

HLTH AGE 1AA3: INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH AND SOCIETY

Winter 2023

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Lecture: Tues.,Thur., Fri. 2:30 -3:20
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Contents

Course Description.....	3
Course Objectives.....	3
Required Materials and Texts	3
Class Format.....	4
Course Evaluation – Overview.....	5
Course Evaluation – Details.....	5
Assignment 1: Online quiz on Avenue (5%), due by Feb. 27th, 2023.....	5
Assignment 2: Tutorial attendance and participation (20%).....	5
Assignment 3: Small group tutorial presentation/discussions (10%)	5
Assignment 4: Draft Paper (10%), due Feb. 17th, 2023	6
Assignment 5: Formal Paper (20%), due March 24 th , 2023	6
Assignment 6: Final Exam (35%).....	7
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings	7
Week 1 (Jan. 10, 12 & 13).....	7
Week 2 (Jan. 17, 19, 20)	8
Week 3 (Jan. 21, 26, 27)	8
Week 4 (Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 3).....	8
Week 5 (Feb. 7, 9, 10).....	9
Week 6 (Feb. 14, 16, 17).....	9
Week 7 (Feb. 20 th to the 24 th)	9
Week 8 (Feb. 28, March 2, 3).....	10
Week 9 (March 7, 9, 10)	10
Week 10 (March 14, 16, 17).....	10
Week 11 (March 21, 23, 24).....	11
Week 12 (March 28, 30, 31).....	11

Week 13 (April 4, 6, {No class April 7 Good Friday})	11
Week 14 (April 11)	11
Course Policies	12
Technical Requirements	12
Submission of Assignments.....	12
Grades.....	12
Late Assignments	12
Course Modification	12
University Policies	12
Academic Integrity	12
Authenticity / Plagiarism Detection	13
Courses with an On-line Element	13
Online Proctoring.....	14
Conduct Expectations.....	14
Academic Accommodation of Students With Disabilities	14
Requests For Relief For Missed Academic Term Work.....	14
Academic Accommodation For Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)	14
Copyright And Recording.....	15
Extreme Circumstances.....	15
Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy	15

Course Description

This course introduces students to the study of health, illness and health care from social, cultural, political and economic perspectives. Its objectives are to encourage students to think critically about relevant health and health care issues. The aim is not to find definitive answers but to develop an informed and open-minded stance. Overall, the course is intended to prepare students for higher level courses with the Department of Health, Aging and Society.

Given the range of possible topics, the instructor reserves the right to make decisions regarding course content alterations as the term progresses. Students will be encouraged to relate all materials, theories, themes, concepts and issues to their own experiences. Open forums of discussion are encouraged so that students may develop an objective and critical stance given the status of health, aging and society.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Think critically about the social determinants of health.
- Discuss the theoretical approaches to health studies.
- Analyze and identify the impact of historical and present-day values on our everyday health.
- Research, debate and write a comprehensive paper related to health studies issues.
- Differentiate and distinguish various systems of health care globally.
- Articulate a critical stance on health and well-being and evaluate the status of Canadians within this context regarding their hopes and dreams for a healthy future.

Required Materials and Texts

- Custom courseware. Hlth Age 1AA3: Introduction to Health Studies. (2023)
- This courseware is available on Avenue, under Content, under e-Reserves free of charge
- Gillett, James. (2011). *A grassroots history of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in North America*. Spokane, Washington: Marquette Books LLC.

Suggested:

- Gillett, J., Andrews, G.J., Savelli, M., (2016). *Health and society: critical perspectives*. Oxford University Press: Canada.
- Northey, M., Tepperman, L., & Albanese, P. (2012). *Making sense (8th ed.)*. Canada: Alfred A. Knopf.

Class Format

Lectures will be given in person in the regular class time on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 2:30 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. As the term unfolds, we will cancel the Friday class so that we may begin your tutorial sessions. The Friday class may be re-activated if necessary. I have posted the Friday classes throughout the course outline as this time slot may be re-activated, if necessary, to address weather issues, clarify work, review course work or schedule presentations. This time slot must be kept available by you for our use for the course.

