This course is intended to introduce students to the field of medical sociology. Medical sociology is the scientific study of the social causes and consequences of health and illness, as well as the ways in which social positions and social structures influence provider-patient interactions, access to care, and the framing of “disease.”

Course Requirements:

- **Participation (10%) and Attendance**: Participation and attendance in class is mandatory. Failing to contribute to course discussions and arriving unprepared will result in a failing grade. Attendance, without active participation will result in a 10% deduction in your grade.

- **Discussion leading (10%)**: Twice a semester, you will be required to prepare five discussion questions for the course based upon the week’s assigned readings. You are required to send out these questions NO LATER than Tuesday 5 pm before the Thursday class meeting.

- **Critical Reviews (30%)**: You are required to write response paper 4 weeks of the course. These are to be 2-3 pages that synthesize the assigned readings for that week. These critiques are intended to help you help each other grasp the ideas and implications of the readings. Components of these reviews must include: (a) a summary of the theoretical position of the author and her/his core points and arguments; (b) brief reflections on its relationship to the other material assigned for that session, and how it relates to readings encountered earlier in the course (e.g., theoretically consonant—if so, how; in disagreement—if so, how; elaboration of another’s argument; etc.) Depending upon the length of the reading, reviews should be 2-3 pages. During class you may be asked to briefly and concisely present your review in the course of discussion.

- **Presentation (10%)**: You are required to present your grant proposal to the class at the end of the semester.

- **Grant Proposal (40%)**: You will be required to write a five-page NSF style grant proposal (JUST FOCUSED ON INTRO, LIT REVIEW, RESEARCH QUESTIONS). This grant proposal should pertain to your own research interests and will prepare you for NSF proposal submission. We will spend time in class discussing grant-writing strategies, including developing both testable research questions and analytic strategies. You will turn in drafts of the proposal throughout the semester.

**Wk 1: August 22nd - Intro**

Rosich KJ & Hankin JR. 2010. “Executive summary: What do we know? Key findings from 50
years of medical sociology.” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51: S1-S9


**Wk 2: August 29th - Context**

Eric Klinenbenberg, *Heat Wave, A Social Autopsy*


**Wk 3: September 5th NO CLASS.**

**First assignment due**

**Wk 4: September 12th –Medicalization(ish)**

Reich, Jennifer. *Calling the Shots*.


**Wk 5: September 19th – Gender and Health**


**Wk 6: September 26th  Gender/Sex Cont,**

Davis, Georgianne *Contesting Intersex*


**Wk 7: October 3rd  NO CLASS**

**Assignment 2 is due**

**Wk 8: October 10th – NO CLASS (fall break)**

**Wk 9: October 17th – Life Course**


**Wk 10: October 24th  – Minority Stress**


Wk 11: October 31st – Race & Immigration


Wk 12: November 7th – Capital (social, and otherwise) and Health


Wk 13: November 14th – Genes & The Environment


**Wk 14: November 21st – Just a Really Good Book!**

**Assignment 3 Due**

Mojola, S. 2016. *Love, Money, and HIV: Becoming a Modern African Woman in the Age of AIDS.*

**Wk 15: November 28th**

No Class- Thanksgiving

**Wk 16: December 5th**

Final Presentations

**University Policies**

1. *The Americans with Disabilities Act.* The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

2. *University Safety Statement.* The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

3. *Addressing Sexual Misconduct.* Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender
identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas under Announcements.