

## **Name of the course: The Sociology of Healthcare and Medicine**

Code: AOKMAG425\_1A

ECTS credits: 2

### **CONTACTS**

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Study affairs: Bence Döbrössy [dobrossy.bence@med.semmelweis-univ.hu](mailto:dobrossy.bence@med.semmelweis-univ.hu)

Exemptions: See <http://semmelweis.hu/magtud/en/education/exemptions-faq/>

### **Aim of the course:**

By the mid to late 20th century, the biomedical model in medicine was replaced by the biopsychosocial model. There are biological, psychological and social factors in the background of illness. This is the approach we take in this course in looking at various aspects of health, illness and medical work. Our aim is to introduce future medical doctors to the social factors they must be familiar with in working with patients. Topics include social stratification and health inequalities, the principles of health care systems, medicalisation and the changing medical profession, illness behaviour, intercultural issues in health care as well as the challenges of digital health.

### **Competencies enhanced by the course:**

- Helping students acquire familiarity with the social environment which is necessary before meeting patients for the first time and all the way through the process of medical work.
- Enabling students to understand the social and cultural factors that influence the health and illness related decisions patients make.
- Sensitising students to the social determinants of health and illness behaviour through analysing cases.
- Assisting students in comprehending the social and cultural aspects of systems of health care provision
- Enhancing the students' ability to plan and carry out research and function in small teams as part of the research work undertaken as part of the course

### **Structure of the course:**

The course starts with 7 lectures. The aim is to introduce some important and thought provoking topics in a stimulating way. The lectures are held in the Hevessy lecture hall in the EOK building on Thursdays from 13.30-15.00. There are no practicals in week 1-7, just lectures.

**Week 1: 3, February** Introduction to medical sociology, basic concepts and principles. (lecture Bence Döbrössy)

**Week 2: 10, February** Health and illness in society, a historical transformation of mortality and morbidity patterns. (lecture Bence Döbrössy)

Read chapter 1 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 3: 17, February** Social stratification, social inequalities and health (lecture Bence Döbrössy )

Read chapter 8 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 4: 24, February** The challenges of digital health (lecture Dr Zsuzsa Gyórfy )

Read chapter 15 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 5 3, March:** Health care systems (Lecture Dr Edmond Girasek)

Read chapter 16 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 6 10, March** Intercultural healthcare (lecture Bence Döbrössy )

Read chapter 10 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 7 17, March** Sociology and COVID 19- a revision class (Lecture Dr. Edmond Girasek- Bence Döbrössy)

**Week 8 21- 25** March Preparation for project work and for health care system workshop (practical)

**Week 9 28 March - 1 April** Health care systems workshop (practical)

**Week 10 4-8 April** Global poverty and inequalities, Inequalities and health- social class (practical)

**Week 11 11- 15 April** Spring break

**Week 12 19-22 April** Inequalities and health: age, ethnicity and gender (practical) **No classes on Monday**

Read chapter 9 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 13 25-29 April** The doctor- patient relationship in the 21st century (practical)

Read chapter 5 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 14 2-6 May** Illness behaviour (practical)

Read chapter 4 of Graham Scrambler (ed) Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine

**Week 15 9-13 May** The challenges of health care professionals- coping with stress (practical)

**Practicals start in week 8**

group	day	time	location	teacher	teacher's e-mail
EM11	Friday	9.40-11.10	GMFEOK-SZEM-2	Dr. Julia Boros	juliboros14@gmail.com
EM12	Tuesday	1300-1430	NET-SZ.1	Dr. Edmond Girasek	girasek.edmond@semmelweis-univ.hu

Em13	Thursday	940-1110	EOK 6	Dr. Edmond Girasek	girasek.edmond@semmelweis-univ.hu
Em14	Monday	13.00-1430	GMFEOK-SZEM-0	Bence Döbrössy	dobrossy.bence@med.semmelweis-univ.hu
Em15	Thursday	11:40-13:10	EOK 1	Bence Döbrössy	dobrossy.bence@med.semmelweis-univ.hu
EM16	Thursday	08:00-09:30	GMFEOK-SZEM-6	Dr. Julia Boros	juliboros14@gmail.com
Em17	Thursday	14:35-16:05	GMFEOK-SZEM-6	Bence Döbrössy	dobrossy.bence@med.semmelweis-univ.hu
Em18	Tuesday	09:40-11:10	NET-SZ.01	Dr. Edmond Girasek	girasek.edmond@semmelweis-univ.hu
Em19	Tuesday	10:00-11:30	NET-SZ.09	Bence Döbrössy	dobrossy.bence@med.semmelweis-univ.hu
EM20	Tuesday	1010.1340	GMFEOK-SZEM-2	Lea Pöiczman	polczmanlea@gmail.com

### **Requirements for getting the signature:**

Participation in at least 75% of the practicals and completion of the project work

### **Project work:**

Student will be given topic related tasks during the practicals which they will have to complete in groups in order to get the signature.

The tasks will involve finding topic related data in class, interpreting it and presenting it to the group, relating the topics discussed in class to the students' own countries and experiences and sharing it with others, reading articles and summarising them and participating in games and activities. More information will be provided separately.

### **Assessment:**

Written final exam to be held during the examination period consisting of multiple choice questions, true or false questions and an essay type case analysis based on lecture materials and the textbook.

Grades:

0-50 points - 1

51- 60 points -2

61-74 points -3

75-84 points -4

85 points and over- 5

### **Study material for the exam:**

Graham Scrambler (ed) *Sociology as Applied to Health and Medicine*, Palgrave Macmillan  
2018- selected chapters only.

Lecture notes and handouts posted on Moodle