The lectures given will be recorded but not available immediately on Avenue as a podcast. Students are required to take notes of the lectures for their study purposes. The podcasts are to be used to shore up notes only and will only be made available over spring break and a week before the final exam. If a lecture recording fails, there will simply be no podcast to review, and no notes will be available. It is the responsibility of the student to make notes on the lectures. The podcasts are not intended as a means of long-distance learning, and again may I say they will only be made available intermittently during the course.

The tutorial time slots you will be assigned are as follows:

T01 – Wed. 9:30 p.m. – 10:20 p.m.	ABB162
T02 – Wed. 8:30 p.m.– 9:20 p.m.	MDCL 1010
T03 – Tues. 8:30 p.m. – 9:20 p.m.	BSB B155
T04 – Mon. 4:30 a.m. – 5:20 p.m.	BSB B154
T05 – Tues. 1:30 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.	ETB 230
T06 – Tues. 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	BSB 105
T07 – Mon. 3:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.	ETB 230
T08 - Fri. 3:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.	ABB 162
T09 – Fri. 10:30 p.m. – 11:20 p.m.	ABB 270

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. Online quiz on Avenue - 5%, due Feb. 27th or earlier
2. Tutorial attendance and participation -20%
3. Small group tutorial presentation/discussions – 10%
4. Draft Paper – 10%, due Feb. 17th online and a hard copy
5. Formal Paper- 20%, due March 24th online and a hard copy
6. Final Exam - 35%

Course Evaluation – Details

Assignment 1: Online quiz on Avenue (5%), due by Feb. 27th, 2023

This is an online quiz about plagiarism and writing papers. As you progress through the quiz, you will encounter links for you to review. You have multiple attempts to complete the quiz so that you may **score a perfect mark 46/46 on the first 46 questions to receive the 5 grades allotted to this exercise. No part marks will be distributed.** The deadline for successfully completing the quiz will be Feb. 27th, 2023

Assignment 2: Tutorial attendance and participation (20%)

Students can receive up to **10%** for **attendance** at all tutorials.

Students who **actively participate in a meta-analytical manner** in tutorials can receive up to another **10%**.

Students are asked to put all cell phones away during tutorials. Students in violation of this request will be penalized and lose participation grades for negative participation.

Assignment 3: Small group tutorial presentation/discussions (10%)

Students will form small groups of 2-3 (depending on the number of students in the tutorial) and present **researched, analytical arguments** for their position on a topic related to the course. Each group will select a topic from the list of options in Appendix A [note that many of these broadly relate to the sections in the Gillett (et al) text, the Gillett text, courseware or lectures and will be made available on Avenue]. Each person in the group will present their specific position. This should take approximately 5 - 10 minutes and each person will be marked individually. Each person must present a position that differs in content from the other person presenting with them. Groups will present their arguments to the entire tutorial during their assigned week. Each group of individual presentations need not be more than 20 minutes long all combined (including discussion time). After all the presentations, the presenters will answer questions from the floor. Specific students in the tutorial will be asked to begin this part of the tutorial discussion with a well thought out set of questions (note this random selection of participants to raise questions is also to count as part of a student's participation grade). The remaining students in the tutorial may then voice their questions.

Each student presenting must submit an outline of their presentation along with at least three peer-reviewed references used in the presentation (texts or peer reviewed journal articles only and these must be properly referenced APA style) no later than noon the day before their scheduled presentation. It is to be e-mailed to their tutorial leader. If a student fails to meet this requirement, marks will be lost for lateness.

Students need not use power point or visual aids.

Assignment 4: Draft Paper (10%), due Feb. 17th, 2023

Students who choose to do the same topic for their presentation and present together in tutorial must present their own material and write their own draft paper based on their own individual research. However, you may opt to choose a topic other than what you completed for your presentation/discussion with the approval of your tutorial leader (the list of topics is in Appendix A and available on Avenue under Content. The **draft paper** will include your **thesis statement and one or two arguments** supporting your position on the topic (this should be approximately two to two and a half pages excluding the title page and reference page). Your teaching assistant will provide **feedback on content, structure and style**. Students will then have an opportunity to improve their written work based on this feedback prior to posting the **final and full paper which includes all your arguments/discussion addressing your topic**.

The paper is to have a cover page with the title of the assignment as a running heading with then five spaces and the page number (see Avenue for the template), the title of your topic, your name and ID number, course name and number, instructor's name, tutorial leader's name, tutorial section i.e., Tutorial 4, your name, and the due date.

