

Reading List: Sociology of Health

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This list is intended as a general guide to assist you in preparation for the Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination in Sociology of Health. The list is organized according to basic theoretical, conceptual, and empirical areas of study in the field. It is neither exhaustive nor comprehensive. Students are expected to keep up with new publications (books and journal articles) and new ideas. Students should, for example, review new research appearing in such journals as *Journal of Health & Social Behavior*, *Sociology of Health & Illness*, and *Social Science & Medicine*. It will also help to review readings from the Disparities in Health and Healthcare course. Additionally, each student is expected to concentrate in an area of study of her or his particular interest. This will involve constructing your own bibliography in your chosen area of specialization. You must develop your list in consultation with a faculty member on the exam committee. Your concentration should consist of *at least* one page of readings, and should constitute the most important texts in the sub-area. Please refer to the supplemental list to begin your development of a concentration.

I. CLASSICS IN SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH

Foucault, M. (1975). *The Birth of the Clinic: An Archeology of Medical Perception*. New York: Random House.

Bosk, C. (1979). *Forgive and Remember: Managing medical failure*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Dubos, R. (1959). *Mirage of Health*. New York: Harper and Row.

Friedson, E. (1970). *Profession of Medicine: A Study of the Sociology of Applied Knowledge*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Starr, P. (1982). *The social transformation of American medicine*. New York: Basic.

Parsons, T. (1951). "Social Structure and Dynamic Process: The Case of Modern Medical Practice." In *The Social System*, 428-47. (Glencoe, IL: Free Press).

II. OVERVIEW

Bloom, S. W. (2002). *The Word as Scalpel: A History of Medical Sociology*. Oxford: Oxford

University Press

Hankin, J. R. and Wright, E. R. (2010). "Reflections on Fifty Years of Medical Sociology". *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51: 10-15.

Cockerham, W. C. (2013). "Sociological Theory in Medical Sociology in the Early Twenty-First Century." *Social Theory & Health* 11(3): 241-255.

III. SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Conrad, P., & Barker, K. K. (2010). "The social construction of illness: Key insights and policy implications." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(1_suppl): S67-S79.

House, J. S. (2002). "Understanding social factors and inequalities in health: 20th century progress and 21st century prospects." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 43(2): 125-142.

Link, B. and Phelan, J. (1995). "Social Conditions as Fundamental Causes of Disease." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (Extra Issue): 80-94.

Phelan, J. Link, B. and Tehranifar, P. (2010). "Social Conditions as Fundamental Causes of Health Inequalities: Theory, Evidence, and Policy Implications." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 51: S28-S40 .

Spencer, K. L. and Grace, M. (2016). "Social Foundations of Health Care Inequality and Treatment Bias." *Annual Review of Sociology* 42:101–120.

Williams, G. (2003). "The determinants of health: structure, context and agency." *Sociology of Health and Illness* 25(3): 131-154.

Race

Bratter, J. L., and Gorman, B. K. (2011). "Is Discrimination an Equal Opportunity Risk? Racial Experiences, Socioeconomic Status, and Health Status among Black and White Adults." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 52(3): 365-382.

Epstein, S. 2007. *Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research*. Chicago.

Fausto-Sterling, A. 2008. "The Bare Bones of Race." *Social Studies of Science* 38(5).

Ford, C. L. and Airhihenbuwa, C. O. (2010). "Critical Race Theory, Race Equity, and Public Health: Toward Antiracism Praxis." *American Journal of Public Health* 100(S1): S30-35.

Geronimus, A. T. (1992). "The Weathering hypothesis and the health of African-American women and infants: Evidence and speculation." *Ethnicity & Disease* 2: 207-221.

LaVeist, T. A. (2005). *Minority Populations and Health: An Introduction to Health Disparities in the United States*. CA: Jossey-Buss.

Malat, J., Mayorga-Gallo, S. and Williams, D. R. (2018). "The effects of whiteness on the health of whites in the USA." *Social Science & Medicine* 199: 148-156.

Monk Jr., E. P. (2015). "The cost of color: Skin color, discrimination, and health among African-Americans." *American Journal of Sociology* 121(2): 396-444.

Phelan, J. C., & Link, B. G. (2015). "Is racism a fundamental cause of inequalities in health?" *Annual Review of Sociology* 41: 311-330.

