

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY**

S/A 4071

**Social/Cultural Aspects of health & Illness
Winter 2010**

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4049C**

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TERM PAPER INFORMATION:

This paper is designed to test your ability to research and then cogently and coherently organize an argument related to a particular issue in the sociology/anthropology of health and illness.

Format:

The text of your paper should be no more than ten pages double-spaced (but your references may go beyond this). I would advise you to divide your paper into sub-headings. This enables you to logically organize your essay and focus your arguments in a concise fashion. The following sequence is suggested:

- (1) *Introductory Paragraph* (introduce topic and describe how your paper will be laid out);
- (2) *Introduce the background literature, identify controversies, and select a key issue that emerges;*
- (3) *Frame this key issue in terms of a thesis statement* (i.e. the position you will be taking)
- (4) *A data section where you critically consider the arguments and research data on both sides of this issue*
- (5) *A reasoned conclusion that relates to your discussion in (4)*

I would prefer that you use *endnotes* as your form of citation whenever referencing books and articles. These are exactly like footnotes except that they appear sequentially on a separate page entitled "References" following the text of your paper. Following this, include a full bibliography of all the sources you use, arranged alphabetically. See the attached "citation guide" for more details.

Please make sure that you indicate your name, student number and e-mail address on the front of your paper.

For anything higher than an average grade, you will have to do some research over and above the course materials that have been provided. Furthermore, I am looking for *analytical*

rather than descriptive work. Beyond your understanding and *critical analysis* of your topic, please be aware that *I mark for spelling, grammar, and overall clarity of presentation.*

As stated in the course outline, this essay is worth 30 percent of your final grade. **It is due no later than Friday, March 19, 2010.** You may hand your paper in to me personally, or put it under my office door (A-4049C) any time up to and including 3:00 PM on Friday, March 19. *After that time, I will deduct 10 percent of the grade per day that the paper is late, unless you produce a doctor's note or give other satisfactory evidence for the lateness of your work.*

Topics:

As I mentioned in class, I would prefer that you come up with your own topic for the paper. However, you may write on any topic related to medicine, health or illness in their broad social context. Most broadly, possible topics can include:

- the relevance of specific theories to certain diseases/ disorders
- the relative effectiveness of medical intervention in improving health
- medicalization
- work and health
- the environment and health
- forms of social inequality and their relation to disease death, or health care utilization
- social-psychological factors and health
- the experience of a specific medical condition in its social context
- emotions and health
- medical socialization
- nurses and midwives
- institutional processing and health
- public vs. private health care policy
- alternative medicine
- the psychiatric profession and health outcomes
- the pharmaceutical industry, direct marketing and health

Of course, these are only broad suggestions, and *I would strongly suggest that you pursue topics of interest to yourselves.* If you have any questions about whether a particular topic is relevant, or simply would like suggestions on sources, please let me know.

S/A 4071: Social/Cultural Aspects of Health and Illness
Citation Guide

In preparing your papers, the following are examples for how to cite sources.

1. Books by one or more authors:

Clarke, Juanne Nancarrow

2004 Health, Illness, and Medicine in Canada (4th Edition). Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford.

Glaser, Barney, and Strauss, Anselm L.

1967 The Discovery of Grounded Theory: Strategies for Qualitative Research.
Chicago: Aldine

2. Academic Journals:

Blanchard, GERALD

1987 "Male Victims of Child Sexual Abuse: A Portent of Things to Come." Journal of Independent Social Work, 1(1) Fall: 19-27.

Broussard, Sylvia D., and Wagner, William G.

1988 "Child Sexual Abuse: Who Is to Blame?" Child Abuse and Neglect, 12: 563-69.

3. Articles in Edited Books:

Clark, Candace

1990 "Emotions and Micropolitics in Everyday Life: Some Patterns and Paradoxes of A Place." In Research Agendas in the Sociology of Emotions, ed. Theodore D. Kemper. New York: SUNY Press.

Wortman, Camille B., and Lehman, Darrin R.

1983 "Reactions to Victims of Life Crises: Support Attempts that Fail" In Social Support: Theory, Research and Applications, ed. Irwin G. Sarason and Barbara R. Sarason, Boston: Martinus Nijhoff.

As I noted, I would like you to use *endnotes* as your form of citation. These are like footnotes, but appear consecutively on a separate page at the end of your paper entitled

References. These should look something like this:

References:

1. Pfohl, Stephen J. Images of Deviance and Social Control: A Sociological History (2nd ed.) (New York: McGraw-Hill Inc., 1994). at p.350-60.
2. Clarke, Juane Nancarrow. Health, Illness, and Medicine in Canada (4th Edition). (Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford). At p.369.
3. Ibid, p.11.
4. Pfohl (Supra), at p.370.

The first two citations above represent initial references to a particular book and page. The third reflects a subsequent citation to the book immediately above. The fourth is an example of what you should do when you refer to a book you cited earlier, but not immediately before this citation.

In Word or Wordperfect, you may create endnotes from the “insert” options on the toolbar.

Note I am looking for endnotes, not footnotes. This option appears when you click on footnotes.

Finally, at the very end of your paper, I expect a *separate* bibliography where all of the sources you list in your paper (books, journals, and edited texts) are to be repeated, in alphabetical order by the last name of the author(s). This is to begin on a separate page following your endnotes. The following is an example:

Bibliography:

Becker, Howard

1963 Outsiders: Studies in the Sociology of Deviance. Glencoe: The Free Press.

Berg, Bruce L.

1995 Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences. (2nd ed.) Needham Heights, Mass: Allyn & Bacon.

Blanchard, GERALD

1987 "Male Victims of Child Sexual Abuse: A Portent of Things to Come."
Journal of Independent Social Work, 1(1) Fall: 19-27.

- and so on -

P.S. Internet sources are to be cited by giving the author (if available), year, title, and www address.