You must also attach a reference page listing at least three peer reviewed references used in the draft paper and then others since incorporated in completing the draft paper (texts and journal articles only and properly referenced APA style).

DUE DATE: Draft paper – Feb. 17th, 2023.

Late papers will be penalized three (3) grades per day including weekends. The paper must be copied into the drop box on Avenue for marking. Late submission to the drop box may also be penalized three (3) grades per day including weekends.

Assignment 5: Formal Paper (20%), due March 24th, 2023

Building on your draft paper and the comments provided, students will be expected to submit a 5 page '**Formal Paper**' (this is five pages excluding the cover page and bibliography). You will need to **connect your thoughts to the course material,**

text/courseware and other academic literature. Remember that the paper is to discuss your topic and draw some insightful conclusions.

You must submit at least **six to eight peer reviewed references** used in the formal paper (texts or journal articles only and properly referenced APA style).

The paper will be marked on content (analytical depth, coverage/breadth, and range of sources) structure (organization, logic, flow) and style (APA style, spelling, grammar) This rubric will be discussed in tutorials and a copy will be available on Avenue.

The paper is to be submitted on the due date as specified in the course outline below.

The paper is to have a cover page with the title of the assignment (Formal Paper), the title of your topic, students name and ID number, instructor's name, tutorial leaders name, tutorial section i.e., Tutorial 4, and the due date (see template on Avenue).

DUE DATE: Final Formal Paper is due March 24th, 2023. This is the only time papers will be accepted without specific documentation for special consideration for lateness. A copy must be uploaded to the Assignment folder on Avenue for marking. Late papers will be penalized three (3) grades per day including weekends.

Assignment 6: Final Exam (35%)

A multiple-choice final exam (the exam may include some critical thinking true and false questions) will be written during the exam period as scheduled by the Registrar's office. It will be based on the content of the lectures, videos viewed, and readings for the course. We will be doing practice questions near the end of term

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1 (Jan. 10, 12 & 13)

Course Outline: Introduction to Health Studies and Critical Thinking

Readings from the courseware:

- Jackson, W. (1995). "Key Methodological Approaches in the Social Sciences"
- Stone, D. (2002). "Excerpts From Policy Paradox: The Art of Political Decision Making"

Suggested Readings for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapter 1 (pgs. 5-7, Pg. 10)

Week 2 (Jan. 17, 19, 20)

Introduction to Health Studies: Culture, Health and Health Care

Readings from the courseware:

- Kleinman, A. (1980). "Health Care Systems as Forms of Social and Symbolic Reality: The Cultural Construction of Clinical Reality"
- Kleinman, A. (1980). "Inner Structure of Health Care Systems"
- Jackson, W. (1995). "Key Methodological Approaches in the Social Sciences"
- Stone, D. (2002). "Excerpts From Policy Paradox: The Art of Political Decision Making"

Suggested Readings for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapters 2, 3 & 4. Chapter 2 pgs. 22 -24, Chapter 3 pgs. 35 – 49.

Thursday the 19th there will be a special presentation by the Librarians on how to research a paper and use the Library databases as well as how to cite and reference APA style. Many find this very useful information.

Week 3 (Jan. 21, 26, 27)

Culture, Health and Health Care (cont'd)

Readings from the courseware:

- Kleinman, A. (1980). "Health Care Systems as Forms of Social and Symbolic Reality: The Cultural Construction of Clinical Reality"
- Kleinman, A. (1980). "Inner Structure of Health Care Systems"
- Jackson, W. (1995). "Key Methodological Approaches in the Social Sciences"
- Stone, D. (2002). "Excerpts From Policy Paradox: The Art of Political Decision Making"

Suggested Readings for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapter 4, pgs. 66 – 72

Week 4 (Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 3)

Historical and Modern Medical Culture

Readings from the courseware:

- Davis-Floyd, R.E. (1997). "Gender and Ritual: Giving Birth the American Way"

Suggested Readings for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapter 3, pgs. 36 - 49

Notes:

- Assignments: Group 1 and 2 discussions.

Week 5 (Feb. 7, 9, 10)

Fear and Illness Across Culture; Mental Health

Readings from the courseware:

- Boddy, J. (1992). "Comment on the Proposed DSM-IV Criteria for Trance and Possession Disorder"
- Ward, M. (1999). "Excerpts from A World Full of Women"

Suggested reading for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapter 4, pgs. 72 -77

Notes:

- Assignments: Group 3 and 4 discussions.

Week 6 (Feb. 14, 16, 17)

Fear and Illness Across Culture; Mental Health

Readings from the courseware:

- Boddy, J. (1992). "Comment on the Proposed DSM-IV Criteria for Trance and Possession Disorder"
- Ward, M. (1999). "Excerpts from A World Full of Women"

Suggested reading for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapter 4, pgs. 72 -77

Notes:

- Assignments: Group 3 and 4 discussions.

Week 7 (Feb. 20th to the 24th)

SPRING BREAK - CATCH UP ON YOUR WORK 😊😊😊

Week 8 (Feb. 28, March 2, 3)

The Canadian Health Care System

Readings from the courseware:

- Taylor, M.G. (1978). "Chapter One: The 1945 Health Insurance Proposals: Policymaking for Post-war Canada"
- Hans-Ulrich Deppe. (2009). "The Nature of Health Care: Commodification versus Solidarity"
- Segall, A. & Chappell, N. (2002). "Chapter 3: Social Structure and Health"

Suggested reading for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapters 5, 9 and 10

Notes:

- Assignments: Group 7 and 8 discussions.

Week 9 (March 7, 9, 10)

Population and Public Health

Readings from the courseware:

- Albritton, R. (2009). "Between Obesity and Hunger: The Capitalist Food Industry"

Suggested reading for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapter 10, pgs. 184 - 191

Notes:

- Assignments: Groups 9 and 10 discussions.

Week 10 (March 14, 16, 17)

Pharmaceuticals and Privatization

Readings from the courseware:

- Robinson, J. (2001) "Big Pharma"

Suggested reading for Gillett, Andrews and Savelli text:

- Chapter 12

Notes:

- Assignments: Groups 11 and 12 discussions.

Week 11 (March 21, 23, 24)

Global and International Health

Readings:

- Gillett, James. (2011). A grassroots history of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in North America. Spokane, Washington: Marquette Books LLC.

Notes:

- Assignments: Group 13 and 14 discussions.
- **FORMAL PAPERS DUE: FORMAL PAPERS ARE DUE MARCH 24TH**
- **Post you paper on Avenue in the Assignments Folder**

Week 12 (March 28, 30, 31)

Aids and Mobilization: A Private and Public Effort

Readings:

- Gillett, James. (2011). A grassroots history of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in North America. Spokane, Washington: Marquette Books LLC.

Notes:

- Assignments: Group 15 and 16 discussions.

Week 13 (April 4, 6, {No class April 7 Good Friday})

Aids and Mobilization: A Private and Public Effort

Readings:

- Gillett, James. (2011). A grassroots history of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in North America. Spokane, Washington: Marquette Books LLC.

Notes:

- Assignments: Group 17 and 18 discussions.

Week 14 (April 11)

Wrap up and review

Notes:

- **Test and examination ban period – Wednesday, April 6th to Wednesday, April 13th (no tests or exams may be held during class time)**

Course Policies

Technical Requirements

This course will have materials, announcements, grades etc. posted online using [Avenue to Learn](#) (aka Avenue) - McMaster's online learning management system. System and software requirements can be found at <http://avenue.mcmaster.ca>

Submission of Assignments

Please note the instructions for submission of work listed under the [Course Evaluation – Overview](#) and under [Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings](#) sections. All items are clearly noted with regard to the due date and protocol for submission

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

As stated in the course outline under [Course Evaluation – Overview](#), all late papers, presentations etc. will lose 3 grades per day including weekends

Course Modification

The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course during the term. If any modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

University Policies

Academic Integrity

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and

academic integrity. **It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.**

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/), located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- improper collaboration in group work.
- copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Authenticity / Plagiarism Detection

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g., A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software.

All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster’s use of Turnitin.com please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

Courses with an On-line Element

Some courses may use on-line elements (e.g., e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used.

Continuation in a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Online Proctoring

Some courses may use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

Conduct Expectations

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g., use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

Academic Accommodation of Students With Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

Requests For Relief For Missed Academic Term Work

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the [Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work](#).

Academic Accommodation For Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](#) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office **normally within 10 working days** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar’s Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

Copyright And Recording

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors.

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

Extreme Circumstances

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.