Williams, D. R., Priest, N., & Anderson, N. B. (2016). "Understanding associations among race, socioeconomic status, and health: Patterns and prospects." *Health Psychology* 35(4): 407.

Williams, D. and Sternthal, M. (2010). "Understanding Racial-Ethnic Disparities in Health: Sociological Contributions." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 51(S): S15-S-27.

Washington, H. A. (2006). *Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present*. New York: Anchor Books.

Class

Allin, S. Masseria, C. and Mossialos, E. (2009). "Measuring Socioeconomic Differences in Use of Health Care Services by Wealth Versus by Income" *American Journal of Public Health* 99(10): 1849-1855.

Goldman, D. and J. P. Smith.(2011). "The Increasing Value of Education to Health." *Social Science & Medicine* 72: 1728-1737.

Lutfey, K. and Freese, J. (2005). "Toward Some Fundamentals of Fundamental Causality: Socioeconomic Status and Health in the Routine Clinic Visit for Diabetes." *American Journal of Sociology* 110(5): 1326-74.

Marmot, M. (2004). *The Status Symbol: How Social Standing Affects Our Health and Longevity*. New York: Henry Holt & Company.

Willson, A. E., Shuey, K. M., & Elder, Jr, G. H. (2007). Cumulative advantage processes as mechanisms of inequality in life course health. *American Journal of Sociology* 112(6): 1886-1924.

Zajacova, A., & Lawrence, E. M. (2018). "The Relationship Between Education and Health: Reducing Disparities Through a Contextual Approach." *Annual review of public health* 39: 273-289.

Gender

Social Science & Medicine (2012), 74(11)—entire issue devoted to Gender and Health.

Almeling, R. (2020). *GUYnecology: The Missing Science of Men's Reproductive Health*. University of California Press.

Almeling, R. (2007). "Selling genes, selling gender: Egg agencies, sperm banks and the medical market of genetic material." *American Sociological Review* 72: 319-40.

Bird, C. E. and Rieker, P. P. (2008). *Gender and Health: The Effects of Constrained Choices and Social Policies*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Courtenay, W. H. (2000). "Constructions of masculinity and their influence on men's well-being: A theory of gender and health." *Social Science & Medicine* 50: 1385-1401.

Davis, G. (2015). *Contesting Intersex: The Dubious Diagnosis*. NYU.

Hart C. G., Saperstein A., Magliozzi D., Westbrook L. (2019). "Gender and Health: Beyond Binary Categorical Measurement." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 60(1): 101-118.

Homan P. (2019). "Structural Sexism and Health in the United States: A New Perspective on Health Inequality and the Gender System." *American Sociological Review* 84(3): 486-516.

McKinlay, J. B. (1996). "Some contributions from the social system to gender inequalities in heart disease." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 37: 1-26.

Moore, Sarah. (2010). "Is the Healthy Body Gendered? Toward a Feminist Critique of the New Paradigm of Health." *Body & Society* 16(2): 95-118.

Read, J. N. G. and Gorman, B. K. (2010). "Gender and health inequality." *Annual Review of Sociology* 36: 371-386.

Neighborhood

Bambra, C., Smith, K. E., & Pearce, J. (2019). "Scaling up: the politics of health and place." *Social Science & Medicine* 232: 36-42.

Browning, C. R. and Cagney, K. A. (2002). "Neighborhood Structural Disadvantage, Collective Efficacy, and Self-Rated Physical Health in an Urban Setting." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 43(4): 383-399.

Lekkas, P., Paquet, C., Howard, N. J., & Daniel, M. (2017). "Illuminating the lifecourse of place in the longitudinal study of neighbourhoods and health." *Social Science & Medicine* 177: 239-247.

Macintyre, S., Ellaway, A., & Cummins, S. (2002). "Place effects on health: how can we conceptualise, operationalize and measure them?" *Social Science & Medicine* 55(1): 125-139.

Williams, D. R. and Collins, C. (2001). "Racial residential segregation: A fundamental cause of racial disparities in health." *Public Health Reports* 116(5): 404-416.

Sampson R. J., Morenoff, J. D. and Gannon-Rowley, T. (2002). "Assessing 'Neighborhood Effects': Social Processes and New Directions in Research." *Annual Review of Sociology* 28: 443-478.

Kirby, J. B. and Kaneda, T. (2006). "Access to Health Care: Does Neighborhood Instability Matter?" *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 47(2): 142-55.

Xu, H., Logan, J. R., & Short, S. E. (2014). Integrating space with place in health research: A multilevel spatial investigation using child mortality in 1880 Newark, New Jersey." *Demography* 51(3): 811-834.

Psycho-Social Factors

Thoits, P. A. (2010). "Stress and health: Major findings and policy implications." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(1_suppl): S41-S53.

House, J. S., Landis, K.R., and Umberson, D. (1988). "Social Relationships and Health." *Science* 241(4865): 540-545.

Klinenberg, E. (2001). "Dying alone: The social production of urban isolation." *Ethnography* 2(4): 501-531.

Pearlin, L. et al. (2005). "Stress, health and the life course: some conceptual perspectives." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 46(2): 205-219.

Schnittker, J., & McLeod, J. D. (2005). "The social psychology of health disparities." *Annual Review of Sociology* 31: 75-103.

Thoits, P. A. (2011). "Mechanisms linking social ties and support to physical and mental health." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 52(2): 145-161.

Umberson, D., & Karas Montez, J. (2010). "Social relationships and health: A flashpoint for health policy." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(1_suppl): S54-S66.

IV. PROFESSIONS

Beckfield, J., Olafsdottir, S., and Sosnaud, B. (2013). "Healthcare Systems in Comparative Perspective: Classification, Convergence, Institutions, Inequalities, and Five Missed Turns." *Annual Review of Sociology* 39: 127-146.

Heritage, J. and Maynard, D. (2006). "Problems and prospects in the study of doctor-patient interaction: 30 years of research in primary care." *Annual Review of Sociology* 32: 351-374.

Jenkins, T. M. (2018). "Dual Autonomies, Divergent Approaches: How Stratification in Medical Education Shapes Approaches to Patient Care." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 59(2): 268-282.

Mechanic, D. (2004). "The Rise and Fall of Managed Care." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 45(extra issue): 76-86.

Mechanic, D., & McAlpine, D. D. (2010). "Sociology of health care reform: building on research and analysis to improve health care." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(1_suppl): S147-S159.

McKinlay, J. B., & Marceau, L. D. (2002). "The end of the golden age of doctoring." *International Journal of Health Services* 32(2): 379-416.

Olsen, L. D. (2019). "The conscripted curriculum and the reproduction of racial inequalities in contemporary US medical education." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 60(1): 55-68.

Pescosolido, B. (2006). "Professional dominance and the limits of erosion." *Society* 43(6): 30-36.

Timmermans S. (2020). "The Engaged Patient: The Relevance of Patient-Physician Communication for Twenty-First-Century Health." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 61(3): 259-273.

Timmermans, S. and Oh, H. (2010). "The continued social transformation of the medical profession." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(S): S94-S106.

Wright E. R., Perry B. L. (2010). "Medical Sociology and Health Services Research: Past Accomplishments and Future Policy Challenges." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51(1_suppl): S107-S119.

V. MEDICALIZATION

Armstrong E. M. (1998). "Diagnosing Moral Order: The Discovery and Evolution of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome." *Social Science and Medicine* 47(12): 2025-42.

Bell, S. E., & Figert, A. E. (2012). "Medicalization and pharmaceuticalization at the intersections: Looking backward, sideways and forward." *Social Science & Medicine* 75(5): 775-783.

Carpenter, L. M. (2010). "On Remedicalisation: Male Circumcision in the United States and Great Britain." *Sociology of Health & Illness* 32(4): 613-630.

Clarke, A. E., Shim, J. K., Mamo, L., Fosket, J. R., & Fishman, J. R. (2003). "Biomedicalization: Technoscientific transformations of health, illness, and US biomedicine." *American Sociological Review* 68(2): 161-194.

Conrad, P., Mackie, T., & Mehrotra, A. (2010). "Estimating the costs of medicalization." *Social Science & Medicine* 70(12): 1943-1947.

Conrad, P. (2005). "The shifting engines of medicalization." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 46(1): 3-14.

Conrad, P., & Leiter, V. (2004). "Medicalization, markets and consumers." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 45(extra issue): 158-176.

Fishman, J.R. (2004). "Manufacturing desire: The commodification of female sexual dysfunction." *Social Studies of Science* 34(2): 187-214.

