

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, a sociological perspective will be used to examine a variety of aspects of health, illness, and health care in Canada. During the course, students will critically explore the social causes and consequences of illness, and will use the concept of social construction to explain an individual's experience of health and health care. Critical exploration will include examination of the distribution of health problems in Canada, Canadian health care policy and practice, and the roles played by technology, the economy and health care professionals. Emphasis will be placed on exploring how social influences like inequality, gender, class, ethnicity, and political economy affect health.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Adopt a sociological perspective and describe health and health care in Canada.
2. Describe the social, cultural and political factors that influence health and health care across Canada.
3. Describe and distinguish features of informal caring and formal care systems in Canada.
4. Describe the future directions of Canada's health and health care.

1) Adopt a sociological perspective and describe health and health care in Canada.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- a) Adopt a sociological imagination in analysis of health and health care in Canada.
- b) Employ the macro (functionalist and conflict) and micro (critical and social constructionist) theoretical perspectives of sociology as tools of analysis
- c) Describe the various socio-cultural definitions of health, illness, disease and care.
- d) Review the evolution of the definition of health and health care in Canada.

2) Describe the social, cultural and political factors that influence health and health care across Canada.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- a) Explain disease in terms of social factors that produce it and that influence its distribution. (social epidemiology)
- b) Describe the social, cultural, political and global factors that influence both the distribution of health in Canada and the delivery and quality of health care in Canada.
- c) Examine the dynamic interconnection of the micro, macro and global social contexts of health influences
- d) Explore the differences in meanings associated with the experience of illness and health.

- 3) Describe and distinguish features of informal caring and formal care systems in Canada.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- a) Describe the social, political, economic and cultural factors that have shaped the development of health care in Canada.
- b) Describe the roles of consumers and minority groups in promoting health and in managing illness within various Canadian contexts.
- c) Describe the interrelationship of influences from competing economic, political, regional and public contexts.
- d) Describe the extent of reliance on alternative health-care practices and explore the implications of such reliance.

- 4) Describe the future directions of Canada's health and health care.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- a) Outline current trends and debates that are integral to Canada's health care needs.
- b) Explore the implications of globalization, environmental issues and technological advancements on Canada's health and health care.
- c) Review health-care policies and the emerging goals being undertaken.
- d) Outline the various issues emerging around universal access to health care.

III. TOPICS:

1. The sociology of health, illness and health care
2. The social sources of disease and death
3. The social determinants of health and illness: age, sex, gender and race/ethnicity
4. Socio-economic inequalities in health
5. Work and family life: the influence of social roles on health and illness
6. The social meanings of illness
7. The body and the pursuit of health
8. The history of health care in Canada
9. Health care settings and technologies

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Strohschein, Lisa, and Weitz, Rose. (2014). *The sociology of health, illness and health care in Canada: A critical approach*. Canada: Nelson Education Ltd.

Some current event articles will be used.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Tests:	50%
Term Assignment:	30%
Class Activities: topic assessments	20%

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	3.00
B	70 - 79%	2.00
C	60 - 69%	1.00
D	50 – 59%	0.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

Note: For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

If a faculty member determines that a student is at risk of not being academically successful, the faculty member may confidentially provide that student's name to Student Services in an effort to help with the student's success. Students wishing to restrict the sharing of such information should make their wishes known to the coordinator or faculty member.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum are located on the student portal. Students are responsible for becoming familiar with this information. Go to <https://mysaultcollege.ca>