



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### ***SOCIAL ASPECTS OF HEALTH AND DISEASE - 98408***

*Last update 15-10-2019*

*HU Credits:* 2

*Degree/Cycle:* 2nd degree (Master)

*Responsible Department:* Public Health

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 1st Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* Ein Karem

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Dr. Emma Averbuch

*Coordinator Email:* [emes37@yahoo.com](mailto:emes37@yahoo.com)

*Coordinator Office Hours:* TBA

*Teaching Staff:*

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Ms. Emma Khurgina

Course/Module description:

*This course is designed to provide students with basic concepts in the field of sociology of health and medicine, to provide a contextual and comparative understanding of the modern medical establishment and to expose the students to the latest developments which the medical establishment and healthcare service markets are undergoing.*

*During the course we will discuss such topics as: the theoretical foundations and history of medical sociology, social construction of the knowledge and practice of medicine, different models of health, a sociological view of the medical profession, social determinants of health and health inequalities, alternative medicine as a challenge to the dominance of bio-medicine, social and cultural construction of health and illness and risk factors to health, gender and health, cultural competition in health care etc. About a third of the course will be devoted to the application of these theoretical topics in the Israeli context.*

Course/Module aims:

*The overall goal is to develop critical sociological thinking through the prism of the fields of health and medicine and learn how to apply it in professional fields.*

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

- *Explain, with the use of examples, the main spheres of application of medical sociology*
- *Describe the differences between different approaches to social research of medicine*
- *Develop critical thinking about concepts of health and disease and modern medical practice*
- *Describe, with use of examples, the origin of gaps in health indicators between different social and cultural groups generally and in Israel in particular*
- *Explain the critical role of social factors in health*

Attendance requirements(%):

80

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, discussions, videos.*

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### Course/Module Content:

1. Introduction: Theoretic Perspectives on Health and Medicine
2. Medical Models
3. Sociology of health professions
4. Medicine as an instrument of political and social control
5. Alternative and Integrative Medicine
6. Illness in its cultural and social context
7. Inequalities in Health
8. Gender and Health
9. Society, Culture and Health in Israel
10. Health Professions in Israel
11. Health and Medicine in a Multicultural society
12. Inequalities in health and Health Care in Israel
13. Health and Immigration
14. Summary

### Required Reading:

- Larson, James S. 1999. "The Conceptualization of Health". *Medical Care Research and Review* 56, 2:123-136
- Coburn, David. 2001. "The Medical Profession," in *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*. Eds. Neil J. Smelser, and Paul B. Bates. 26 vols. Amsterdam: Elsevier, 14: 9523-9530
- Callister Lynn Clark, 2003. "Cultural Influences on Pain Perceptions and Behaviors" *Home Health Care Management & Practice*, Vol. 15, No. 3, 207-211 (2003)
- Kawachi I, Subramanian SV, Almeida-Filho N. 2002. "A glossary for health inequalities". *J Epidemiol Community Health* 56:647-52
- Reiff M., Zakut H., Weingarten M. 1999. "Illness and Treatment Perceptions of Ethiopian Immigrants and Their Doctors in Israel", *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 89 Issue 12, pp.1814-1818.

### Additional Reading Material:

- William, C. Cockerham and Graham Scambler. 2010. "Medical sociology and sociological theory" in *The New Blackwell Companion to Medical Sociology* edited by W.C. Cockerham. London, Blackwell Publishers Ltd. Pp.1-26
- Seidelman W. 1996. "Nuremberg lamenation: for the forgotten victims of medical science", in *British Medical Journal* vol. 313 (7070):1463-5.
- Shuval Judith T. and Emma Averbuch. 2014. *Alternative and Bio-Medicine in Israel: Boundaries and Bridges*. Resling, Tel-Aviv.
- David R. Williams. 2003. "The Health of Men: Structured Inequalities and Opportunities", in *American Journal of Public Health*, vol. 93(5): 724-731.
- Shuval J, Anson O. 2001. *Social structure and health in Israel*. Jerusalem: Magnes Press. (Hebrew)

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Ben Natan Merav, Meir Oren. 2011. "The Essence of Nursing in the Shifting Reality of Israel Today", *J Issues Nurs.* 16 (2)

Averbuch E, Avni S.2015. *Inequality and coping with it.*Jerusalem, Ministry of Health (Hebrew).

Remennick Larissa. 2008. "Subjective Health, Aging, and Menopause among Native and Immigrant Jewish Women in Israel", *Women and Health* 47(1): 65-82.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 100 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: