



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Gender and Health - 75410

Last update 22-01-2015

HU Credits: 1

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Faculty of Medicine

Academic year: 2

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Ein Karem

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Alex Gural

Coordinator Email: <mailto:GURAL@HADASSAH.ORG.IL>

Coordinator Office Hours:

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Adi Finkelstein

Course/Module description:

Feminist scholars argue that physical health and mental health of women is not only derived from biological factors, but also influenced by social factors such as the world of work, economic status, social expectations and cultural norms. How do norms, expectations and conventions regarding women affect the physical and mental health? How do gender perceptions shape medical practice and scientific thinking?

Course/Module aims:

The course aim is to open to students a window into the study of Sociology and Anthropology of Health. This course will focus on issues related to women's health. But if possible we will also examples related to social and cultural aspects of health and mental health of men. Special emphasis will be on examples relevant to Israeli society.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

With completion of this course students should be able to identify and analyze cultural and social aspects of health. They must recognize main examples studied in the course, be able to find new examples from daily life and analyze them critically.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Students' presentations, lectures and discussions.

Course/Module Content:

Introduction - What is gender? What are the social and cultural aspects of health and medicine? ; Perception of illness in terms of gender; Social and economic aspects and their impact on women's health; Social and cultural aspects of fertility and motherhood; gender aspects of medicine and science; 'Gender Medicine'.

Required Reading:

Lorber, J. and Jean Moore, L. (2002). Gender and the Social Construction of illness. Altamira press. Ch. 1 .

Martin, E. (1994). "Medical Metaphors of Women's Bodies: Menstruation and

Menopause", in: Elizabeth Fee & Nancy Kriger (eds): *Women's Health, Politics, and Power*. New York: Baywood Publishing Company Inc.

Remennick, L and Raanan, O. (2000). *Institutional and attitudinal factors involved in higher mortality of Israeli women after coronary bypass surgery: Another case of gender bias*. *Health* 4(4), 455-478.

Sternberg, B and Wall, S. (1995). *Why do women report "sick building symptoms" more often than men?* *Social Science and Medicine*, 40(4): 491-502.

Additional Reading Material:

McDonough, p. et al. (1999). *Gender and the Socio-Economic Gradient in Mortality*. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 40(March) 17-31.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 15 %

Participation in Tutorials 5 %

Project work 80 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

n/a