Social Epidemiology and Global Mental Health

Prof. Mansoo Yu, University of Missouri

SHORT COURSE DESCRIPTION

As a scientific discipline, epidemiology is the study of the distribution and determinants of health in populations. The application of this study is to improve health outcomes. As a branch of epidemiology, social epidemiology focuses on studying social and structural factors that contribute to states of health. This course introduces students to the field of social epidemiology to describe frequencies, distributions, or patterns for mental health issues across the globe. Students also discuss etiology of mental health issues in countries where they are interested. The overall goal of this course is to ensure that students will be able to apply social epidemiology concepts to mental health practice/policy. This course is intended to provide a general instruction to the core social epidemiological factors that influence the mental health status of individual and populations. This will be achieved through an interactive, applied approach which allows the student to comprehend the course content through multiple methods of learning. Students are expected to listen to one another and respect diverse thought and opinions.

READING MATERIALS

No textbook is required. All reading materials will be available prior to class in PDF format.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Class Attendance Policy: The expectation is that students will attend every session and participate in class discussions and activities. Without prior notice, one missing class will result in a deduction of one point. Class periods will start and end at the prescribed times. Late arrivals and early departures by students can disrupt the class, so promptness is appreciated. Students should notice to the instructor if they have to be late or leave early. Otherwise, two times of late arrivals or early departures will result in one point deduction from attendance grade. Please note that SKKU regulations require students attend at least 80% of all classes.

Class Participation Policy: Active participation and full preparation are expected. All students will have the opportunity to take the lead on class discussions to cover reading assignments. In order to obtain the full participation points, at least two participations in class discussions throughout the semester are required.

Grading Criteria

*Case Study	20 pts
*Exam	20 pts
*Mental Health Measurement	20 pts
*Web of Causation	20 pts
Class Attendance	10 pts
Class Participation	10 pts
Total	100 pts

A guide will be discussed in class.

Grading scale is either Pass (60 pts or above) or Fail (59 pts or below). If students need a letter grade, please reach out to the instructor. We use the following scale for a letter grade:
A+ (99 or more), A (98.9-93.0 points), A- (92.9-90.0 points), B+ (89.9-86.0 points), B (85.9-83.0 points), B- (82.9-80.0 points), C+ (79.9-76.0 points), C (75.9-73.0 points), C- (72.9-70.0 points), D+ (69.9-66.0

*points), D (65.9-63.0 points), D- (62.9-60.0 points: **D- or above: Pass**), F (**59.9 or below--Fail**).*

For the paper assignments, it is recommended to use double spacing with a 12-point font. You may use external sources to complete the assignment. For external references, please use APA 7th style for citations.
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html

Academic Integrity Policy: The academic community considers academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, or quoting, please consult with me.

COURSE SCHEDULE

– WEEK I –

<u>Monday (1 July)</u>
Introduction & Class Overview
What is Social Epidemiology?

<u>Tuesday (2 July)</u>
Historic developments in epidemiology
John Snow class activity

<u>Wednesday (3 July)</u>
Practical disease concepts

<u>Thursday (4 July)</u>
Prevention strategies: Primary, secondary and tertiary

– WEEK II –

<u>Monday (8 July)</u>
Design strategies and methods in descriptive epidemiology

Assignment: Mental health measurement due

<u>Tuesday (9 July)</u>
Direct & indirect methods practice

<u>Wednesday (10 July)</u>
Descriptive epidemiology according to person, place, and time

Thursday (11 July)
General health and population indicators

– WEEK III –

Monday (15 July)
Exam

Tuesday (16 July)
Case studies: Global mental health

Wednesday (17 July)
Case studies: Global mental health

Thursday (18 July)
Causality—Web of causation

– WEEK IV–

Monday (22 July)
Web of Causation Project I

Tuesday (23 July)
Web of Causation Project II

Web of Causation Presentation due

Wednesday (24 July)
Web of Causation presentation, Course wrap-up