Horwitz, A. V. and Wakefield, J. C. (2007). *The Loss of Sadness: How Psychiatry Transformed Normal Sorrow into Depressive Disorder*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Riska, E. (2003). "Gendering the medicalization thesis." In *Gender Perspectives on Health and Medicine*. Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Saguy, A. C. and Almeling, R. (2008). "Fat in the fire? Science, the news media, and the 'obesity epidemic.'" *Sociological Forum* 23(1): 53-83.

VI. MENTAL HEALTH

Pearlin, L. I. (1981). "The Stress Process." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 22(4): 337-356.

Pearlin, L. I. and Schooler, C. (1978). "The Structure of Coping." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 19: 2-21.

Szasz, T. S. (1960). "The Myth of Mental Illness." *American Psychologist* 15(2): 113-118.

Aneshensel, C. S., Rutter, C. M., & Lachenbruch, P. A. (1991). "Social structure, stress, and mental health: Competing conceptual and analytic models." *American Sociological Review* 56(2): 166-178.

Horwitz, A. (2002). *Creating Mental Illness*. University of Chicago Press.

Thoits, P. A. (2005). "Differential Labeling of Mental Illness by Social Status: A New Look at an Old Problem." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 46(1): 102-119.

Aneshensel, C. (2009): "Toward Explaining Mental Health Disparities." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 50: 377-394.

Ojeda, V. D. and Bergstresser, S. M. (2008). "Gender, Race-Ethnicity, and Psychosocial Barriers to Mental Health." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior*. 49: 317-334.

Karp, D. and Sisson, G. (2010). *Voices from the Inside: Readings on the Experiences of Mental Illness*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Williams, D. R. (2018). "Stress and the mental health of populations of color: Advancing our understanding of race-related stressors." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 59(4): 466-485.

VII. EXPERIENCES OF HEALTH & ILLNESS

Frank, A. W. (1993). "The Rhetoric of Self-Change: Illness Experience as Narrative." *The Sociological Quarterly* 34: 39-52.

Kleinman, A. (1988). *The Illness Narratives: Suffering, Healing and the Human Condition*. New York: Basic Books.

Charmaz, K. (1991). *Good Days, Bad Days: The Self in Chronic Illness and Time*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

Gill, V. T., Pomerantz, A. and Denvir, P. (2009). "Pre-Emptive Resistance: Patients' Participation in Diagnostic Sense-Making Activities." *Sociology of Health and Illness* 32(1): 1-20.

Bell, S. (2000). "Experiencing Illness in/and narrative." Pp. 184-199 in C. Bird, P. Conrad, A. Fremont and S. Levine eds., *Handbook of Medical Sociology*. Fifth Edition. Upper Saddle Hill, N.J.: Prentice-Hall.

Lawton, J. (2003). "Lay experiences of health and illness: past research and future agendas." *Sociology of Health and Illness* 25(3): 23-40.

Williams, S. J. (2005). "Parsons revisited: From the sick role to...?" *Health* 9(2): 123-144.

VIII. MOVEMENTS IN HEALTH

Banaszak-Holl, J. C., Levitsky, S., & Zald, M. N. (2010). *Social Movements and the Transformation of American Health Care*. Oxford University Press on Demand.

Barker, K. (2008). "Electronic Support Groups, Patient-Consumers, and Medicalization: The Case of Contested Illness." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 49(March): 20-36.

Brown, P., Adams, C., Morello-Frosch, R., Senier, L., and Simpson, R. (2010). "Health Social Movements: History, Current Work, and Future Directions." Pp. 380-394 in the *Handbook of Medical Sociology* (6th ed.), edited by Chloe E. Bird, Peter Conrad, Allen M. Fremont, and Stefan Timmermans. Nashville, TN: Vanderbilt University Press.

Campbell, C. (2020). "Social capital, social movements and global public health: Fighting for health-enabling contexts in marginalised settings." *Social Science & Medicine* 257(112153).

Hess, D. J. (2004). "Medical modernization, scientific research fields and the epistemic politics of health social movements." *Sociology of Health & Illness* 26(6): 695-709.

Brown, P. et al. (2003). "Embodied Health Movements: New Approaches to Social Movements in Health." *Sociology of Health and Illness* 26(1): 50-80.

Hoffman, B. (2003). "Health care reform and social movements." *American Journal of Public Health* 93: 75-85.