters 10 and 11 (Pages 307-348)

3.3 Gould, Harold A. (I965) Modern Medicine and Folk Cognition in Rural India in *Human Organization*, No. 24. pp. 201- 208.

3.4 Leslie, Charles (1976) Asian Medical Systems: A Comparative Study, London: University of California Press, Introduction. (Pages 1-12) .

3.5 Ethnographies, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly,* Vol. 20(3): 345-378.

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3.6 Nichter, Mark and Mimi Nichter (1996) Popular Perceptions of Medicine: A South Indian Case Study. In *Anthropology and International Health*. Amsterdam : OPA. Chapter7 (Pages 203-237)

3.7 Das, Veena, R.K. Das and Lester Coutinho (2000) Disease Control and Immunization: A Sociological Enquiry. In *Economic and Political Weekly*, Feb. 19-26. Pages 625-632.

3.8 Qadeer, Imrana (2011) Public Health In India, Delhi: Danish Publishers, Part III, (Pages 221-252).

Suggested Reading:

Good, Byron (1994) *Medicine, Rationality and Experience: An Anthropological Perspective.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 6. (Pages 135- 165).

Annandale, Ellen (1988) *The Sociology of Health and Medicine.* Cambridge: Polity Press.

Banerji, Debabar (1984) The Political Economy of Western Medicine in Third World Countries. In (ed.) John McKinlay *Issues in the Political Economy of Healthcare*. New York*:* Tavistock.

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